

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4121

To amend title 18, United States Code, to penalize those who endanger children in hostage situations.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 19, 1996

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to penalize those who endanger children in hostage situations.

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 “Child Hostage Act of
5 1996”.

6 **SEC. 2. ENDANGERMENT OF CHILDREN DURING LAW EN-**
7 **FORCEMENT SITUATIONS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 73 (relating to obstruc-
9 tion of justice) of title 18, United States Code, is amended
10 by adding at the end the following:

1 **“§ 1518. Endangerment of children during law en-**
2 **forcement situations**

3 “(a) Whoever, having custody or control over an indi-
4 vidual under the age of 18 years, knowingly keeps that
5 individual, with reckless disregard for the safety of the in-
6 dividual, in a situation in which the individual could be
7 endangered during a Federal law enforcement action shall
8 be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than
9 2 years, or both.

10 “(b) As used in this section the term ‘Federal law
11 enforcement action’ means any action to enforce a crimi-
12 nal law in which a Federal law enforcement officer partici-
13 pates.”.

14 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
15 at the beginning of chapter 73 of title 18, United States
16 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new
17 item:

“1518. Endangerment of children during law enforcement situations.”.

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