

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1808

AN ACT

To amend and improve the Missing Children's Assistance Act, and for other purposes.

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Improving Support for
3 Missing and Exploited Children Act of 2017”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Section 402 of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act
6 (42 U.S.C. 5771) is amended—

7 (1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as fol-
8 lows:

9 “(1) each year tens of thousands of children
10 run away, or are abducted or removed, from the con-
11 trol of a parent having legal custody without such
12 parent’s consent, under circumstances which imme-
13 diately place the child in grave danger;”;

14 (2) by striking paragraphs (4) and (5);

15 (3) in paragraph (6) by inserting “, including
16 child sex trafficking and sextortion” after “exploit-
17 ation”;

18 (4) in paragraph (8) by adding “and” at the
19 end;

20 (5) by striking paragraph (9);

21 (6) by amending paragraph (10) to read as fol-
22 lows:

23 “(10) a key component of such programs is the
24 National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
25 that—

1 “(A) serves as a nonprofit, national re-
2 source center and clearinghouse to provide as-
3 sistance to victims, families, child-serving pro-
4 fessionals, and the general public;

5 “(B) works with the Department of Jus-
6 tice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the
7 United States Marshals Service, the Depart-
8 ment of the Treasury, the Department of State,
9 the United States Immigration and Customs
10 Enforcement, the United States Secret Service,
11 the United States Postal Inspection Service,
12 other agencies, and nongovernmental organiza-
13 tions in the effort to find missing children and
14 to prevent child victimization; and

15 “(C) coordinates with each of the missing
16 children clearinghouses operated by the 50
17 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico,
18 and international organizations to transmit im-
19 ages and information regarding missing and ex-
20 ploited children to law enforcement, nongovern-
21 mental organizations, and corporate partners
22 across the United States and around the world
23 instantly.”; and

1 (7) by redesignating paragraphs (6), (7), (8),
2 and (10) as paragraphs (4), (5), (6), and (7), re-
3 spectively.

4 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

5 Section 403 of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act
6 (42 U.S.C. 5772) is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (1)—

8 (A) by striking “legal custodian” each
9 place it appears and inserting “parent”;

10 (B) in subparagraph (A) by striking
11 “custodian’s” and inserting “parent’s”; and

12 (C) in subparagraph (C) by striking the
13 period and the end and inserting a semicolon;

14 (2) in paragraph (2) by striking “and” at the
15 end;

16 (3) in paragraph (3) by striking the period at
17 the end and inserting “; and”; and

18 (4) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(4) the term ‘parent’ includes a legal guardian
20 or other individual standing in loco parentis (such as
21 a grandparent or stepparent with whom the child
22 lives, or an individual who is legally responsible for
23 the child’s welfare).”.

1 **SEC. 4. DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATOR.**

2 Section 404 of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act
3 (42 U.S.C. 5773) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) in paragraph (3) by striking “tele-
6 phone line” and inserting “hotline”; and

7 (B) in paragraph (6)(E)—

8 (i) by striking “telephone line” and
9 inserting “hotline”;

10 (ii) by striking “(b)(1)(A) and” and
11 inserting “(b)(1)(A),”; and

12 (iii) by inserting “, and the number
13 and types of reports to the tipline estab-
14 lished under subsection (b)(1)(K)(i)” be-
15 fore the semicolon at the end;

16 (2) in subsection (b)(1)—

17 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

18 (i) by striking “telephone line” each
19 place it appears and inserting “hotline”;
20 and

21 (ii) by striking “legal custodian” and
22 inserting “parent”;

23 (B) in subparagraph (C)—

24 (i) in clause (i)—

25 (I) by striking “restaurant” and
26 inserting “food”; and

1 (II) by striking “and” at the end;

2 (ii) in clause (ii) by adding “and” at

3 the end; and

4 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 “(iii) innovative and model programs,
7 services, and legislation that benefit miss-
8 ing and exploited children;”;

9 (C) by striking subparagraphs (E), (F),
10 and (G);

11 (D) by amending subparagraph (H) to
12 read as follows:

13 “(H) provide technical assistance and
14 training to families, law enforcement agencies,
15 State and local governments, elements of the
16 criminal justice system, nongovernmental agen-
17 cies, local educational agencies, and the general
18 public—

19 “(i) in the prevention, investigation,
20 prosecution, and treatment of cases involv-
21 ing missing and exploited children;

22 “(ii) to respond to foster children
23 missing from the State child welfare sys-
24 tem in coordination with child welfare

1 agencies and courts handling juvenile jus-
2 tice and dependency matters; and

3 “(iii) in the identification, location,
4 and recovery of victims of, and children at
5 risk for, child sex trafficking;”;

6 (E) by amending subparagraphs (I), (J),
7 and (K) to read as follows:

8 “(I) provide assistance to families, law en-
9 forcement agencies, State and local govern-
10 ments, nongovernmental agencies, child-serving
11 professionals, and other individuals involved in
12 the location and recovery of missing and ab-
13 ducted children, both nationally, and in co-
14 operation with the Department of State, inter-
15 nationally;

16 “(J) provide support and technical assist-
17 ance to child-serving professionals involved in
18 helping to recover missing and exploited chil-
19 dren by searching public records databases to
20 help in the identification, location, and recovery
21 of such children, and help in the location and
22 identification of potential abductors and offend-
23 ers;

24 “(K) provide forensic and direct on-site
25 technical assistance and consultation to fami-

1 lies, law enforcement agencies, child-serving
2 professionals, and nongovernmental organiza-
3 tions in child abduction and exploitation cases,
4 including facial reconstruction of skeletal re-
5 mains and similar techniques to assist in the
6 identification of unidentified deceased chil-
7 dren;”;

8 (F) by striking subparagraphs (L) and
9 (M);

10 (G) by amending subparagraph (N) to
11 read as follows:

12 “(N) provide training, technical assistance,
13 and information to nongovernmental organiza-
14 tions relating to non-compliant sex offenders
15 and to law enforcement agencies in identifying
16 and locating such individuals;”;

17 (H) by striking subparagraph (P);

18 (I) by amending subparagraph (Q) to read
19 as follows:

20 “(Q) work with families, law enforcement
21 agencies, electronic service providers, electronic
22 payment service providers, technology compa-
23 nies, nongovernmental organizations, and others
24 on methods to reduce the existence and dis-

1 tribution of online images and videos of sexually
2 exploited children—

3 “(i) by operating a tipline to provide
4 to individuals and electronic service pro-
5 viders an effective means of reporting
6 Internet-related and other instances of
7 child sexual exploitation in the areas of—

8 “(I) possession, manufacture,
9 and distribution of child pornography;

10 “(II) online enticement of chil-
11 dren for sexual acts;

12 “(III) child sex trafficking;

13 “(IV) sex tourism involving chil-
14 dren;

15 “(V) extra familial child sexual
16 molestation;

17 “(VI) unsolicited obscene mate-
18 rial sent to a child;

19 “(VII) misleading domain names;
20 and

21 “(VIII) misleading words or dig-
22 ital images on the Internet;

23 and subsequently to make such reports
24 available to the appropriate law enforce-

1 ment agency for its review and potential
2 investigation;

3 “(ii) by operating a child victim iden-
4 tification program to assist law enforce-
5 ment agencies in identifying victims of
6 child pornography and other sexual crimes
7 to support the recovery of children from
8 sexually exploitative situations; and

9 “(iii) by utilizing emerging tech-
10 nologies to provide additional outreach and
11 educational materials to parents and fami-
12 lies;”;

13 (J) by striking subparagraph (R);

14 (K) by amending subparagraphs (S) and
15 (T) to read as follows:

16 “(S) develop and disseminate programs
17 and information to families, child-serving pro-
18 fessionals, law enforcement agencies, State and
19 local governments, nongovernmental organiza-
20 tions, schools, local educational agencies, child-
21 serving organizations, and the general public
22 on—

23 “(i) the prevention of child abduction
24 and sexual exploitation;

1 “(ii) Internet safety, including tips for
2 social media and cyberbullying; and

3 “(iii) sexting and sextortion; and

4 “(T) provide technical assistance and
5 training to local educational agencies, schools,
6 State and local law enforcement agencies, indi-
7 viduals, and other nongovernmental organiza-
8 tions that assist with finding missing and ab-
9 ducted children in identifying and recovering
10 such children.”; and

11 (L) by redesignating subparagraphs (H),
12 (I), (J), (K), (N), (O), (Q), (S), (T), (U), and
13 (V) as subparagraphs (E) through (O), respec-
14 tively.

15 **SEC. 5. GRANTS.**

16 Section 405 of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act
17 (42 U.S.C. 5775) is amended—

18 (1) in subsection (a)—

19 (A) in paragraph (7) by striking “(as de-
20 fined in section 403(1)(A))”; and

21 (B) in paragraph (8)—

22 (i) by striking “legal custodians” and
23 inserting “parents”; and

24 (ii) by striking “custodians’” and in-
25 serting “parents’”; and

1 (2) in subsection (b)(1)(A) by striking “legal
2 custodians” and inserting “parents”.

3 **SEC. 6. REPORTING.**

4 The Missing Children’s Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
5 5771 et seq.) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating sections 407 and 408 as
7 section 408 and 409, respectively; and

8 (2) by inserting after section 406 the following:

9 **“SEC. 407. REPORTING.**

10 “(a) **REQUIRED REPORTING.**—As a condition of re-
11 ceiving funds under section 404(b), the grant recipient
12 shall, based solely on reports received by the grantee and
13 not involving any data collection by the grantee other than
14 those reports, annually provide to the Administrator and
15 make available to the general public, as appropriate—

16 “(1) the number of children nationwide who are
17 reported to the grantee as missing;

18 “(2) the number of children nationwide who are
19 reported to the grantee as victims of non-family ab-
20 ductions;

21 “(3) the number of children nationwide who are
22 reported to the grantee as victims of family abduc-
23 tions; and

1 “(4) the number of missing children recovered
2 nationwide whose recovery was reported to the
3 grantee.

4 “(b) INCIDENCE OF ATTEMPTED CHILD ABDUC-
5 TIONS.—As a condition of receiving funds under section
6 404(b), the grant recipient shall—

7 “(1) track the incidence of attempted child ab-
8 ductions in order to identify links and patterns;

9 “(2) provide such information to law enforce-
10 ment agencies; and

11 “(3) make such information available to the
12 general public, as appropriate.”.

Passed the House of Representatives May 23, 2017.

Attest:

Clerk.

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