

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 3107

To provide incentives for States to eliminate statutes of limitation related to child sexual abuse, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 28, 2021

Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. DURBIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide incentives for States to eliminate statutes of limitation related to child sexual abuse, 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 “No Time Limit for
5 Justice Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) According to the Children’s Bureau of the
9 Administration on Children, Youth and Families of

1 the Department of Health and Human Services,
2 every 9 minutes, a child is sexually assaulted in the
3 United States, and 93 percent of victims know the
4 perpetrator, who is often related to the victim.

5 (2) Child sexual abuse can have a serious im-
6 pact on the physical and mental health of victims,
7 who often experience post-traumatic stress disorder,
8 shame, guilt, anxiety, and depression.

9 (3) A study from the National Institutes of
10 Health found that between 60 and 80 percent of vic-
11 tims of childhood sexual abuse wait until adulthood
12 to disclose their abuse.

13 (4) Due to the especially heinous nature of
14 child sexual abuse, it is imperative that perpetrators
15 of this crime are punished and prevented from re-
16 offending, and that victims have the opportunity to
17 see their abusers brought to justice.

18 (5) Statutes of limitations for felony sex crimes
19 against minors differ by State, and some end as lit-
20 tle as 3 years after the crime occurred, even for
21 crimes like production of child sexual abuse imagery.
22 For victims, statutes of limitations can hinder their
23 ability to seek justice and hold their perpetrator ac-
24 countable.

1 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) COVERED GRANT PROGRAM.—The term
4 “covered grant program” means the grant program
5 under part T of title I of the Omnibus Crime Con-
6 trol and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10441
7 et seq.) (commonly referred to as the “STOP Vio-
8 lence Against Women Formula Grant Program”).

9 (2) SEXUAL ABUSE.—The term “sexual abuse”
10 has the meaning given the term in section 111 of the
11 Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42
12 U.S.C. 5106g).

13 **SEC. 4. INCREASED FUNDING FOR GRANTS AUTHORIZED**
14 **UNDER STOP GRANT PROGRAM.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall, in ac-
16 cordance with subsection (b), increase the total amount
17 of each grant awarded to a State under the covered grant
18 program, if, as of the first day of the fiscal year for which
19 the grant is being awarded—

20 (1) child sexual abuse criminal offenses under
21 the laws of the State are not subject to a statute of
22 limitations; and

23 (2) civil actions authorizing damages for victims
24 of child sexual abuse under the laws of the State are
25 not subject to a statute of limitations.

1 (b) GRANT INCREASE.—The amount of an increase
2 provided to a State under subsection (a) shall be equal
3 to not more than 5 percent of the average of the total
4 amount of funding provided to the State under the covered
5 grant program during the 3 most recent fiscal years in
6 which the State was awarded a grant under the covered
7 grant program.

8 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
9 are authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 for each
10 of 2022 through 2026 to carry out this section.

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