

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4979

To authorize grants for emotional support services for incarcerated victims of sexual abuse, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Mr. CORNYN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To authorize grants for emotional support services for incarcerated victims of sexual abuse, and for other purposes.

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 “Sexual Abuse Services
5 in Detention Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) EMOTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICE.—The term
9 “emotional support service”—

(A) means emotional support services or counseling for individuals who have experienced sexual abuse at any time in their life; and

(B) includes—

(i) crisis intervention services;

(ii) education about dynamics of sexual abuse and sexual harassment;

(iii) sharing resources;

(iv) safety planning and discussion of reporting options;

(v) telephone hotline services; and

(vi) assistance processing trauma reactions and building coping skills.

(2) EMOTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICE PROVIDER.—The term “emotional support service provider” means a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization that has—

(A) special expertise and broad experience in providing sexual abuse and rape crisis counseling services for survivors, including victims of sexual abuse in correctional settings; and

(B) experience with correctional services, such as—

(i) understanding the unique dynamics of custodial sexual abuse;

- 1 (ii) understanding correctional prac-
2 tices and correctional security concerns; or
3 (iii) providing technical assistance and
4 training to correctional officers and admin-
5 istrators.

6 (3) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term
7 “nonprofit organization” means an organization that
8 is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Rev-
9 enue Code of 1986 and that is exempt from taxation
10 under section 501(a) of such Code.

11 (4) TRAINING SERVICES.—The term “training
12 services” means providing education, training, and
13 technical assistance on providing emotional support
14 services in corrections settings for incarcerated sur-
15 vivors and victims of sexual abuse.

16 **SEC. 3. EMOTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES FOR SEXUAL**
17 **ABUSE VICTIMS IN DETENTION FACILITIES.**

18 (a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Attorney General,
19 acting through the Director of the Office for Victims of
20 Crime, may award grants to emotional support service
21 providers for the purpose of collaborating with Federal,
22 State, local, or Tribal authorities to provide emotional sup-
23 port services in corrections settings for incarcerated sur-
24 vivors and victims of sexual abuse.

1 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 for each
3 of fiscal years 2023 through 2028 to carry out this sec-
4 tion.

5 (c) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—Amounts made
6 available under this section shall supplement and not sup-
7 plant any other authorization, appropriation, or grant.

8 **SEC. 4. TRAINING GRANTS.**

9 (a) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—In this section, the term “el-
10 igible entity” mean an entity that has experience providing
11 training services in the manner described in subsection (c).

12 (b) AUTHORITY.— The Attorney General may award
13 grants to eligible entities to carry out the activities de-
14 scribed in subsection (c).

15 (c) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that receives
16 a grant under subsection (b) shall use amounts received
17 under the grant to—

18 (1) provide training services to a corrections
19 agency or facility seeking to offer emotional support
20 services at the institution;

21 (2) provide training services to correctional offi-
22 cers and administrators; and

23 (3) collect and maintain data on a biannual
24 basis on the usage volume for training services de-
25 scribed in paragraphs (1) and (2).

1 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 to carry out
3 this section for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2028.

4 **SEC. 5. SEXUAL ABUSE SERVICES IN DETENTION RE-**
5 **SOURCE CENTER.**

6 (a) ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATION.—In this section, the
7 term “eligible organization” means a nonprofit organiza-
8 tion that has special expertise and broad experience in pro-
9 viding the information, guidance, and technical assistance
10 described in subsection (b).

11 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Attorney General shall
12 establish a national resource center that shall—

13 (1) provide guidance and training series to cor-
14 rections agencies, prisons, jails, and other detention
15 facilities on establishing, administering, operating,
16 and supporting emotional support services for sexual
17 abuse victims in correctional or detention facilities;

18 (2) provide guidance and training services to
19 emotional support service providers on establishing,
20 administering, operating, and supporting emotional
21 support services for sexual abuse victims in correc-
22 tional or detention facilities; and

23 (3) collect, compile, and disseminate resources
24 on the delivery of emotional support services in cor-
25 rectional or detention settings, including—

1 (A) training services;

2 (B) research; and

3 (C) best practices.

4 (c) GRANT.—The Attorney General may make a
5 grant to an eligible organization to provide for the estab-
6 lishment, functioning, or implementation of subsection (b).

7 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
8 are authorized to be appropriated \$2,000,000 for each of
9 fiscal years 2023 through 2028 to carry out this section.