### 108TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

# H. R. 5328

To provide additional funding to prevent sexual assaults in the military.

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**OCTOBER 8, 2004** 

Mrs. Maloney (for herself, Mrs. Tauscher, Ms. Watson, and Mr. Towns) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

# A BILL

To provide additional funding to prevent sexual assaults in the military.

- 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 "Preventing Sexual As-
- 5 saults in the Military Act of 2004".
- 6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.
- 7 Congress finds the following:
- 8 (1) At least eighteen studies have been con-
- 9 ducted since 1988 regarding the instances of sexual
- assault and rape in the Armed Forces.

- 1 (2) A May 2003 survey of Air Force Academy 2 cadets showed that 80.8 percent of females who said 3 that they had been victims of sexual assault did not 4 report the incident.
  - (3) According to the April 2004 Department of Defense's Task Force Report on Care for Victims of Sexual Assault, in 2002 and 2003, there were a total of 1913 alleged cases of sexual assault with uniformed service member victims reported.
  - (4) The April 2004 Report states that 99 percent of alleged service member offenders were male.
  - (5) The April 2004 Report states that "existing policies and programs aimed at preventing sexual assault are inconsistent and incomplete.".
  - (6) The April 2004 Report states that "training and education designed to prevent sexual assault is limited and varies from location to location.".
  - (7) The April 2004 Report states that many victims do not report their assaults for several reasons, including fear that the chain of command will not believe them; embarrassment; fear of being stigmatized; and fear of retaliation from the offender.
  - (8) The April 2004 Report states that the "victim's privacy needs must be positively assured.".

- 1 (9) The April 2004 Report states that "a sys-
- 2 tem to coordinate and track victim support services
- 3 for effective case management does not exist at all
- 4 installations.".
- 5 (10) The April 2004 Report states that "there
- 6 is a backlog of DNA evidence waiting for processing
- 7 at the United States Army Criminal Investigation
- 8 Laboratory (USACIL) and this can significantly
- 9 delay investigations and prosecutions.".

### 10 SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS.

- 11 (a) Elimination of DNA Evidence Backlogs.—
- 12 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary
- 13 of Defense for each of fiscal years 2005, 2006, and 2007
- 14 such funds as may be necessary to eliminate the backlog
- 15 in processing of DNA evidence at any military DNA lab-
- 16 oratories, including the United States Army Criminal In-
- 17 vestigation Laboratory (USACIL).
- 18 (b) Timely Testing of Crime Scene DNA Sam-
- 19 PLES.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the
- 20 Secretary of Defense for each of fiscal years 2005, 2006,
- 21 and 2007 such funds as may be necessary to ensure that
- 22 DNA testing and analysis of samples from crimes, includ-
- 23 ing sexual assault and other serious violent crimes, are
- 24 carried out in a timely manner.

- 1 (c) DISTRIBUTION OF DNA EVIDENCE KITS.—There
- 2 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of De-
- 3 fense for each of fiscal years 2005, 2006, and 2007 such
- 4 funds as may be necessary to distribute a sufficient
- 5 amount of DNA evidence kits to each military academy,
- 6 domestic military base, overseas military base, and theater
- 7 of operations.
- 8 (d) On-Duty SANE or SAFE Personnel.—There
- 9 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of De-
- 10 fense for each of fiscal years 2005, 2006, and 2007 such
- 11 funds as may be necessary to ensure that at least one mili-
- 12 tary medical personnel member, who is trained as a Sexual
- 13 Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) or Sexual Assault Fo-
- 14 rensic Examiner (SAFE), is on duty at all times in the
- 15 health care facility at each military academy, domestic
- 16 military base, overseas military base, and theater of oper-
- 17 ations, except in a case in which a memorandum of under-
- 18 standing between the military installation and a local civil-
- 19 ian hospital ensures that a nonmilitary person trained as
- 20 a SANE or SAFE is on duty at all times.

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