

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Missing Children’s Assistance Act, and for other purposes

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. PORTMAN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Missing Children’s As-

5 sistance Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. IMPROVING SUPPORT FOR MISSING AND EX-**
7 **PLOITED CHILDREN.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—Section 402 of the Missing Chil-

9 dren’s Assistance Act (34 U.S.C. 11291) is amended—

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

3 “(1) each year tens of thousands of children
4 run away, or are abducted or removed, from the con-
5 trol of a parent having legal custody without the
6 consent of that parent, under circumstances which
7 immediately place the child in grave danger;”;

8 (2) by striking paragraphs (4), (5), and (9);

9 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (6), (7), (8),
10 and (10) as paragraphs (4), (5), (6), and (7), re-
11 spectively;

12 (4) in paragraph (4), as so redesignated, by in-
13 serting “, including child sex trafficking and
14 sextortion” after “exploitation”;

15 (5) in paragraph (6), as so redesignated, by
16 adding “and” at the end; and

17 (6) by amending paragraph (7), as so redesi-
18 gnated, to read as follows:

19 “(7) the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delin-
20 quency Prevention administers programs under this
21 title, including programs that prevent and address
22 offenses committed against vulnerable children and
23 supports missing children’s organizations, including
24 the National Center for Missing and Exploited Chil-
25 dren 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 U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement,
10 the United States Secret Service, the United
11 States Postal Inspection Service, other agencies,
12 and nongovernmental organizations in the effort
13 to find missing children and to prevent child
14 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 agencies,
21 nongovernmental organizations, and corporate
22 partners across the United States and around
23 the world instantly.”.

24 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 403 of the Missing Chil-
25 dren’s Assistance Act (34 U.S.C. 11292) is amended—

1 (1) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the
2 following:

3 “(1) the term ‘missing child’ means any indi-
4 vidual less than 18 years of age whose whereabouts
5 are unknown to such individual’s parent;”;

6 (2) in paragraph (2) by striking “and” at the
7 end;

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

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

11 “(4) the term ‘parent’ includes a legal guardian
12 or other individual who may lawfully exercise paren-
13 tal rights with respect to the child.”.

14 (c) DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ADMINIS-
15 TRATOR.—Section 404 of the Missing Children’s Assist-
16 ance Act (34 U.S.C. 11293) is amended—

17 (1) in subsection (a)—

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

20 (B) in paragraph (6)(E)—

21 (i) by striking “telephone line” and
22 inserting “hotline”;

23 (ii) by striking “(b)(1)(A) and” and
24 inserting “(b)(1)(A),”; and

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

5 (2) in subsection (b)(1)—

6 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

7 (i) by striking “telephone line” each
8 place it appears and inserting “hotline”;
9 and

10 (ii) by striking “legal custodian” and
11 inserting “parent”;

12 (B) in subparagraph (C)—

13 (i) in clause (i)—

14 (I) by striking “restaurant” and
15 inserting “food”; and

16 (II) by striking “and” at the end;

17 (ii) in clause (ii) by adding “and” at
18 the end; and

19 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
20 lowing:

21 “(iii) innovative and model programs,
22 services, and legislation that benefit miss-
23 ing and exploited children;”;

24 (C) by striking subparagraphs (E), (F),
25 (G), (L), (M), (P) and (R);

1 (D) by redesignating subparagraphs (H)
2 through (K) as subparagraphs (E) through
3 (H), respectively;

4 (E) by redesignating subparagraphs (N)
5 and (O) as subparagraphs (I) and (J), respec-
6 tively;

7 (F) by redesignating subparagraph (Q) as
8 subparagraph (K);

9 (G) by redesignating subparagraphs (S)
10 through (V) as subparagraphs (L) through (O),
11 respectively;

12 (H) by amending subparagraph (E), as so
13 redesignated, to read as follows:

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

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

23 “(ii) to respond to foster children
24 missing from the State child welfare sys-
25 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 (I) by amending subparagraphs (F), (G),
7 and (H), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

8 “(F) 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 nationally and, in cooperation
14 with the Department of State, internationally;

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

23 “(H) provide forensic and direct on-site
24 technical assistance and consultation to fami-
25 lies, law enforcement agencies, child-serving

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

7 (J) by amending subparagraph (I), as so
8 redesignated, to read as follows:

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

14 (K) by amending subparagraph (K), as so
15 redesignated, to read as follows:

16 “(K) work with families, law enforcement
17 agencies, electronic service providers, electronic
18 payment service providers, technology compa-
19 nies, nongovernmental organizations, and others
20 on methods to reduce the existence and dis-
21 tribution of online images and videos of sexually
22 exploited children—

23 “(i) by operating a tipline to—

24 “(I) provide to individuals and
25 electronic service providers an effec-

1 tive means of reporting Internet-re-

2 lated and other instances of child sex-

3 ual exploitation in the areas of—

4 “*(aa)* possession, manufac-

5 ture, and distribution of child

6 pornography;

7 “*(bb)* online enticement of

8 children for sexual acts;

9 “*(cc)* child sex trafficking;

10 “*(dd)* sex tourism involving

11 children;

12 “*(ee)* extra familial child

13 sexual molestation;

14 “*(ff)* unsolicited obscene ma-

15 terial sent to a child;

16 “*(gg)* misleading domain

17 names; and

18 “*(hh)* misleading words or

19 digital images on the Internet;

20 and

21 “*(II)* make reports received

22 through the tipline available to the ap-

23 propriate law enforcement agency for

24 its review and potential investigation;

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

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

11 (L) by amending subparagraphs (L) and
12 (M), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

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

20 “(i) the prevention of child abduction
21 and sexual exploitation;

22 “(ii) Internet safety, including tips for
23 social media and cyberbullying; and

24 “(iii) sexting and sextortion; and

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

8 (d) GRANTS.—Section 405 of the Missing Children’s
9 Assistance Act (34 U.S.C. 11294) is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a)—

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

13 (B) in paragraph (8)—

14 (i) by striking “legal custodians” and
15 inserting “parents”; and

16 (ii) by striking “custodians’” and in-
17 serting “parents’”; and

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

20 (e) REPORTING.—The Missing Children’s Assistance
21 Act (34 U.S.C. 11291 et seq.) is amended—

22 (1) by redesignating sections 407 and 408 as
23 sections 408 and 409, respectively; and

24 (2) by inserting after section 406 (34 U.S.C.
25 11295) the following:

1 **“SEC. 407. REPORTING.**

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

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

10 “(2) the number of children nationwide who are
11 reported to the grantee as victims of non-family ab-
12 ductions;

13 “(3) the number of children nationwide who are
14 reported to the grantee as victims of family abduc-
15 tions; and

16 “(4) the number of missing children recovered
17 nationwide whose recovery was reported to the
18 grantee.

19 “(b) **INCIDENCE OF ATTEMPTED CHILD ABDUC-**
20 **TIONS.**—As a condition of receiving funds under section
21 404(b), the grant recipient shall—

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

24 “(2) provide such information to law enforce-
25 ment agencies; and

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

3 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; AUDIT RE-**
4 **QUIREMENT.**

5 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
6 409(a) of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act, as so re-
7 designated by section 2, is amended by striking “2018”
8 and inserting “2023”.

9 (b) AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—Section 408(1) of the
10 Missing Children’s Assistance Act, as so redesignated by
11 section 2, is amended by striking “2018” and inserting
12 “2023”.

13 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.**

14 (a) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as provided in sub-
15 section (b), this Act and the amendments made by this
16 Act shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this
17 Act.

18 (b) APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.—The amend-
19 ments made by section 2 shall apply with respect to fiscal
20 years that begin after September 30, 2018.