

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, S. 2854, with An Amendment
**(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a
new text)**

114TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 2854

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 18, 2016

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

AN ACT

To reauthorize the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime
Act of 2007.

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 “Emmett Till Unsolved
5 Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. INVESTIGATION OF UNSOLVED CIVIL RIGHTS**
7 **CRIMES.**

8 The Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act
9 of 2007 (28 U.S.C. 509 note) is amended—

10 (1) in section 2—

1 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at
2 the end;

3 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking the pe-
4 riod at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

5 (C) by inserting after paragraph (2) the
6 following:

7 “(3) meet regularly with eligible entities to co-
8 ordinate the sharing of information and to discuss
9 the status of the Department’s work under this Act;

10 “(4) support the full accounting of all victims
11 whose deaths or disappearances were the result of
12 racially motivated crimes;

13 “(5) hold accountable under Federal and State
14 law all individuals who were perpetrators of, or ac-
15 complices in, unsolved civil rights murders and such
16 disappearances;

17 “(6) express the condolences of the authority to
18 the communities affected by unsolved civil rights
19 murders, and to the families of the victims of such
20 murders and such disappearances;

21 “(7) keep families regularly informed about the
22 status of the investigations of such murders and
23 such disappearances of their loved ones; and

24 “(8) expeditiously comply with requests for in-
25 formation received pursuant to section 552 of title

1 5, United States Code, (commonly known as the
2 ‘Freedom of Information Act’) and develop a sin-
3 gular, publicly accessible repository of these dis-
4 closed documents.”;

5 (2) in section 3—

6 (A) in subsection (b)—

7 (i) in paragraph (1), by striking
8 “1969” and inserting “1979”;

9 (ii) in paragraph (2), by inserting be-
10 fore the period at the end the following: “,
11 and eligible entities”; and

12 (iii) by adding after paragraph (2) the
13 following:

14 “(3) REVIEW OF CLOSED CASES.—The Deputy
15 Chief may, to the extent practicable, reopen and re-
16 view any case involving a violation described in para-
17 graph (1) that was closed prior to the date of the
18 enactment of the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights
19 Crimes Reauthorization Act of 2016 without an in-
20 person investigation or review conducted by an offi-
21 cer or employee of the Criminal Section of the Civil
22 Rights Division of the Department of Justice or by
23 an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

24 “(4) PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Department shall
2 hold meetings with representatives of the Civil
3 Rights Division, Federal Bureau of Investiga-
4 tion, the Community Relations Service, eligible
5 entities, and where appropriate, state and local
6 law enforcement to discuss the status of the
7 Department’s work under this Act.

8 “(B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
9 TIONS.—In addition to amounts made available
10 to carry out this Act under section 6, there is
11 authorized to be appropriated to the Attorney
12 General \$1,500,000 for fiscal year 2017 and
13 each of the next 10 subsequent fiscal years to
14 carry out this paragraph.”; and

15 (B) in subsection (c)—

16 (i) in paragraph (1)—

17 (I) in subparagraph (A), by strik-
18 ing “1969” and inserting “1979”;

19 (II) in subparagraph (F), by
20 striking “and” at the end;

21 (III) in subparagraph (G), by
22 striking the period at the end and in-
23 serting “; and”; and

24 (IV) by inserting after subpara-
25 graph (G) the following:

1 “(H) the number of cases referred by an
2 eligible entity or a State or local law enforce-
3 ment agency or prosecutor to the Department
4 within the study period, the number of such
5 cases that resulted in Federal charges being
6 filed, the date the charges were filed, and if the
7 Department declines to prosecute or participate
8 in an investigation of a case so referred, the
9 fact that it did so, and the outreach, collabora-
10 tion, and support for investigations and pros-
11 ecutions of violations of criminal civil rights
12 statutes described in section 2(3), including
13 murders and including disappearances described
14 in section 2(4), within Federal, State, and local
15 jurisdictions.”; and

16 (ii) in paragraph (2), by inserting be-
17 fore the period at the end the following:
18 “and a description of the activities con-
19 ducted under subsection (b)(3)”;

20 (3) in section 4(b)—

21 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “1969”
22 and inserting “1979”; and

23 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting before
24 the period at the end the following: “, and eligi-
25 ble entities”;

1 (4) in section 5—

2 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “1969”
3 and inserting “1979”; and

4 (B) in subsection (b), by striking “each of
5 the fiscal years 2008 through 2017” and insert-
6 ing “fiscal year 2017 and each of the 10 subse-
7 quent fiscal years”; and

8 (5) in section 6—

9 (A) in subsection (a)—

10 (i) by striking “each of the fiscal
11 years 2008 through 2017” and inserting
12 “fiscal year 2017 and each of the 10 sub-
13 sequent fiscal years”; and

14 (ii) by striking “1969” and inserting
15 “1979”; and

16 (B) by amending subsection (b) to read as
17 follows:

18 “(b) COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE OF THE DE-
19 PARTMENT OF JUSTICE.—Using funds appropriated
20 under section 3(b)(4)(B), the Community Relations Serv-
21 ice of the Department of Justice shall provide technical
22 assistance by bringing together law enforcement agencies
23 and communities to address tensions raised by Civil
24 Rights era crimes.”;

25 (6) in section 7—

1 (A) in the heading, by striking “**DEFINI-**
2 **TION OF ‘CRIMINAL CIVIL RIGHTS STAT-**
3 **UTES’**” and inserting “**DEFINITIONS**”;

4 (B) in paragraph (6), by redesignating
5 subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and
6 (ii), respectively, and indenting the clauses ac-
7 cordingly;

8 (C) by redesignating paragraphs (1)
9 through (6) as subparagraphs (A) through (F),
10 respectively, and indenting the subparagraphs
11 accordingly;

12 (D) by striking “In this Act, the term”
13 and inserting: “In this Act:

14 “(1) **CRIMINAL CIVIL RIGHTS STATUTES.**—The
15 term”; and

16 (E) by inserting at the end the following:

17 “(2) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—The term ‘eligible en-
18 tity’ means an organization whose primary purpose
19 is to promote civil rights, an institution of higher
20 education, or another entity, determined by the At-
21 torney General to be appropriate.”; and

22 (7) by striking section 8.