

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 3239

To authorize civil actions against judges who, and other government entities that, release repeat offenders on bail, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 20, 2025

Mr. SHEEHY (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To authorize civil actions against judges who, and other government entities that, release repeat offenders on bail, 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 “Judicial Accountability
5 for Irresponsible Leniency Act” or the “JAIL Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CIVIL ACTIONS FOR HARM CAUSED BY REPEAT OF-**
7 **FENDERS RELEASED PENDING TRIAL.**

8 (a) CIVIL ACTION.—If a judge or another govern-
9 ment entity issues an order releasing a covered defendant
10 on bail pending trial, and the covered defendant harms

1 another person during such release, that person (or an im-
2 mediate family member of that person if the person is de-
3 ceased), may bring a civil action against the judge or other
4 government entity in an appropriate district court of the
5 United States seeking damages.

6 (b) NO JUDICIAL IMMUNITY.—Judicial immunity is
7 not a defense in a civil action under this section.

8 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 (1) The term “covered defendant” means an in-
10 dividual who is charged with a crime of violence and
11 has previously been convicted of a crime of violence.

12 (2) The term “crime of violence” has the mean-
13 ing given that term in section 16 of title 18, United
14 States Code.

15 (3) The term “judge” includes Federal and
16 State judges.

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