

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2122

To amend title 18, United States Code, to increase penalties for certain offenses where the victim is a child.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 9, 1997

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey (for himself, Mrs. ROUKEMA, Ms. DUNN, Mr. FROST, Mr. OXLEY, Mr. BRADY, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. PAPPAS, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to increase penalties for certain offenses where the victim is a child.

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 “Joan’s Law Act of  
5       1997”.

6       **SEC. 2. DEATH OR LIFE IN PRISON FOR CERTAIN OF-**  
7       **FENSES WHOSE VICTIMS ARE CHILDREN.**

8       Section 3559 of title 18, United States Code, is  
9       amended by adding at the end the following:

1       “(d) DEATH OR IMPRISONMENT FOR CRIMES  
2 AGAINST CHILDREN.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
3 sion of law, a person who is convicted of a Federal offense  
4 that is a serious violent felony (as defined in subsection  
5 (c)) or a violation of section 2251 shall, unless the sen-  
6 tence of death is imposed, be sentenced to imprisonment  
7 for life, if the victim of the offense is under 14 years of  
8 age and the victim dies as a result of the offense.”.

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