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(Original Signature of Member)

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R.

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To amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to enable State child protective services systems to improve the identification and assessment of child victims of sex trafficking, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. BASS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee  
on \_\_\_\_\_

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# A BILL

To amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to enable State child protective services systems to improve the identification and assessment of child victims of sex trafficking, 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 “Strengthening Child  
5 Welfare Response to Trafficking Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. CAPTA AMENDMENTS.**

2 Section 106 of the Child Abuse Prevention and  
3 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (b)—

5 (A) in paragraph (2)(B)—

6 (i) by striking “and” at the end of  
7 clause (xxii); and

8 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-  
9 lowing:

10 “(xxiv) provisions and procedures to  
11 identify and assess reports involving chil-  
12 dren who are sex trafficking victims, and  
13 which may include provisions and proce-  
14 dures to identify and assess reports involv-  
15 ing children who are victims of severe  
16 forms of trafficking in persons described in  
17 section of 103(9)(B) of the Trafficking  
18 Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C.  
19 7102(9)(B));

20 “(xxv) provisions and procedures for  
21 training representatives of the State child  
22 protective services systems about identi-  
23 fying and assessing children who are sex  
24 trafficking victims, and which may include  
25 provisions and procedures for such training  
26 with respect to children who are victims of

1 severe forms of trafficking in persons de-  
2 scribed in section of 103(9)(B) of the  
3 Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000  
4 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9)(B)); and

5 “(xxvi) provisions and procedures for  
6 identifying services (including the services  
7 provided by State law enforcement offi-  
8 cials, the State juvenile justice system, and  
9 social service agencies, such as runaway  
10 and homeless youth shelters) and proce-  
11 dures for appropriate referral to address  
12 the needs of children who are sex traf-  
13 ficking victims, and which may include  
14 provisions and procedures for the identi-  
15 fication of such services and procedures  
16 with respect to children who are victims of  
17 severe forms of trafficking in persons de-  
18 scribed in section of 103(9)(B) of the  
19 Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000  
20 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9)(B));”;

21 (B) in paragraph (2)(D)—

22 (i) by striking “and” at the end of  
23 clause (v);

24 (ii) by inserting “and” at the end of  
25 clause (vi); and

1 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
2 lowing:

3 “(vii) the provisions and procedures  
4 described in clauses (xxiv) and (xxvi) of  
5 subparagraph (B);”; and  
6 (C) in paragraph (4)—

7 (i) by striking “and” at the end of  
8 subparagraph (A);

9 (ii) by striking the period at the end  
10 of subparagraph (B) and inserting “;  
11 and”; and

12 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
13 lowing:

14 “(C) SEX TRAFFICKING VICTIM.—The  
15 term ‘sex trafficking victim’ means a victim  
16 of—

17 “(i) sex trafficking (as defined in sec-  
18 tion 103(10) of the Trafficking Victims  
19 Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C.  
20 7102(10))); or

21 “(ii) a severe form of trafficking in  
22 persons described in section 103(9)(A) of  
23 such Act (22 U.S.C. 7102(9)(A)).”; and

24 (2) in subsection (d), by adding at the end the  
25 following:

1           “(17) The number of children identified under  
2           clause (xxiv) of subsection (b)(2)(B), and of such  
3           children—

4                   “(A) the number identified as sex traf-  
5                   ficking victims (as defined in subsection  
6                   (b)(4)(C)); and

7                   “(B) in the case of a State that has provi-  
8                   sions and procedures to identify children who  
9                   are victims of severe forms of trafficking in per-  
10                  sons described in section 103(9)(B) of the Traf-  
11                  ficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22  
12                  U.S.C. 7102(9)(B)), the number so identified.”.

13 **SEC. 3. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

14           (a) **REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date  
15           of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and  
16           Human Services shall submit to the Committee on Edu-  
17           cation and the Workforce of the House of Representatives  
18           and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and  
19           Pension of the Senate, a report that—

20                   (1) describes the specific type and prevalence of  
21                   severe form of trafficking in persons to which chil-  
22                   dren who are identified for services or intervention  
23                   under the placement, care, or supervision of State,  
24                   Indian tribe, or tribal organization child welfare

1 agencies have been subjected as of the date of enact-  
2 ment of this Act;

3 (2) summarizes the practices and protocols uti-  
4 lized by States to identify and serve—

5 (A) under section 106(b)(2)(B) of the  
6 Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42  
7 U.S.C. 5106a(b)(2)(B)), children who are vic-  
8 tims of trafficking; and

9 (B) children who are at risk of becoming  
10 victims of trafficking; and

11 (3) specifies any barriers in Federal laws or  
12 regulations that may prevent identification and as-  
13 sessment of children who are victims of trafficking,  
14 including an evaluation of the extent to which States  
15 are able to address the needs of such trafficked chil-  
16 dren without altering the definition of child abuse  
17 and neglect under section 3 of the Child Abuse Pre-  
18 vention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 note).

19 (b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

20 (1) SEVERE FORM OF TRAFFICKING IN PER-  
21 SONS.—The term “severe form of trafficking in per-  
22 sons” has the meaning given the term in section  
23 103(9) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of  
24 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9)).

1           (2) VICTIM OF TRAFFICKING.—The term “vic-  
2           tim of trafficking” has the meaning given the term  
3           in section 103(15) of the Trafficking Victims Protec-  
4           tion Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(15)).