

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1046

To assess the extent of the backlog in DNA analysis of rape kit samples, and to improve investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases with DNA evidence.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 4, 2003

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin (for himself, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. WEINER, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. LEE, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. WYNN, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. WU, Mr. McHUGH, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. KUCINICH, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. OWENS, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MATHESON, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mrs. LOWEY, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Ms. HART, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. DICKS, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. OLVER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. HOLT, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, and Mr. MEEHAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To assess the extent of the backlog in DNA analysis of rape kit samples, and to improve investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases with DNA evidence.

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 “Debbie Smith Act of  
5   2003”.

6   **SEC. 2. ASSESSMENT OF BACKLOG IN DNA ANALYSIS OF**  
7                   **SAMPLES.**

8       (a) ASSESSMENT.—The Attorney General, acting  
9   through the Director of the National Institute of Justice,  
10   shall survey Federal, State, local, and tribal law enforce-  
11   ment jurisdictions to assess the amount of DNA evidence  
12   contained in rape kits and in other evidence from sexual  
13   assault crimes that has not been subjected to testing and  
14   analysis.

15       (b) REPORT.—

16               (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after  
17   the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney Gen-  
18   eral shall submit to Congress a report on the assess-  
19   ment carried out under subsection (a).

20               (2) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under  
21   paragraph (1) shall include—

22                   (A) the results of the assessment carried  
23   out under subsection (a);

24                   (B) the number of rape kit samples and  
25   other evidence from sexual assault crimes that

1       have not been subjected to DNA testing and  
2       analysis; and

3           (C) a plan for carrying out additional as-  
4       sessments and reports on the backlog in crime  
5       scene DNA testing and analysis.

6       (c) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is  
7       authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Jus-  
8       tice to carry out this section \$500,000 for fiscal year  
9       2004.

10 **SEC. 3. THE DEBBIE SMITH DNA BACKLOG GRANT PRO-**  
11           **GRAM.**

12       Section 2 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination  
13 Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135) is amended—

14           (1) by striking the heading and inserting “**AU-**  
15           **THORIZATION OF DEBBIE SMITH DNA BACK-**  
16           **LOG GRANTS.**”; and

17           (2) in subsection (a)—

18           (A) in paragraph (2), by inserting “includ-  
19       ing samples from rape kits and samples from  
20       other sexual assault evidence, including samples  
21       taken in cases with no identified suspect” after  
22       “crime scene”; and

23           (B) by adding at the end the following:

1           “(4) To ensure that DNA testing and analysis  
2        of samples from rape kits and nonsuspect cases are  
3        carried out in a timely manner.”.

4 **SEC. 4. INCREASED GRANTS FOR ANALYSIS OF DNA SAM-  
5           PLES FROM CONVICTED OFFENDERS AND  
6           CRIME SCENES.**

7        Section 2(j) of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimi-  
8        nation Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135(j)) is amended—

9           (1) in paragraph (1)—

10           (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
11        “and” at the end; and

12           (B) by striking subparagraph (C) and in-  
13        serting the following:

14           “(C) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;

15           “(D) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;

16           “(E) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;

17           “(F) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2007; and

18           “(G) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2008.

19        Amounts made available to carry out the purposes  
20        specified in subsection (a)(1) shall remain available  
21        until expended.”; and

22           (2) in paragraph (2), by striking subparagraphs  
23        (C) and (D) and inserting the following:

24           “(C) \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;

25           “(D) \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;

1                         “(E) \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;  
2                         “(F) \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2007; and  
3                         “(G) \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 2008.

4                         Amounts made available to carry out the purposes  
5                         specified in paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a)  
6                         shall remain available until expended.”.

7                         **SEC. 5. AUTHORITY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO APPLY**  
8                         **FOR AND RECEIVE DNA BACKLOG ELIMI-**  
9                         **NATION GRANTS.**

10                         Section 2 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination  
11                         Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135) is amended—

12                         (1) in subsection (a)—

13                         (A) in the matter preceding paragraph  
14                         (1)—

15                         (i) by inserting “, units of local gov-  
16                         ernment, or Indian tribes” after “eligible  
17                         States”; and

18                         (ii) by inserting “, unit of local gov-  
19                         ernment, or Indian tribe” after “State”;  
20                         and

21                         (B) in paragraph (3), by striking “or by  
22                         units of local government” and inserting “,  
23                         units of local government, or Indian tribes”;

24                         (2) in subsection (b)—

5 (B) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, unit  
6 of local government, or Indian tribe” after  
7 “State”;

8 (C) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, unit  
9 of local government, or Indian tribe” after  
10 “State” the first time that term appears;

14 (E) in paragraph (5), by inserting “, unit  
15 of local government, or Indian tribe” after  
16 “State”;

19 (4) in subsection (d)—

20 (A) in paragraph (1)—

21 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
22 “or a unit of local government” and insert-  
23 ing “, a unit of local government, or an In-  
24 dian tribe”; and



## 4 SEC. 6. IMPROVING ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR BACKLOG

## 5 GRANTS.

6 Section 2 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination  
7 Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135) is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (b)—

11 (B) in paragraph (5), by striking the pe-  
12 riod at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

13 (C) by adding at the end the following:

14               “(6) if the applicant is a unit of local govern-  
15               ment, certify that the applicant participates in a  
16               State laboratory system;

17                 “(7) provide assurances that, not later than 3  
18                 years after the date on which the application is sub-  
19                 mitted, the State, unit of local government, or In-  
20                 dian tribe will implement a plan for forwarding, not  
21                 later than 180 days after a DNA evidence sample is  
22                 obtained, all samples collected in cases of sexual as-  
23                 sault to a laboratory that meets the quality assur-  
24                 ance standards for testing under subsection (d); and

1                   “(8) upon issuance of the regulations specified  
2                   in section 10(d), certify that the State, unit of local  
3                   government, or Indian tribe is in compliance with  
4                   those regulations.”; and

5 (2) by adding at the end the following:

6       “(k) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-  
7   tion, the Attorney General shall give priority to a State  
8   or unit of local government that has a significant rape kit  
9   or nonsuspect case backlog per capita as compared with  
10   other applicants.”.

## 11 SEC. 7. QUALITY ASSURANCE STANDARDS FOR COLLEC- 12 TION AND HANDLING OF DNA EVIDENCE.

13 (a) NATIONAL PROTOCOL.—

1       (b) STANDARDS, PRACTICE, AND TRAINING FOR SEX-  
2   UAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMINATIONS.—Section  
3 1405(a) of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protec-  
4 tion Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg note) is amended—  
5           (1) in paragraph (2), by inserting “and emer-  
6       gency response personnel” after “health care stu-  
7       dents”; and  
8           (2) in paragraph (3), by inserting “and DNA  
9       evidence collection” after “sexual assault forensic ex-  
10      aminations”.

11 **SEC. 8. SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAM PROGRAM**

12           **GRANTS.**

13       (a) AUTHORIZATION OF GRANTS.—The Attorney  
14 General shall make grants to eligible entities to—  
15           (1) establish and maintain sexual assault exam-  
16       iner programs;  
17           (2) carry out sexual assault examiner training  
18       and certification; and  
19           (3) acquire or improve forensic equipment.

20       (b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—For purposes of this section,  
21 the term “eligible entity” means—  
22           (1) a State;  
23           (2) a unit of local government;  
24           (3) a college, university, or other institute of  
25 higher learning;

1 (4) an Indian tribe;

7 (6) a State sexual assault coalition.

8 (c) APPLICATION.—To receive a grant under this sec-  
9 tion—

14 (2) an existing or proposed sexual assault ex-  
15 amination program shall also—

16 (A) certify that the program complies with  
17 the standards and recommended protocol devel-  
18 oped by the Attorney General pursuant to sec-  
19 tion 1405 of the Victims of Trafficking and Vi-  
20 olence Protection Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C.  
21 3796gg note); and

22 (B) certify that the applicant is aware of,  
23 and utilizing, uniform protocols and standards  
24 issued by the Department of Justice on the col-

1           lection and processing of DNA evidence at  
2           crime scenes.

3           (d) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-  
4   tion, the Attorney General shall give priority to proposed  
5   or existing sexual assault examination programs that are  
6   serving, or will serve, populations currently underserved  
7   by existing sexual assault examination programs.

8           (e) RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF FUNDS.—

9           (1) SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS.—Funds made  
10   available under this section shall not be used to sup-  
11   plant State funds, but shall be used to increase the  
12   amount of funds that would, in the absence of Fed-  
13   eral funds, be made available from State sources for  
14   the purposes of this section.

15           (2) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—An eligible entity  
16   may not use more than 5 percent of the funds it re-  
17   ceives under this section for administrative expenses.

18           (3) NONEXCLUSIVITY.—Nothing in this section  
19   shall be construed to limit or restrict the ability of  
20   proposed or existing sexual assault examination pro-  
21   grams to apply for and obtain Federal funding from  
22   any other agency or department or any other Fed-  
23   eral grant program.

24           (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
25   are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of

1 Justice, to remain available until expended, \$30,000,000  
2 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2008 to carry out  
3 this section.

4 **SEC. 9. DNA EVIDENCE TRAINING GRANTS.**

5 (a) **AUTHORIZATION OF GRANTS.**—The Attorney  
6 General shall make grants to eligible entities to—

7 (1) train law enforcement personnel and all  
8 other first responders at crime scenes, including in-  
9 vestigators, in the handling of sexual assault cases  
10 and the collection and use of DNA samples for use  
11 as forensic evidence;

12 (2) train State and local prosecutors on the use  
13 of DNA samples for use as forensic evidence; and

14 (3) train law enforcement personnel to recog-  
15 nize, detect, report, and respond to drug-facilitated  
16 sexual assaults.

17 (b) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—For purposes of this section,  
18 the term “eligible entity” means—

19 (1) a State;

20 (2) a unit of local government;

21 (3) a college, university, or other institute of  
22 higher learning; and

23 (4) an Indian tribe.

24 (c) **APPLICATION.**—To receive a grant under this sec-  
25 tion, the chief executive officer of a State, unit of local

1 government, or university, or the head of a tribal govern-  
2 ment that desires a grant under this section shall submit  
3 to the Attorney General—

4 (1) an application in such form and containing  
5 such information as the Attorney General may re-  
6 quire;

7 (2) certification that the applicant is aware of,  
8 and utilizing, uniform protocols and standards  
9 issued by the Department of Justice on the collec-  
10 tion and processing of DNA evidence at crime  
11 scenes;

12 (3) certification that the applicant is aware of,  
13 and utilizing, the national sexual assault forensic ex-  
14 amination training protocols developed under section  
15 1405(a) of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence  
16 Protection Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg note);  
17 and

18 (4) if the applicant is a unit of local govern-  
19 ment, certification that the applicant participates in  
20 a State laboratory system.

21 (d) RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF FUNDS.—

22 (1) SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS.—Funds made  
23 available under this section shall not be used to sup-  
24 plant State funds, but shall be used to increase the  
25 amount of funds that would, in the absence of Fed-

1       eral funds, be made available from State sources for  
2       the purposes of this section.

3               (2) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—An eligible entity  
4       may not use more than 5 percent of the funds it re-  
5       ceives under this section for administrative expenses.

6               (3) NONEXCLUSIVITY.—Nothing in this section  
7       shall be construed to limit or restrict the ability of  
8       an eligible entity to apply for and obtain Federal  
9       funding from any other agency or department or any  
10      other Federal grant program.

11               (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
12      are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of  
13      Justice \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through  
14      2008 to carry out this section.

15      **SEC. 10. AUTHORIZING JOHN DOE DNA INDICTMENTS.**

16               (a) LIMITATIONS.—Section 3282 of title 18, United  
17      States Code, is amended—

18                       (1) by striking “Except” and inserting the fol-  
19      lowing:

20                       “(a) LIMITATION.—Except”; and

21                       (2) by adding at the end the following:

22                       “(b) DNA PROFILE INDICTMENT.—

23                       “(1) IN GENERAL.—In any indictment found  
24      for an offense under chapter 109A, if the identity of  
25      the accused is unknown, it shall be sufficient to de-

1 scribe the accused as an individual whose name is  
2 unknown, but who has a particular DNA profile.

3       “(2) EXCEPTION.—Any indictment described in  
4 paragraph (1), which is found within 5 years after  
5 the offense under chapter 109A shall have been com-  
6 mitted, shall not be subject to—

7           “(A) the limitations period described in  
8 subsection (a); and

9           “(B) the provisions of chapter 208 until  
10 the individual is arrested or served with a sum-  
11 mons in connection with the charges contained  
12 in the indictment.

13       “(3) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this sub-  
14 section, the term ‘DNA profile’ means a set of DNA  
15 identification characteristics.”.

16       (b) RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.—Rule 7 of  
17 the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure is amended in  
18 subdivision (c)(1) by adding at the end the following: “For  
19 purposes of an indictment referred to in section 3282 of  
20 title 18, United States Code, if the identity of the defen-  
21 dant is unknown, it shall be sufficient to describe the de-  
22 fendant, in the indictment, as an individual whose name  
23 is unknown, but who has a particular DNA profile, as de-  
24 fined in that section 3282.”.

1 **SEC. 11. INCREASED GRANTS FOR COMBINED DNA INDEX**2 **(CODIS) SYSTEM.**

3 Section 210306 of the DNA Identification Act of

4 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14134) is amended—

5 (1) by striking “There” and inserting the fol-

6 lowing:

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(b) INCREASED GRANTS FOR CODIS.—There is au-  
10 thorized to be appropriated to the Federal Bureau of In-  
11 vestigation to carry out upgrades to the Combined DNA  
12 Index System (CODIS) \$9,700,000 for fiscal year 2003.”.13 **SEC. 12. INCREASED GRANTS FOR FEDERAL CONVICTED**14 **OFFENDER PROGRAM (FCOP).**

15 Section 3 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination

16 Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135a) is amended by adding

17 at the end the following:

18 “(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
19 is authorized to be appropriated to the Federal Bureau  
20 of Investigation to carry out this section \$500,000 for fis-  
21 cal year 2003.”.22 **SEC. 13. PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS FOR HANDLING DNA**23 **EVIDENCE AND DNA ANALYSES.**

24 (a) PRIVACY PROTECTION STANDARD.—Section

25 10(a) of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of

26 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135e(a)) is amended by inserting be-

1 fore the period at the end the following: “or in section  
2 3282(b) of title 18, United States Code”.

3 (b) LIMITATION ON ACCESS TO DNA INFORMA-  
4 TION.—Section 10 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimi-  
5 nation Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135e) is amended by  
6 adding at the end the following:

7 “(d) LIMITATION ON ACCESS TO DNA INFORMA-  
8 TION.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall  
10 establish, by regulation, procedures to limit access  
11 to, or use of, stored DNA samples or DNA analyses.

12 “(2) REGULATIONS.—The regulations estab-  
13 lished under paragraph (1) shall establish conditions  
14 for using DNA information to—

15 “(A) limit the use and dissemination of  
16 such information, as provided under subpara-  
17 graphs (A), (B), and (C) of section  
18 210304(b)(3) of the Violent Crime Control and  
19 Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C.  
20 14132(b)(3));

21 “(B) limit the redissemination of such in-  
22 formation;

23 “(C) ensure the accuracy, security, and  
24 confidentiality of such information;

1               “(D) protect any privacy rights of individuals who are the subject of such information;  
2               and

3               “(E) provide for the timely removal and  
4               destruction of obsolete or inaccurate information, or information required to be expunged.”.

5               (c) CRIMINAL PENALTY.—Section 10(c) of the DNA  
6               Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C.  
7               14135e) is amended—

8               (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “discloses a  
9               sample or result” and inserting “discloses or uses a  
10               DNA sample or DNA analysis”; and

11               (2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “per offense”  
12               after “\$100,000”.

○