

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3708

To encourage reporting of child abuse.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 21, 2012

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

A BILL

To encourage reporting of child abuse.

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 “Stop Abuse For Every
5 Child Act of 2012” or the “SAFE Child Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL SPECIAL ASSESSMENT.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 20 of title 18, United
8 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 3013
9 the following:

10 **“§ 3014. Additional special assessment**

11 “(a) In addition to the assessment imposed under
12 section 3013, the court shall assess on any person other

1 than an individual convicted of an offense against the
2 United States an amount equal to 3 times the amount that
3 would be assessed on a person under section 3013 for the
4 same offense.

5 “(b) There is established in the Treasury a fund, to
6 be known as the ‘Surcharge Fund’ (referred to in this sec-
7 tion as the ‘Fund’), to be administered by the Secretary
8 of Health and Human Services.

9 “(c) Notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, or any
10 other law regarding the crediting of money received for
11 the Government, there shall be deposited in the Fund an
12 amount equal to the amount of the assessments collected
13 under this section, which shall remain available until ex-
14 pended.

15 “(d) From amounts in the Fund, and without further
16 appropriation, the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
17 ices shall, for fiscal year 2013, and every 3 fiscal years
18 thereafter, award a competitive grant with a grant period
19 of 3 years and in the amount of \$1,000,000 for each year
20 to a private nonprofit organization that has a successful
21 multi-year record of operating a national child abuse hot-
22 line, which shall be used—

23 “(1) to operate such a hotline, which shall—

24 “(A) operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a
25 week, with individuals answering calls;

1 “(B) be staffed by individuals that are
2 trained to handle crisis counseling and child
3 abuse and neglect inquiries, including individ-
4 uals with a background or advanced degrees in
5 counseling, mental health, social work, or other
6 related fields;

7 “(C) have the ability to provide assistance
8 to callers in multiple languages;

9 “(D) have chat or text message capability
10 to increase access and participation for children
11 and youth who may not be as likely to call on
12 a telephone; and

13 “(E) provide—

14 “(i) assistance in reporting incidences
15 of child abuse and neglect;

16 “(ii) crisis counseling;

17 “(iii) referrals to relevant resources in
18 the caller’s community; and

19 “(iv) education and resources on the
20 signs and symptoms of abuse, risk factors,
21 parenting concerns, and adult survivor
22 issues; and

23 “(2) to encourage reporting of child abuse and
24 conduct public education on child abuse.

1 “(e)(1) Effective on the day after the date on which
 2 an award is made under subsection (d), or, for a fiscal
 3 year in which no award is made under subsection (d), ef-
 4 fective on September 30 of that fiscal year, all unobligated
 5 balances in the Fund shall be transferred to the Crime
 6 Victims Fund established under section 1402 of the Vic-
 7 tims of Crime Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10601).

8 “(2) Amounts transferred under paragraph (1)—

9 “(A) shall be available for any authorized pur-
 10 pose of the Crime Victims Fund; and

11 “(B) shall remain available until expended.

12 “(f) The amount assessed under subsection (a) shall
 13 be collected in the manner that fines are collected in crimi-
 14 nal cases.

15 “(g) The obligation to pay an assessment imposed on
 16 or after the date of enactment of the SAFE Child Act
 17 shall not cease until the assessment is paid in full.”.

18 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—
 19 The table of sections for chapter 20 of title 18, United
 20 States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relat-
 21 ing to section 3013 the following:

“3014. Additional special assessment.”.

