

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 419

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking a child hostage
in order to evade arrest.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 11, 1999

Ms. SNOWE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking
a child hostage in order to evade arrest.

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. CHILD HOSTAGE-TAKING TO EVADE ARREST**

4 **OR OBSTRUCT JUSTICE.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 55 of title 18, United
6 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-
7 ing:

1 **“§ 1205. Child hostage-taking to evade arrest or ob-**
2 **struct justice**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Whoever uses force or threatens
4 to use force against any officer or agency of the Federal
5 Government, and seizes or detains, or continues to detain,
6 a child in order to—

7 “(1) obstruct, resist, or oppose any officer of
8 the United States, or other person duly authorized,
9 in serving, or attempting to serve or execute, any
10 legal or judicial writ, process, or warrant of any
11 court of the United States; or

12 “(2) compel any department or agency of the
13 Federal Government to do or to abstain from doing
14 any act;

15 or attempts to do so, shall be punished in accordance with
16 subsection (b).

17 “(b) SENTENCING.—Any person who violates sub-
18 section (a)—

19 “(1) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned
20 not less than 10 years and not more than 25 years,
21 or both;

22 “(2) if injury results to the child as a result of
23 the violation, shall be fined under this title, impris-
24 oned not less than 20 years and not more than 35
25 years, or both; and

1 “(3) if death results to the child as a result of
2 the violation, shall be fined under this title, impris-
3 oned for any term of years or for life, or both.

4 “(c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘child’
5 means an individual who is less than 18 years of age.”.

6 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
7 ter 55 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by add-
8 ing at the end the following:

 “1205. Child hostage-taking to evade arrest or obstruct justice.”.

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