

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7225

To strengthen protections for child sex trafficking victims testifying against human traffickers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 22, 2026

Mr. MOORE of North Carolina (for himself and Mr. CORREA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To strengthen protections for child sex trafficking victims testifying against human traffickers.

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 “Protecting Child Sex
5 Trafficking Victim Witnesses Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. VICTIM-CENTERED GUIDANCE.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after
8 the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General,
9 in consultation with Federal law enforcement agencies and
10 prosecutors and other appropriate stakeholders, shall de-

1 velop and publish victim-centered guidance to strengthen
2 protections for child sex trafficking victims testifying
3 against human traffickers, including—

4 (1) practices to minimize the adverse con-
5 sequences of testifying on child sex trafficking victim
6 witnesses;

7 (2) safe travel, lodging, and accompaniment for
8 child sex trafficking victim witnesses;

9 (3) use of child advocacy centers and family
10 justice centers, where appropriate; and

11 (4) safety planning, including post-trial safety
12 planning.

13 (b) GUIDANCE REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days
14 after the publication of the guidance required under sub-
15 section (a), the Attorney General shall disseminate and
16 provide training to each office of the United States Attor-
17 ney on the victim-centered guidance.

18 **SEC. 3. TRAINING ON VICTIM-CENTERED PROTOCOLS.**

19 (a) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TRAINING AND POL-
20 ICY FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, PROSECUTORS,
21 AND JUDGES.—Section 209(c)(1)(A) of the Trafficking
22 Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (34
23 U.S.C. 20709(c)(1)(A)) is amended—

24 (1) in clause (iii), by striking “and” at the end;

1 (2) in clause (iv)(II), by striking the period at
2 the end and inserting “; and”; and

3 (3) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(v) protections for child sex traf-
5 ficking victims testifying against human
6 traffickers based on the victim-centered
7 guidance published by the Attorney Gen-
8 eral in accordance with section 2(a) of the
9 Protecting Child Sex Trafficking Victim
10 Witnesses Act.”.

11 (b) FEDERAL PROSECUTORS.—Section 209(c)(1)(B)
12 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act
13 of 2005 (34 U.S.C. 20709(c)(1)(B)) is amended—

14 (1) by striking “training on seeking” and in-
15 serting the following: “training on—

16 “(i) seeking”;

17 (2) by striking the period at the end and insert-
18 ing “; and”; and

19 (3) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(ii) victim-centered guidance to
21 strengthen protections for child sex traf-
22 ficking victims testifying against human
23 traffickers based on victim-centered guid-
24 ance published by the Attorney General in
25 accordance with section 2(a) of the Pro-

1 protecting Child Sex Trafficking Victim Wit-
2 nesses Act.”.

3 **SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL USES FOR VICTIM-CENTERED CHILD**
4 **HUMAN TRAFFICKING DETERRENCE BLOCK**
5 **GRANT.**

6 Section 203(b)(1) of the Trafficking Victims Protec-
7 tion Reauthorization Act of 2005 (34 U.S.C. 20703(b)(1))
8 is amended—

9 (1) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” at
10 the end;

11 (2) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(F) strengthen protections for child sex
13 trafficking victims testifying against human
14 traffickers based on victim-centered guidance
15 published by the Attorney General in accord-
16 ance with section 2(a) of the Protecting Child
17 Sex Trafficking Victim Witnesses Act; and

18 “(G) carry out any of the authorized uses
19 of a grant under section 204(a)(1) of the Traf-
20 ficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act
21 of 2005.”.

22 **SEC. 5. MODERNIZING FEDERAL CHILD VICTIMS’ AND**
23 **CHILD WITNESSES’ RIGHTS.**

24 Section 3509 of title 18, United States Code, is
25 amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a)—

2 (A) in paragraph (6), by striking “child
3 prostitution” and inserting “child sex traf-
4 ficking and child prostitution”;

5 (B) in paragraph (7), by inserting “victim
6 advocacy,” after “law enforcement,”; and

7 (C) in paragraph (8), by striking “pros-
8 titution” and inserting “commercial sex act (as
9 defined in section 103 of the Trafficking Vic-
10 tims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C.
11 7102))”;

12 (2) in subsection (b)—

13 (A) in paragraph (1)(A), in the first sen-
14 tence, by striking “in a room”; and

15 (B) in paragraph (2)—

16 (i) in the paragraph heading, by after
17 “VIDEOTAPED” the following: “AND
18 DIGITALLY RECORDED”;

19 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by inserting
20 “or digital recording” after “on video-
21 tape”;

22 (iii) in subparagraph (B)—

23 (I) in clause (ii), by inserting “or
24 digital recording” after “by video-
25 tape”;

1 (II) in clause (iii)—

2 (aa) in the first sentence, by
3 inserting after “videotape” the
4 following: “or digitally recorded”;
5 and

6 (bb) in subclause (IV), by
7 inserting after “videotape” the
8 following: “or recording”; and

9 (III) in clause (v)—

10 (aa) in the clause heading,
11 by inserting after “VIDEOTAPE”
12 the following: “OR DIGITAL RE-
13 CORDING”;

14 (bb) in the first sentence, by
15 inserting “or digital recording”
16 after “on video tape”; and

17 (cc) in the second sentence,
18 by inserting after “videotape” the
19 following: “or digital recording”;

20 (iv) in subparagraph (C), by inserting
21 after “videotaped” the following: “or
22 digitally recorded”;

23 (v) in subparagraph (D)—

1 (I) by inserting after
2 “videotaping” the following: “or dig-
3 ital recording”; and

4 (II) by inserting after
5 “videotaped” the following: “or
6 digitally recorded”;

7 (vi) in subparagraph (E), by inserting
8 after “videotaped” the following: “or
9 digitally recorded”; and

10 (vii) in subparagraph (F), by inserting
11 after “videotape” each place it appears the
12 following: “or digital recording”; and

13 (3) in subsection (i), in the last sentence, by in-
14 serting after “recorded on videotape” the following:
15 “or digitally recorded”.

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