

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5062

To address sexual harassment and sexual assault of Bureau of Prisons staff
in prisons, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. OSSOFF) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To address sexual harassment and sexual assault of Bureau
of Prisons staff in prisons, 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 “Prison Staff Safety
5 Enhancement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ADDRESSING SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL**

7 **ASSAULT OF BUREAU OF PRISONS STAFF.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) CORRECTIONAL OFFICER.—The term “cor-
2 rectional officer” has the meaning given the term in
3 section 4051 of title 18, United States Code.

4 (2) INSPECTOR GENERAL.—The term “Inspec-
5 tor General” means the Inspector General of the De-
6 partment of Justice.

7 (3) INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL.—The term
8 “incarcerated individual” has the meaning given the
9 term “prisoner” in section 4051 of title 18, United
10 States Code.

11 (4) SEXUAL ASSAULT.—The term “sexual as-
12 sault” means an act described in subsection (b), (c),
13 or (d) of section 920 of title 10, United States Code.

14 (5) SEXUAL HARASSMENT.—The term “sexual
15 harassment” means unwelcome sexual advances, re-
16 quests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical
17 conduct of a sexual nature that explicitly or implic-
18 itly affect an individual’s employment, unreasonably
19 interfere with an individual’s work performance, or
20 create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work en-
21 vironment.

22 (b) REVIEW AND ANALYSIS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
24 the date of enactment of this Act, the Inspector
25 General shall carry out a comprehensive statistical

1 review and analysis of the incidence and effects of
2 sexual harassment and sexual assault perpetrated by
3 incarcerated individuals against a correctional officer
4 or other employee of the Bureau of Prisons.

5 (2) ANALYSIS.—The review and analysis re-
6 quired under paragraph (1) shall include an analysis
7 of punishments for sexual harassment and sexual as-
8 sault as of the date of enactment of this Act in fa-
9 cilities controlled by the Bureau of Prisons, includ-
10 ing data on the use of such punishments during the
11 5-year period preceding the date of enactment of
12 this Act.

13 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after com-
14 pleting the review and analysis under subsection (b)(1),
15 the Inspector General shall submit to the Attorney Gen-
16 eral and to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate
17 and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Rep-
18 resentatives a report that summarizes the findings of the
19 review and analysis.

20 (d) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 1 year after re-
21 ceiving the report under subsection (c), the Attorney Gen-
22 eral shall promulgate a rule adopting national standards
23 for prevention, reduction, and punishment of sexual har-
24 assment and sexual assault perpetrated by an incarcerated

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- 1 individual against a correctional officer or other employee
- 2 of the Bureau of Prisons.

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