

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4717

To establish a policy against sexual abuse on all United States military installations, whether located in the United States or overseas.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 7, 2016

Mr. HUNTER (for himself, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. RUSSELL, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Ms. SPEIER, and Mr. JONES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To establish a policy against sexual abuse on all United States military installations, whether located in the United States or overseas.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Mandating America’s
5 Responsibility To Limit Abuse, Negligence and Depravity
6 Act” or the “MARTLAND Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ADOPTION OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE POLICY**
2 **AGAINST SEXUAL ABUSE ON ALL UNITED**
3 **STATES MILITARY INSTALLATIONS.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
5 ings:

6 (1) Members of the United States Army and
7 Marine Corps serving in Afghanistan were advised to
8 respect cultural and religious practices of Afghans
9 and told that sexual abuse perpetrated by local allies
10 was a matter of Afghan law.

11 (2) In one report, a United States soldier said
12 that, from his bunk at a base in southern Afghani-
13 stan, he could hear Afghan police officers sexually
14 abusing boys they had brought to the base and that
15 “at night we could hear [the boys] screaming but
16 we’re not allowed to do anything about it”.

17 (3) Fighting in a foreign theater of war should
18 not require members of the Armed Forces to turn a
19 blind eye toward criminal perversion.

20 (4) The Department of Defense already has an
21 established policy against human trafficking.

22 (5) Department of Defense Instruction 2200.01
23 instructs members of the Armed Forces as follows:
24 “Oppose prostitution, forced labor, and any related
25 activities contributing to the phenomenon of traf-
26 ficking in persons (TIP). TIP is a violation of U.S.

1 law and internationally recognized human rights,
2 and is incompatible with DoD core values.”.

3 (6) The Department of Defense also needs an
4 established policy to counter sexual abuse per-
5 petrated on a United States military installation,
6 whether the installation is located in the United
7 States or overseas.

8 (b) POLICY AGAINST SEXUAL ABUSE ON MILITARY
9 INSTALLATIONS.—It is the policy of the United States
10 that human rights violations, including child abuse, shall
11 not be conducted or condoned on any United States mili-
12 tary installation, whether located in the United States or
13 overseas, by either citizens or nationals of the United
14 States or foreign nationals.

15 (c) IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY.—No later than 90
16 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
17 retary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense
18 committees a comprehensive plan detailing the procedures
19 by which the Secretary will implement the policy expressed
20 in subsection (b).

21 (d) MILITARY INSTALLATION DEFINED.—In this sec-
22 tion, the term “military installation” includes United
23 States combat outposts and forward operating locations.

○