

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2517

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## AN ACT

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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Protecting Our Chil-  
3 dren Comes First Act of 2007”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Section 402 of the Missing Children’s Assistance Act  
6 (42 U.S.C. 5771) is amended to read as follows:

7 **“SEC. 402. FINDINGS.**

8 “The Congress finds that—

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

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

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

19 “(4) abducted children are frequently moved  
20 from one locality to another, requiring the coopera-  
21 tion and coordination of local, State, and Federal  
22 law enforcement efforts;

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

1           “(6) children may be separated from their par-  
2           ents or legal guardians as a result of national disas-  
3           ters such as hurricanes and floods;

4           “(7) sex offenders pose a threat to children;

5           “(8) the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delin-  
6           quency Prevention administers programs under this  
7           Act through the Child Protection Division, including  
8           programs which prevent or address offenses com-  
9           mitted against vulnerable children and which sup-  
10          port missing children’s organizations; and

11          “(9) a key component of such programs is the  
12          National Center for Missing and Exploited Children,  
13          which—

14                 “(A) serves as a national resource center  
15                 and clearinghouse;

16                 “(B) works in partnership with the De-  
17                 partment of Justice, the Federal Bureau of In-  
18                 vestigation, the United States Marshals Service,  
19                 the Department of the Treasury, the Depart-  
20                 ment of State, the Bureau of Immigration and  
21                 Customs Enforcement, the United States Secret  
22                 Service, the United States Postal Inspection  
23                 Service, and many other agencies in the effort  
24                 to find missing children and prevent child vic-  
25                 timization; and

1           “(C) operates a national network, linking  
2           the Center online with each of the missing chil-  
3           dren clearinghouses operated by the 50 States,  
4           the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, as  
5           well as with international organizations, includ-  
6           ing Scotland Yard in the United Kingdom, the  
7           Royal Canadian Mounted Police, INTERPOL  
8           headquarters in Lyon, France, and others,  
9           which enable the Center to transmit images and  
10          information regarding missing and exploited  
11          children to law enforcement across the United  
12          States and around the world instantly.”.

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

14          Section 404(b) of the Missing Children’s Assistance  
15          Act (42 U.S.C. 5773(b)) is amended—

16                 (1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as fol-  
17          lows:

18                 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall  
19                 annually make a grant to the Center, which shall be  
20                 used to—

21                         “(A)(i) operate a national 24-hour toll-free  
22                         telephone line by which individuals may report  
23                         information regarding the location of any miss-  
24                         ing child, and request information pertaining to

1 procedures necessary to reunite such child with  
2 such child’s legal custodian; and

3 “(ii) coordinate the operation of such tele-  
4 phone line with the operation of the national  
5 communications system referred to in part C of  
6 the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42  
7 U.S.C. 5714–11);

8 “(B) operate the official national resource  
9 center and information clearinghouse for miss-  
10 ing and exploited children;

11 “(C) provide to State and local govern-  
12 ments, and public and private nonprofit agen-  
13 cies, and individuals, information regarding—

14 “(i) free or low-cost legal, restaurant,  
15 lodging, and transportation services that  
16 are available for the benefit of missing and  
17 exploited children and their families; and

18 “(ii) the existence and nature of pro-  
19 grams being carried out by Federal agen-  
20 cies to assist missing and exploited chil-  
21 dren and their families;

22 “(D) coordinate public and private pro-  
23 grams that locate, recover, or reunite missing  
24 children with their families;

1           “(E) disseminate, on a national basis, in-  
2           formation relating to innovative and model pro-  
3           grams, services, and legislation that benefit  
4           missing and exploited children;

5           “(F) based solely on reports received by  
6           the National Center for Missing and Exploited  
7           Children (NCMEC), and not involving any data  
8           collection by NCMEC other than the receipt of  
9           those reports, annually provide to the Depart-  
10          ment of Justice’s Office of Juvenile Justice and  
11          Delinquency Prevention—

12                 “(i) the number of children nation-  
13                 wide who are reported to NCMEC as miss-  
14                 ing;

15                 “(ii) the number of children nation-  
16                 wide who are reported to NCMEC as vic-  
17                 tims of non-family abductions;

18                 “(iii) the number of children nation-  
19                 wide who are reported to NCMEC as vic-  
20                 tims of parental kidnappings; and

21                 “(iv) the number of children recovered  
22                 nationwide whose recovery was reported to  
23                 NCMEC;

24           “(G) provide, at the request of State and  
25          local governments, and public and private non-

1 profit agencies, guidance on how to facilitate  
2 the lawful use of school records and birth cer-  
3 tificates 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, in cooperation with the Department of  
15 State, internationally;

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

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

1           “(L) provide forensic technical assistance  
2           and consultation to law enforcement and other  
3           agencies in the identification of unidentified de-  
4           ceased children through facial reconstruction of  
5           skeletal remains and similar techniques;

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

10           “(N) provide training and assistance to  
11           law enforcement agencies in identifying and lo-  
12           cating non-compliant sex offenders;

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

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

21                   “(i) possession, manufacture, and dis-  
22                   tribution of child pornography;

23                   “(ii) online enticement of children for  
24                   sexual acts;

25                   “(iii) child prostitution;

1                   “(iv) sex tourism involving children;  
2                   “(v) extrafamilial child sexual moles-  
3                   tation;  
4                   “(vi) unsolicited obscene material sent  
5                   to a child;  
6                   “(vii) misleading domain names; and  
7                   “(viii) misleading words or digital im-  
8                   ages on the Internet,  
9                   and subsequently to transmit such reports, in-  
10                  cluding relevant images and information, to the  
11                  appropriate international, Federal, State or  
12                  local law enforcement agency for investigation;  
13                  “(Q) work with law enforcement, Internet  
14                  service providers, electronic payment service  
15                  providers, and others on methods to reduce the  
16                  distribution on the Internet of images and vid-  
17                  eos of sexually exploited children;  
18                  “(R) operate a child victim identification  
19                  program in order to assist the efforts of law en-  
20                  forcement agencies in identifying victims of  
21                  child pornography and other sexual crimes; and  
22                  “(S) develop and disseminate programs  
23                  and information to the general public, schools,  
24                  public officials, youth-serving organizations, and  
25                  nonprofit organizations, directly or through

1 grants or contracts with public agencies and  
2 public and private nonprofit organizations, on—  
3 “(i) the prevention of child abduction  
4 and sexual exploitation; and  
5 “(ii) internet safety.”; and  
6 (2) in paragraph (2) by striking “\$20,000,000”  
7 and all that follows through “2008”, and inserting  
8 “\$40,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 and such sums as  
9 may be necessary for fiscal years 2009 through  
10 2013”.

11 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

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

15 **SEC. 5. REPEALER.**

16 The Missing Children’s Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.  
17 5771 et seq.) is amended—

18 (1) by striking section 407; and

19 (2) by redesignating section 408 as section 407.

Passed the House of Representatives December 5,  
2007.

Attest:

*Clerk.*



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