

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2517

To amend the Missing Children’s Assistance Act to authorize appropriations,  
and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 24, 2007

Mr. LAMPSON (for himself, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. CRAMER)  
introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on  
Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To amend the Missing Children’s Assistance Act to authorize  
appropriations, 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 “Protecting Our Chil-  
5       dren Comes First Act of 2007”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Section 402 of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act  
8       (42 U.S.C. 5771) is amended to read as follows:

9       **“SEC. 402. FINDINGS.**

10       “The Congress finds that—

1           “(1) each year thousands of children are ab-  
2           ducted or removed from the control of a parent hav-  
3           ing legal custody without such parent’s consent,  
4           under circumstances which immediately place the  
5           child in grave danger;

6           “(2) many missing children are at great risk of  
7           both physical harm and sexual exploitation;

8           “(3) in many cases, parents and local law en-  
9           forcement officials have neither the resources nor  
10          the expertise to mount expanded search efforts;

11          “(4) abducted children are frequently moved  
12          from one locality to another, requiring the coopera-  
13          tion and coordination of local, State, and Federal  
14          law enforcement efforts;

15          “(5) growing numbers of children are the vic-  
16          tims of child sexual exploitation, increasingly involv-  
17          ing the use of new technology to access the Internet;

18          “(6) children may be displaced from their par-  
19          ents or legal guardians as a result of national disas-  
20          ters such as hurricanes and floods;

21          “(7) sex offenders pose a threat to children that  
22          increases as more offenders are released into the  
23          Nation’s communities each year; and

24          “(8) The National Center for Missing and Ex-  
25          ploited Children—

1           “(A) serves as the national resource center  
2 and clearinghouse;

3           “(B) works in partnership with the De-  
4 partment of Justice, the Federal Bureau of In-  
5 vestigation, the United States Marshals Service,  
6 the Department of the Treasury, the Depart-  
7 ment of State, the Department of Homeland  
8 Security’s Bureau of Immigration and Customs  
9 Enforcement, the Secret Service, and many  
10 other agencies in the effort to find missing chil-  
11 dren and prevent child victimization; and

12           “(C) operates a national and increasingly  
13 worldwide network, linking the Center online  
14 with each of the missing children clearinghouses  
15 operated by the several States, the District of  
16 Columbia, and Puerto Rico, as well as with  
17 Scotland Yard in the United Kingdom, the  
18 Royal Canadian Mounted Police, INTERPOL  
19 headquarters in Lyon, France, and others,  
20 which enable the Center to transmit images and  
21 information regarding missing and exploited  
22 children to law enforcement across the United  
23 States and around the world instantly.”.

1 **SEC. 3. DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATOR.**

2 Section 404(b) of the Missing Children's Assistance  
3 Act (42 U.S.C. 5773(b)) is amended—

4 (1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as fol-  
5 lows:

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall  
7 annually make a grant to the Center, which shall be  
8 used to—

9 (A)(i) operate a national 24-hour toll-free  
10 telephone line by which individuals may report  
11 information regarding the location of any miss-  
12 ing child, and request information pertaining to  
13 procedures necessary to reunite such child with  
14 such child's legal custodian; and

15 (ii) coordinate the operation of such tele-  
16 phone line with the operation of the national  
17 communications system referred to in part C of  
18 the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act;

19 (B) operate the official national resource  
20 center and information clearinghouse for miss-  
21 ing and exploited children;

22 (C) provide to State and local govern-  
23 ments, public and private nonprofit agencies,  
24 and individuals, information regarding—

25 (i) free or low-cost legal, restaurant,  
26 lodging, and transportation services that

1 are available for the benefit of missing and  
2 exploited children and their families; and

3 “(ii) the existence and nature of pro-  
4 grams being carried out by Federal agen-  
5 cies to assist missing and exploited chil-  
6 dren and their families;

7 “(D) coordinate public and private pro-  
8 grams that locate, recover, or reunite missing  
9 children with their families;

10 “(E) disseminate, on a national basis, in-  
11 formation relating to innovative and model pro-  
12 grams, services, and legislation that benefit  
13 missing and exploited children;

14 “(F) in cooperation with the Department  
15 of Justice, the Department of State, and local  
16 law enforcement, develop and present an annual  
17 report on the actual number of children nation-  
18 wide who are reported missing each year, the  
19 number of children who are victims of non-fam-  
20 ily abductions, the number of children who are  
21 the victims of parental kidnappings, and the  
22 number of children who are recovered each  
23 year;

24 “(G) provide to State and local govern-  
25 ments, public and private nonprofit agencies,

1 and individuals information to facilitate the  
2 lawful use of school records and birth certifi-  
3 cates to identify and locate missing children;

4 “(H) provide technical assistance and  
5 training to law enforcement agencies, State and  
6 local governments, elements of the criminal jus-  
7 tice system, public and private nonprofit agen-  
8 cies, and individuals in the prevention, inves-  
9 tigation, prosecution, and treatment of cases in-  
10 volving missing and exploited children;

11 “(I) provide assistance to families and law  
12 enforcement agencies in locating and recovering  
13 missing and exploited children, both nationally  
14 and internationally;

15 “(J) provide analytical support and tech-  
16 nical assistance to law enforcement agencies  
17 through searching public records databases in  
18 locating and recovering missing and exploited  
19 children and helping to locate and identify ab-  
20 ductors;

21 “(K) provide direct on-site technical assist-  
22 ance and consultation to law enforcement agen-  
23 cies in child abduction and exploitation cases;

24 “(L) provide forensic technical assistance  
25 and consultation to law enforcement and other

1 agencies in the identification of unidentified de-  
2 ceased children through facial reconstruction of  
3 skeletal remains and similar techniques;

4 “(M) track the incidence of attempted  
5 child abductions in order to identify links and  
6 patterns, and provide such information to law  
7 enforcement agencies;

8 “(N) provide assistance to law enforcement  
9 agencies in locating non-compliant sex offend-  
10 ers;

11 “(O) facilitate the deployment of the Na-  
12 tional Emergency Child Locator Center to as-  
13 sist in reuniting missing children with their  
14 families during periods of national disasters;

15 “(P) work in conjunction with the Federal  
16 Bureau of Investigation to provide fitness deter-  
17 minations based on the criminal history of ap-  
18 plicants for volunteer positions in child-serving  
19 non-profit organizations.

20 “(Q) operate a cyber tipline to provide on-  
21 line users and electronic service providers an ef-  
22 fective means of reporting Internet-related child  
23 sexual exploitation in the areas of—

24 “(i) possession, manufacture and dis-  
25 tribution of child pornography;

1                   “(ii) online enticement of children for  
2                   sexual acts;

3                   “(iii) child prostitution;

4                   “(iv) sex tourism involving children;

5                   “(v) extrafamilial child sexual moles-  
6                   tation;

7                   “(vi) unsolicited obscene material sent  
8                   to a child; and

9                   “(vii) misleading domain names;

10                   and subsequently to transmit such reports, in-  
11                   cluding relevant images and information, to the  
12                   appropriate international, Federal, State or  
13                   local law enforcement agency for investigation;

14                   “(R) work with law enforcement, electronic  
15                   service providers, electronic payment service  
16                   providers, and others on methods to reduce the  
17                   distribution on the Internet of images and vid-  
18                   eos of sexually exploited children;

19                   “(S) serve as the central repository for  
20                   child pornography, related images and evi-  
21                   dentiary information to be provided to law en-  
22                   forcement agencies and prosecutors in the in-  
23                   vestigation and prosecution of child sexual of-  
24                   fenses;

1           “(T) operate the Child Victim Identifica-  
2           tion Program in order to assist the efforts of  
3           law enforcement agencies in identifying victims  
4           of child pornography and other sexual crimes;

5           “(U) mobilize and coordinate financial  
6           companies and Internet services companies to  
7           identify and stop the use of the payment system  
8           to support commercial child pornography;

9           “(V) develop and disseminate programs  
10          and information for the general public to edu-  
11          cate families and children regarding the preven-  
12          tion of child abduction and sexual exploitation;  
13          and

14          “(W) develop and disseminate programs  
15          and information to local communities, schools,  
16          public officials, nonprofit organizations and  
17          youth-serving organizations to help parents and  
18          children use the Internet safely and respon-  
19          sibly.”, and

20          (2) in paragraph (2) by striking “\$20,000,000”  
21          and all that follows through “2008”, and inserting  
22          “\$50,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008  
23          through 2013”.

1 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2       Section 408(a) of the Missing Children’s Assistance  
3 Act (42 U.S.C. 5777(a)) is amended by striking “2007  
4 through 2008” and inserting “2008 through 2013”.

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