

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7530

To limit youth offender status in the District of Columbia to individuals 18 years of age or younger, to direct the Attorney General of the District of Columbia to establish and operate a publicly accessible website containing updated statistics on juvenile crime in the District of Columbia, to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to prohibit the Council of the District of Columbia from enacting changes to existing criminal liability sentences, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 5, 2024

Mr. DONALDS (for himself, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. TIMMONS, and Mr. PALMER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability

A BILL

To limit youth offender status in the District of Columbia to individuals 18 years of age or younger, to direct the Attorney General of the District of Columbia to establish and operate a publicly accessible website containing updated statistics on juvenile crime in the District of Columbia, to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to prohibit the Council of the District of Columbia from enacting changes to existing criminal liability sentences, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “D. C. Criminal Re-
3 forms to Immediately Make Everyone Safe Act” or the
4 “DC CRIMES Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. YOUTH OFFENDERS.**

6 (a) **LIMITING YOUTH OFFENDER STATUS IN DIS-**
7 **TRICT OF COLUMBIA TO INDIVIDUALS 18 YEARS OF AGE**
8 **OR YOUNGER.—**

9 (1) **LIMITATION.—**Section 2(6) of the Youth
10 Rehabilitation Act of 1985 (sec. 24–901(6), D.C.
11 Official Code) is amended by striking “24 years of
12 age or younger” and inserting “18 years of age or
13 younger”.

14 (2) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—**

15 (A) **REPEAL CONSIDERATION OF INDIVID-**
16 **UALS 18 THROUGH 24 YEARS OF AGE IN STRA-**
17 **TEGIC PLAN FOR FACILITIES, TREATMENT, AND**
18 **SERVICES.—**Section 3(a–1) of such Act (sec.
19 24–902(a–1), D.C. Official Code) is amended
20 by striking paragraph (3).

21 (B) **COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR INDIVID-**
22 **UALS UNDER ORDER OF PROBATION.—**Section
23 4(a)(2) of such Act (sec. 24–903(a)(2), D.C.
24 Official Code) is amended by striking “15 to 24
25 years of age” and inserting “15 to 18 years of
26 age”.

1 (b) PROHIBITING ISSUANCE OF SENTENCE LESS
 2 THAN MANDATORY-MINIMUM TERM.—Section 4(b) of
 3 such Act (sec. 24–903(b), D.C. Official Code) is amend-
 4 ed—

5 (1) by striking “(b)(1)” and inserting “(b)”;
 6 and

7 (2) by striking paragraph (2).

8 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF WEBSITE ON**
 9 **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA JUVENILE CRIME**
 10 **STATISTICS.**

11 (a) ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION.—Subchapter
 12 I of chapter 23 of title 16, District of Columbia Official
 13 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new
 14 section:

15 **“§ 16–2340a. Website of updated statistics on juvenile**
 16 **crime**

17 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF
 18 WEBSITE.—The Attorney General of the District of Co-
 19 lumbia shall establish and operate a publicly accessible
 20 website which contains data on juvenile crime in the Dis-
 21 trict of Columbia, including each of the following statis-
 22 tical measures:

23 “(1) The total number of juveniles arrested
 24 each year.

1 “(2) The total number and percentage of juve-
2 niles arrested each year, broken down by age, race,
3 and sex.

4 “(3) Of the total number of juveniles arrested
5 each year, the total number and percentage arrested
6 for petty crime, including the following crimes:

7 “(A) Vandalism.

8 “(B) Theft.

9 “(C) Shoplifting.

10 “(4) Of the total number of juveniles arrested
11 each year, the total number and percentage arrested
12 for crime of violence (as defined in section 23-
13 1331(4)).

14 “(5) Of the total number of juveniles arrested
15 each year, the total number and percentage who
16 were arrested for their first offense.

17 “(6) Of the total number of juveniles arrested
18 each year, the total number and percentage who had
19 been arrested previously.

20 “(7) Of the total number of juveniles arrested
21 each year who had been arrested previously, the
22 total number and percentage of the number of ar-
23 rests.

24 “(8) Of the total number of juveniles arrested
25 each year, the declination rate for prosecutions by

1 the Office of the Attorney General for the District
2 of Columbia.

3 “(9) Of the total number of juveniles sentenced
4 each year, the number and percentage who were
5 tried as adults.

6 “(10) Of the total number of juveniles pros-
7 ecuted each year, the number and percentage who
8 were not sentenced, who were sentenced to a mis-
9 demeanor, and who were sentenced to a felony.

10 “(11) Of the total number of juveniles sen-
11 tenced each year, the number and percentage of the
12 length of time that will be served in a correctional
13 facility as provided by the sentence.

14 “(b) UPDATES.—The Attorney General shall update
15 the information contained on the website on a monthly
16 basis.

17 “(c) MAINTAINING ARCHIVE OF INFORMATION.—The
18 Attorney General shall ensure that the information con-
19 tained on the website is archived appropriately to provide
20 indefinite public access to historical data of juvenile ar-
21 rests and prosecutions.

22 “(d) FORMAT.—The Attorney General shall ensure
23 that the information contained in the website, including
24 historical data described in subsection (c), is available in
25 a machine-readable format available for bulk download.

1 “(e) PROHIBITING DISCLOSURE OF PERSONALLY
2 IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION.—In carrying out this sec-
3 tion, the Attorney General shall ensure that the website
4 does not include any juvenile’s personally identifiable in-
5 formation.

6 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

7 “(1) the term ‘crime’ has the meaning given the
8 term ‘offense’ in section 23–1331(2); and

9 “(2) the term ‘juvenile’ has the meaning given
10 the term ‘youth offender’ in section 2(6) of the
11 Youth Rehabilitation Act of 1985 (sec. 24–901(6),
12 D.C. Official Code).”.

13 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO AU-
14 THORIZED RELEASE OF INFORMATION.—

15 (1) JUVENILE CASE RECORDS OF FAMILY
16 COURT.—Section 16–2331, District of Columbia Of-
17 ficial Code, is amended—

18 (A) by redesignating subsection (i) as sub-
19 section (j); and

20 (B) by inserting after subsection (h) the
21 following new subsection:

22 “(i) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section,
23 a person shall provide information contained in juvenile
24 case records to the Attorney General for purposes of the

1 website established and operated under section 16–
2 2340a.”.

3 (2) JUVENILE SOCIAL RECORDS OF FAMILY
4 COURT.—Section 16–2332, District of Columbia Of-
5 ficial Code, is amended—

6 (A) by redesignating subsection (h) as sub-
7 section (i); and

8 (B) by inserting after subsection (g) the
9 following new subsection:

10 “(h) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section,
11 a person shall provide information contained in juvenile
12 social records to the Attorney General for purposes of the
13 website established and operated under section 16–
14 2340a.”.

15 (3) POLICE AND OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT
16 RECORDS.—Section 16–2333, District of Columbia
17 Official Code, is amended—

18 (A) by redesignating subsection (g) as sub-
19 section (h); and

20 (B) by inserting after subsection (f) the
21 following new subsection:

22 “(g) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section,
23 a person shall provide information contained in law en-
24 forcement records and files concerning a child to the At-

1 torney General for purposes of the website established and
 2 operated under section 16–2340a.”.

3 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The Attorney General of the
 4 District of Columbia shall establish the website under sec-
 5 tion 16–2341, District of Columbia Official Code, as
 6 added by subsection (a), not later than 180 days after the
 7 date of the enactment of this Act.

8 **SEC. 4. PROHIBITING COUNCIL FROM ENACTING CHANGES**
 9 **TO EXISTING CRIMINAL LIABILITY SEN-**
 10 **TENCES.**

11 Section 602(a) of the District of Columbia Home
 12 Rule Act (sec. 1–206.02(a), D.C. Official Code) is amend-
 13 ed—

14 (1) by striking “or” at the end of paragraph
 15 (9);

16 (2) by striking the period at the end of para-
 17 graph (10) and inserting “; or”; and

18 (3) by adding at the end the following new
 19 paragraph:

20 “(11) enact any act, resolution, or rule to
 21 change any criminal liability sentence in effect on
 22 the date of the enactment of the DC CRIMES
 23 Act.”.

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