

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2915

To amend section 2423 of title 18, United States Code, to eliminate a defense, to a criminal prosecution under that section, based on the state of mind of the defendant as to the age of the minor engaging in, or intended to engage in, a commercial sex act.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 1, 2013

Mr. COTTON (for himself and Mr. GOWDY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend section 2423 of title 18, United States Code, to eliminate a defense, to a criminal prosecution under that section, based on the state of mind of the defendant as to the age of the minor engaging in, or intended to engage in, a commercial sex act.

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 “Protect Children from
5 Sex Tourism Act of 2013”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIMINATION OF DEFENSE BASED ON THE DEFEND-**
2 **ANT'S STATE OF MIND AS TO THE AGE OF**
3 **THE MINOR ENGAGING IN, OR INTENDED TO**
4 **ENGAGE IN, A COMMERCIAL SEXUAL ACT.**

5 Subsection (g) of section 2423 of title 18, United
6 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

7 “(g) In a prosecution under this section based on il-
8 licit sexual conduct, as defined in subsection (f)(2), the
9 Government need not prove that the defendant knew the
10 minor engaging in, or intended to engage in, a commercial
11 sex act had not attained the age of 18 years.”.

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