

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1136

To amend the Hate Crime Statistics Act to include crimes against the homeless.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 13, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (for herself, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. GUTIERREZ, and Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Hate Crime Statistics Act to include crimes against the homeless.

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 “Violence Against the
5 Homeless Accountability Act of 2013”.

6 **SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF HOMELESS.**

7 Section 1(b) of the Hate Crime Statistics Act (28
8 U.S.C. 534 note) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “homeless
2 status,” after “sexual orientation,”; and

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

4 “(6) As used in this subsection, the term
5 ‘homeless status’ with respect to an individual, re-
6 fers to an individual who—

7 “(A) lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate
8 nighttime residence; or

9 “(B) has a primary nighttime residence
10 that is—

11 “(i) a public or private place not de-
12 signed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular
13 sleeping accommodation for human beings,
14 including cars, parks, public spaces, aban-
15 doned buildings, substandard housing, bus
16 or train stations, or similar settings;

17 “(ii) a supervised publicly or privately
18 operated shelter designed to provide tem-
19 porary living accommodations, including
20 motels, hotels, congregate shelters, and
21 transitional housing; or

22 “(iii) housing of other persons in
23 which the individual is temporarily staying

- 1 due to loss of housing, economic hardship,
- 2 or a similar reason.”.

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