

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 799

To require Federal agencies to establish procedures to facilitate the safe recovery of children reported missing within a public building.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 7, 2003

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

A BILL

To require Federal agencies to establish procedures to facilitate the safe recovery of children reported missing within a public building.

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 “Code Adam Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

6 In this Act, the following definitions apply:

7 (1) CHILD.—The term “child” means an indi-
8 vidual who is 17 years of age or younger.

9 (2) CODE ADAM ALERT.—The term “Code
10 Adam alert” means a set of procedures used in pub-

1 lic buildings to alert employees and other users of
2 the building that a child is missing.

3 (3) DESIGNATED AUTHORITY.—The term “des-
4 ignated authority” means—

5 (A) with respect to a public building owned
6 or leased for use by an Executive agency—

7 (i) except as otherwise provided in
8 this paragraph, the Administrator of Gen-
9 eral Services;

10 (ii) in the case of the John F. Ken-
11 neddy Center for the Performing Arts, the
12 Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy
13 Center for the Performing Arts;

14 (iii) in the case of buildings under the
15 jurisdiction, custody, and control of the
16 Smithsonian Institution, the Board of Re-
17 gents of the Smithsonian Institution; or

18 (iv) in the case of another public
19 building for which an Executive agency
20 has, by specific or general statutory au-
21 thority, jurisdiction, custody, and control
22 over the building, the head of that agency;

23 (B) with respect to a public building owned
24 or leased for use by an establishment in the ju-

1 dicial branch of government, the Administrative
2 Office of the United States Courts; and

3 (C) with respect to a public building owned
4 or leased for use by an establishment in the leg-
5 islative branch of government, the Capitol Po-
6 lice Board.

7 (4) EXECUTIVE AGENCY.—The term “Executive
8 agency” has the same meaning such term has under
9 section 105 of title 5, United States Code.

10 (5) FEDERAL AGENCY.—The term “Federal
11 agency” means any Executive agency or any estab-
12 lishment in the legislative or judicial branches of the
13 Government.

14 (6) PUBLIC BUILDING.—The term “public
15 building” means any building (or portion thereof)
16 owned or leased for use by a Federal agency.

17 **SEC. 3. PROCEDURES IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS REGARDING A**
18 **MISSING OR LOST CHILD.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
20 date of enactment of this Act, the designated authority
21 for a public building shall establish procedures for locating
22 a child that is missing in the building.

23 (b) NOTIFICATION AND SEARCH PROCEDURES.—
24 Procedures established under this section shall provide, at
25 a minimum, for the following:

1 (1) Notifying security personnel that a child is
2 missing.

3 (2) Obtaining a detailed description of the
4 child, including name, age, eye and hair color,
5 height, weight, clothing, and shoes.

6 (3) Issuing a Code Adam alert and providing a
7 description of the child, using a fast and effective
8 means of communication.

9 (4) Establishing a central point of contact.

10 (5) Monitoring all points of egress from the
11 building while a Code Adam alert is in effect.

12 (6) Conducting a thorough search of the build-
13 ing.

14 (7) Contacting local law enforcement.

15 (8) Documenting the incident.

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