

children have already become victims of unspeakable physical harm or have suffered irreparable mental injuries from online predators.

Sexual predators are not the only danger facing youth online. As bizarre as it may seem to those of us old enough that we didn't have these technologies when we were in school, bullies are using their cell phones and the Internet to torment their peers. This literally means that kids can be bullied any hour of the day or night and even within their own homes. And because it is not face to face, cyberbullying can be much crueler and present a whole new set of dangers.

Cyberbullying can have serious consequences and inflict lasting wounds on young people. Studies have found that bullying can negatively impact the academic performance, self-esteem, and mental and physical health of children. Whenever I discuss bullying, I inevitably hear one person ask, "What is wrong with a little bullying? It makes you stronger. It builds character." Builds character? Really? It is important to realize that students who are bullied are more likely to be depressed and commit suicide.

So many of the horrifying school shootings in recent years have been linked to bullying that it can no longer be viewed as a rite of passage. Bullying and harassment must be treated as the violent and damaging behaviors that they are.

This bill, the Internet Crime Prevention Education Program Act, is just one part of a package of bills that I have introduced to keep our kids safe by tackling bullying and harassment.

i-SAFE is the perfect example of an organization that shares this goal. i-SAFE, Incorporated is a nonprofit foundation dedicated to protecting the online experience of youth by incorporating classroom curriculum with community outreach to make the Internet a safer place.

The i-SAFE program is free for schools, school districts, law enforcement, communities, and parents in large part because of the congressional funding it has received on a bipartisan basis since 2002. i-SAFE has provided over 3 million children in 50 States with the tools to protect themselves on the Internet.

After participating in the i-SAFE program, 91 percent of students say that they will make better choices about where they go on the Internet, 87 percent say they will be more careful about sharing personal information in chat rooms, and 75 percent say they are less likely to meet someone from the Internet in person.

Law enforcement, which deserves praise for pursuing cybercriminals needs the help of programs like i-SAFE, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the National Crime Prevention Council, Web Wise Kids, Netsmartz, and Teen Angels, to help reduce online crimes through prevention.

When used the right way, the Internet can be a valuable educational resource and allow for extended social networks. It is our responsibility to ensure that children are able to enjoy all of the benefits of the Internet armed with the knowledge of how to stay safe. I therefore urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4134.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of Ms. LINDA SÁNCHEZ's legislation, which would make grants available for Internet safety education programs.

Advances in technology have resulted in new conveniences, greater access to information, and the ability to correspond easily and quickly with individuals around the world. However, the recent explosion of social networking sites and internet chat-rooms has also created opportunities for predators to target children easily and anonymously.

Eighty-seven percent of teens use the internet on a regular basis, and according to the Justice Department, one in five children between the ages of ten and seventeen has received a sexual solicitation or has been approached online in the last year. The internet provides students with a world of information and has become a necessity in many of our everyday lives, yet it unfortunately can expose our kids to a world of potential dangers without adequate protections.

For example, early this year a teenage girl in Florida was found one day after she snuck out of her house to meet who she thought was a 24-year-old man she met on MySpace, but turned out to be a 46-year-old high-risk sex offender. Several social networking sites have implemented some security measures, but sex offenders have found ways to get around them. That is why I applaud efforts such as those by Attorney General Cuomo to ensure that social networking sites meet the safety standards they advertise.

It is imperative that we do everything we can to make the internet as safe as possible for our children. At the local level, many of our law enforcement agencies and schools are doing wonderful work using internet safety curriculum to educate students on how to avoid dangerous, inappropriate, or unlawful online behavior.

As a mother and grandmother, I am fighting at the federal level to reduce the risk that our children face online from child predators. That is why I am so pleased that today the House is considering five different pieces of legislation, several of which I have cosponsored, that promote internet safety and crack down on child pornography.

Ms. SÁNCHEZ's bill would create a grant program for organizations that promote internet safety. These grants will help crime safety groups such as the National Crime Prevention Council develop programs to better educate children, parents, teachers, libraries, and others on the dangers of potential online criminal activity and cyberbullying.

The SAFER Net Act, sponsored by Ms. BEAN, authorizes \$5 million for a national public awareness campaign to promote internet safety. Several internet safety programs exist, but the federal government must do a better job ensuring that parents and schools are able to utilize those programs.

Mr. POMEROY's KIDS Act would close a dangerous loophole by requiring sexual offenders to include e-mail addresses and instant mes-

saging screen names when complying with registration and notification laws. Notification laws have enabled parents to know when a sexual predator has moved into their neighborhood, but not their inbox.

As a member of the Congressional Missing and Exploited Children Caucus, I know that the passage of this series of bills is a significant step in our efforts to protect children as they use the internet.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I have no speakers remaining, so I will yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. I have no further speakers, and I yield back my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4134.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVE PROSECUTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY ACT OF 2007

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4136) to amend title 18 of the United States Code to clarify the scope of the child pornography laws and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4136

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Enhancing the Effective Prosecution of Child Pornography Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. MONEY LAUNDERING PREDICATE.

Section 1956(c)(7)(D) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting "2252A (relating to child pornography) where the child pornography at issue involves minors, 2260 (production of certain child pornography for importation into the United States)," before "section 2280".

SEC. 3. POSSESSION OFFENSES INCLUDE INTENTIONAL VIEWING ON THE INTERNET.

(a) SECTION 2252.—Section 2252 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(d) DEFINITION.—As used in this section with respect to a visual depiction, the term 'possess' includes accessing by computer with the intent to view."

(b) SECTION 2252A.—Section 2252A of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(g) DEFINITION.—As used in this section with respect to child pornography, the term 'possess' includes accessing by computer with intent to view."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

□ 1715

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4136, the Enhancing the Effective Prosecution of Child Pornography Act, addresses two gaps in the criminal statutes that punish those who trade in, profit from, and create the market for child pornography. First, the bill provides that those who launder proceeds from the business of child pornography may be charged with money laundering. This is obviously common sense, and a provision supported by the Department of Justice.

Then, it clarifies the definition of possession in the child pornography laws so that knowingly accessing child pornography on the Internet with intent to view it constitutes possession, even if the user does not download or otherwise save the images. Some defendants have claimed that they did not intend to possess the images, even when they clearly intended to view them, and some courts have said the reach of the statute is unclear in this regard. This measure removes any ambiguity from the law.

We are grateful to CHRIS CARNEY, our colleague from Pennsylvania, who has authored this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4136, the Enhancing the Effective Prosecution of Child Pornography Act of 2007. This bill adds child pornography offenses as money laundering predicates and clarifies existing law to prohibit knowingly accessing child pornography with the intent to view it. Child pornography is a multibillion-dollar worldwide industry. It is despicable in its scope, and it is vicious in its victimization of children. Money is what fuels this horrific crime.

The majority's proposal in H.R. 4136 takes a limited step to prohibit money laundering offenses as part of a child pornography scheme. But much more is needed. Legislation proposed by our ranking member, LAMAR SMITH, and Mr. CHABOT, a member of the Judiciary Committee, contains a host of proposals to increase penalties for child predators and pornographers and provides law enforcement tools for combating these heinous crimes in a virtual universe. Unfortunately, the majority chose to ignore the improvements proposed by many Republican members.

However, H.R. 4136 does enact Representative MARILYN MUSGRAVE's proposals in H.R. 3148, which was introduced on July 24, 2007, the Child Por-

nography Elimination Act. I commend Mrs. MUSGRAVE for her legislative efforts. This closes a loophole in the law that child pornographers use to avoid possession of child pornography by not downloading the material. This provision will prohibit accessing such material with the intent to view it and will not require an offender to actually download the material.

This provision is a good one, and we support it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, we are happy to get the support and concurrence of the gentleman from Virginia on this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CARNEY), the author of the legislation.

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud here today to stand with my colleagues to consider a number of child safety bills on the floor. I especially want to thank the House Judiciary Committee and particularly Chairman CONYERS and his staff for their help.

As a proud father of five, I know how important the safety and well-being of our children is for our Nation. That is why I have introduced the Enhancing the Effective Prosecution of Child Pornography Act of 2007. This legislation will allow the Department of Justice to more effectively prosecute people who produce child pornography or knowingly access child pornography repeatedly with the intent to view it.

We are trying to dry up the source of demand for child pornographers. This legislation addresses a component of the problem that has been difficult for prosecutors to combat, the repeat consumer. We need to stop child pornography at the source and we need to stifle the demand. This is not about playing "gotcha" games with anyone accidentally stumbling across a mistyped Web address. Rather, this is going after those who repeatedly seek out child pornography and those that continue to produce it.

No one disagrees that we need to protect our children and we need to stop pornography at its source, especially child pornography. I want to encourage all my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers and urge my colleagues to support this legislation. I thank the chairman of the committee for his hard work on all of these series of bills and hope to have the opportunity to continue to work with him to perhaps make some perfecting improvements as we move forward.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time and thank the floor manager for his excellent work on all these measures.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4136, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONGRATULATING SHAWN JOHNSON ON BECOMING THE 2007 WORLD ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS CHAMPION

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 684) congratulating Shawn Johnson on her victory in becoming the 2007 World Artistic Gymnastics Champion in women's gymnastics.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 684

Whereas Shawn Johnson won four gold medals at the 2007 Pan American Games in Rio de Janeiro for team competition, all around, uneven bars, and balance beam, as well as one silver medal for floor;

Whereas Shawn Johnson won the 2007 Visa Championships in San Jose, California, to become the United States champion in gymnastics;

Whereas Shawn Johnson won three gold medals at the 2007 World Artistic Gymnastics Championships in Stuttgart, Germany, making her the 2007 world all-around champion, one of only four American women to have achieved such recognition; and

Whereas Shawn Johnson has brought great pride and honor to her family, friends, and the citizens of Iowa with her numerous accomplishments at the age of 15: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulates Shawn Johnson on her outstanding accomplishment in becoming the 2007 World Gymnastics Champion in women's gymnastics.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BOSWELL), the author of this legislation.