

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4893

To direct the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to establish an interagency working group to study Federal efforts to collect data on sexual violence and to make recommendations on the harmonization of such efforts, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 29, 2018

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire (for herself and Mr. TURNER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To direct the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to establish an interagency working group to study Federal efforts to collect data on sexual violence and to make recommendations on the harmonization of such efforts, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Improve Data on Sex-
5 ual Violence Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP TO STUDY FED-**
2 **ERAL EFFORTS TO COLLECT DATA ON SEX-**
3 **UAL VIOLENCE.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
5 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the
6 Office of Management and Budget shall establish an inter-
7 agency working group (in this section referred to as the
8 “Working Group”) to study Federal efforts to collect data
9 on sexual violence and to make recommendations on the
10 harmonization of such efforts.

11 (b) COMPOSITION.—The Working Group shall be
12 comprised of at least one representative from the following
13 agencies, who shall be selected by the head of that agency:

14 (1) The Centers for Disease Control and Pre-
15 vention.

16 (2) The Department of Defense.

17 (3) The Department of Education.

18 (4) The Department of Health and Human
19 Services.

20 (5) The Department of Justice.

21 (c) DUTIES.—The Working Group shall consider the
22 following:

23 (1) What activity constitutes different acts of
24 sexual violence.

1 (2) Whether reports that use the same terms
2 for acts of sexual violence are collecting the same
3 data on these acts.

4 (3) Whether the context which led to an act of
5 sexual violence should impact how that act is ac-
6 counted for in reports.

7 (4) Whether the data collected is presented in
8 a way that allows the general public to understand
9 what acts of sexual violence are included in each
10 measurement.

11 (5) Steps that agencies that compile reports re-
12 lating to sexual violence can take to avoid double
13 counting incidents of sexual violence.

14 (d) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 2 years
15 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Working
16 Group shall publish and submit to Congress a report on
17 the following:

18 (1) The activities of the Working Group.

19 (2) Recommendations to harmonize Federal ef-
20 forts to collect data on sexual violence.

21 (3) Actions Federal agencies can take to imple-
22 ment the recommendations described in paragraph
23 (2).

1 (4) Recommendations for congressional action
2 to implement the recommendations described in
3 paragraph (2).

4 (e) TERMINATION.—The Working Group shall termi-
5 nate 30 days after the date on which the report is sub-
6 mitted pursuant to subsection (d).

7 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

8 (1) HARMONIZE.—The term “harmonize” in-
9 cludes efforts to coordinate sexual violence data col-
10 lection to produce complementary information, as
11 appropriate, without compromising programmatic
12 needs.

13 (2) SEXUAL VIOLENCE.—The term “sexual vio-
14 lence” includes an unwanted sexual act (including
15 both contact and non-contact) about which the Fed-
16 eral Government collects information.

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