

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5560

To amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to incentivize States to eliminate civil and criminal statutes of limitations and revive time-barred civil claims for child abuse cases, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM (for himself and Ms. SALAZAR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to incentivize States to eliminate civil and criminal statutes of limitations and revive time-barred civil claims for child abuse cases, 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 “Statutes of Limitation
5 for Child Sexual Abuse Reform Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Child sexual abuse is a pernicious crime
2 perpetrated through threats of violence, intimidation,
3 manipulation, and abuse of power.

4 (2) Child sexual abuse is a public health epi-
5 demic that affects an estimated 1 in 4 girls and 1
6 in 20 boys in the United States.

7 (3) The prevalence of child sex trafficking is
8 difficult to estimate, but the National Center for
9 Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) reports
10 receiving more than 19,000 reports of child sex traf-
11 ficking in 2022.

12 (4) Historically, nearly 90 percent of child vic-
13 tims never go to the authorities and the vast major-
14 ity of claims have expired before the victims were ca-
15 pable of getting to court.

16 (5) Due to the subversive nature of this crime,
17 the average age of disclosure of child sexual abuse
18 does not occur until a victim is over 52 years old.

19 (6) Because many State statutes of limitations
20 applicable to laws involving child sexual abuse fail to
21 give victims adequate time to come forward and re-
22 port their abuse, numerous victims are unable to
23 seek fair and just remediation against their abusers.

24 (7) Due to the especially heinous nature of
25 child sexual abuse, it is imperative that perpetrators

1 of this crime are punished, prevented from re-
2 offending, and victims have the opportunity to see
3 their abusers brought to justice.

4 **SEC. 3. ELIMINATION OF STATE STATUTES OF LIMITATIONS**
5 **FOR CHILD ABUSE CASES.**

6 (a) CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT
7 ACT.—Section 107(e)(1) of the Child Abuse Prevention
8 and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106c(e)(1)) is amended—

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

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

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

14 “(D) elimination of State civil and criminal
15 statutes of limitations laws for child sexual
16 abuse, exploitation, and sex trafficking, and
17 adoption of laws reviving previously time-barred
18 civil claims for child sexual abuse, exploitation,
19 and sex trafficking.”.

20 (b) SPECIAL RULE.—Section 111(b) of the Child
21 Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C.
22 5106g(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

23 “(3) CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOI-
24 TATION.—For purposes of section 107(e)(1)(D), the
25 term ‘child sexual abuse and exploitation’ shall in-

1 clude an act or a failure to act on the part of a par-
2 ent, caretaker, or any other person.”.

3 **SEC. 4. GRANTS FOR ELIMINATING CERTAIN STATUTES OF**
4 **LIMITATION.**

5 (a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—The Secretary of Health and
6 Human Services may make grants to States that are eligi-
7 ble to receive an award under section 107 of the Child
8 Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106c)
9 to achieve one or more of the following reforms:

10 (1) The elimination of all State civil statutes of
11 limitations for claims of, related to, or arising from,
12 child sexual abuse, exploitation, and sex trafficking,
13 against perpetrators, other individuals, and public
14 and private entities.

15 (2) The elimination of all State criminal stat-
16 utes of limitations for all felony and misdemeanor
17 sex crimes against children, including sexual abuse,
18 exploitation, and trafficking, and for inchoate of-
19 fenses related to such sex crimes, including attempt,
20 conspiracy, solicitation, and aiding and abetting.

21 (3) The revival of previously time-barred civil
22 claims for child sexual abuse, exploitation, and sex
23 trafficking against perpetrators, other individuals,
24 and public and private entities, which, at a min-
25 imum, permits previously time-barred claims a 2-

1 year period or until a victim reaches age 55, which-
2 ever is longer.

3 (b) ALLOCATION.—Of the funds made available to
4 carry out this section—

5 (1) 25 percent shall be for States that achieve
6 one of the reforms described in paragraphs (1)
7 through (3) of subsection (a);

8 (2) 35 percent shall be for States that achieve
9 two of such reforms; and

10 (3) 40 percent shall be for States that achieve
11 three of such reforms.

12 An award under this section shall be in addition to any
13 funds for which the State is otherwise eligible to receive
14 under section 107 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
15 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106c).

16 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
17 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
18 \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2033.

19 **SEC. 5. TECHNICAL CORRECTION.**

20 Section 1404A of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984
21 (34 U.S.C. 20103), by striking “section 109” and insert
22 “section 107”.

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