

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3486

To amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to require States receiving funds under section 106 of such Act to have in effect a State law providing for a criminal penalty on an individual who fails to report witnessing another individual engaging in sexual abuse of a child.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 18, 2011

Ms. BASS of California (for herself, Mr. SCHILLING, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Ms. RICHARDSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to require States receiving funds under section 106 of such Act to have in effect a State law providing for a criminal penalty on an individual who fails to report witnessing another individual engaging in sexual abuse of a child.

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 “Speak Out to Stop
3 Child Abuse Act” or the “SOS Child Abuse Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT ON STATES RECEIVING GRANTS FOR**
5 **CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION**
6 **AND TREATMENT PROGRAMS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 106(b)(2) of the Child
8 Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C.
9 5106a(b)(2)) is amended—

10 (1) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” at
11 the end;

12 (2) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period
13 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

14 (3) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(H) an assurance in the form of a certifi-
16 cation by the Governor of the State that the
17 State has in effect and is enforcing a State law
18 providing for a criminal penalty on an indi-
19 vidual 18 years of age or older who fails to re-
20 port to a State or local law enforcement official
21 or child protective services that the individual
22 has witnessed another individual in the State
23 engaging in sexual abuse of a child.”.

24 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
25 subsection (a) shall take effect on December 31, 2013.

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