

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 288

To create a separate DNA database for violent predators against children,  
and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 8, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred  
to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To create a separate DNA database for violent predators  
against children, 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 “Save Our Children:  
5 Stop the Violent Predators Against Children DNA Act of  
6 2009”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Based on sexual assaults reported to law  
2 enforcement, there are more 14-year old victims of  
3 sexual assault than victims of any other age.

4           (2) In 2007, there were more victims of sexual  
5 assault between ages 3 and 17 than in any indi-  
6 vidual age group over age 17, and more victims age  
7 2 than in any age group over 40.

8           (3) Children, like 5-year-old Samantha Runnion  
9 of California, who was abducted, sexually violated,  
10 and murdered, are most likely to be victims of sexual  
11 assault, with over one-third of all sexual assaults in-  
12 volving a victim who was under the age of 12.

13           (4) One of every 7 victims of sexual assault is  
14 under the age of 6.

15           (5) Murder is the only major cause of childhood  
16 deaths that has increased over the past three dec-  
17 ades.

18           (6) Between 300,000 and 400,000 children are  
19 victims of some type of sexual abuse or exploitation  
20 every year.

21           (7) More attention should be given to seeking  
22 solutions to violence against children.

1 **SEC. 3. DNA DATABASE FOR VIOLENT PREDATORS AGAINST**  
2 **CHILDREN.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall estab-  
4 lish and maintain, separate from any other DNA data-  
5 base, a database solely for the purpose of collecting the  
6 DNA information with respect to violent predators against  
7 children. Under regulations issued by the Attorney Gen-  
8 eral, Federal, State, and local agencies and other entities  
9 may submit DNA information to the Attorney General for  
10 inclusion in the database and may compare DNA informa-  
11 tion against other DNA information in the database.

12 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
13 are authorized to be appropriated \$500,000 to establish  
14 the database required by subsection (a).

15 **SEC. 4. INCENTIVE GRANTS.**

16 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—From amounts made  
17 available to carry out this section, the Attorney General  
18 shall make grants to each State that has in effect one or  
19 more programs that decrease the rate of recidivism among  
20 violent predators against children, for use by the State to  
21 implement improvements to such programs.

22 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
23 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
24 such sums as may be necessary.

1 **SEC. 5. CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLENT PREDATORS**  
2 **AGAINST CHILDREN.**

3 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a per-  
4 son who is a violent predator against children commits a  
5 crime that would, in and of itself, establish that person  
6 as a violent predator against children, the sentence im-  
7 posed on that person for that crime shall, without regard  
8 to any mitigating circumstance that would otherwise apply  
9 at sentencing, be the maximum authorized by law.

10 **SEC. 6. DEFINITION.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—As used in this Act, the term “vio-  
12 lent predator against children” means a person who com-  
13 mits a crime of violence (including a sex crime) against  
14 the person of an individual who has not attained the age  
15 of 18 years.

16 (b) STATUTORY RAPE EXCEPTION.—The term “vio-  
17 lent predator against children” shall not include a person  
18 who commits a sex crime against the person of an indi-  
19 vidual who has not attained the age of 18 years if—

20 (1) the individual against whom such crime was  
21 committed has attained 16 years of age or older;

22 (2) the person who commits such crime is not  
23 more than 4 years older than such individual; and

24 (3) the conduct resulting in the commission of  
25 such crime was consensual.