

[110th Congress]

As submitted to Senator Barbara Mikulski on February 22, 2010
for emergency enactment:

An Act

To ensure public health and well being, to empower children with the knowledge for self protection, to increase awareness of the dynamics of human predatory behavior and to make mandatory the teaching of the ten psychological approach tactics used on vulnerable and unaware children.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE;

(a) Short Title.--This Act may be cited as "The Child Empowerment Act".

SEC. 2. In recognition of the 25th anniversary of the establishment and dedication of the Good Knight Child Empowerment Network and its founders.

- (a) The Good Knight Child Empowerment Network is dedicated to the safety of all America's children and to the preservation of childhood innocence with the motto, "You never stand so tall as when you stoop to help a child." Established on February 22, 1985 the Network has been empowering children and families with the knowledge for self protection by teaching the dynamics of human predatory behavior and the approach tactics of criminal predators in the form of the "ABC's of Safety".
- (b) The Network was founded by three distinguished retired government professionals, Edward Jagen, former Washington D.C. Police Major Crimes Investigator, Dennis V.N. McCarthy, former U.S. Secret Service Protection Specialist (deceased), and Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr. former U.S. Navy Chief of Staff (deceased). These three American patriots formed and set in motion a strategy of awareness and protection that thoroughly addressed the issue of crime and violence against children which included the creation of crime and violence educational materials, the implementation of child empowerment programs nationwide and the enactment of a law mandating that children receive this life saving information in elementary school. With the exception of this mandatory law, the strategy has reached over 20 million families to date in the United States. The Network's commitment has saved thousands of lives and countless families from the heartache of criminal victimization.
- (c) Continuing that strategy in 2008 the Good Knight Child Empowerment Network established the National Safe and Healthier Communities Initiative and the Super Safety Project to educate and protect all citizens.
1. The goal of the National Safe and Healthier Communities Initiative and its Super Safety Project is to give a free Super Safety Family Combo Kit, which contains the SuperBook of Family Safety and bilingual "ABC's of Safety" DVD, to every family in the United States. The kit increases public awareness by lowering the vulnerability of intended victims to various forms of crime, violence and manipulation.

SEC. 3. In order to protect the public from sex offenders, offenders

against children, criminal predators and criminal victimization, Congress in this Act establishes a mandatory national education awareness campaign for the empowerment of children.

FINDINGS:

- (a) In studying crimes against children in the United States it was found that most children fall victim to criminal predators because they lack any mental point of reference to the modus operandi used to gain trust and control over their intended victims. The Network has discovered that by increasing a child's awareness of the ten psychological deceptions, "ABC's of Safety", he/she is less likely to be victimized.
- (b) Criminal predators seek primarily vulnerable and unaware children.
- (c) Current laws requiring longer sentences for child sexual predators, mandatory registration of sexual predators and the mandatory reporting of child abuse by teachers, health care providers, counselors, etc., have been steps in the right direction. According to effectiveness studies, these laws have done little to prevent or lessen these crimes from occurring. The missing component in these laws is the mandatory crime and violence prevention awareness education for public school students. One reason for its past omission has been the exorbitant cost for such crime and violence prevention program materials on a national level.
- (d) In the interest of preserving childhood innocence and in the spirit of the Constitution's 'protection for all' The Good Knight Child Empowerment Network and Angel Knight Productions will offer free downloadable Super Safety Educator Resource Kits for every teacher within the public school systems as mandated by this Act. This resource will result in no cost to the taxpayer and will in turn help lower the skyrocketing deficit.

TITLE I- MANDATORY CRIME AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION EDUCATION

To mandate child abuse prevention education for public school students. To empower youth by teaching the dynamics of human predatory behavior, the "ABC's of Safety", thereby elevating the awareness of children to the ten psychological approach tactics used by molesters, gang recruiters, and other negative individuals who prey upon vulnerable and unaware children.

a) **Minimum requirements:**

One hour of instruction (viewing the ABC's of Safety film and follow-up discussion) per semester, or two times per year, for all students in first, third and fifth grades within the public school system.

b) **Optional program usage:**

Within the free downloadable Super Safety Educator Resource Kit is the Super Safety Curriculum Guide and Presenter Script, bilingual Super Safety film, A Good Knight Story (audio book), Quest of the

Good Knight Bilingual Activity Book (with printouts for student use in the classroom), and the Super Book Of Family Safety. The kit will allow teachers and counselors to not only teach the ABC's of Safety to their students but they can go on to address such issues as Internet Safety, Crime and Violence Prevention, Gang Awareness, Bully Prevention, Drug and Alcohol Prevention, Character Development, Conflict Resolution, and Disaster Preparedness as it relates to the concerns of their local communities.

NATIONAL IMPACT

Within the original strategy set forth by the Network's founders, a minimum of 50 million households in the United States would need to be given the knowledge derived from the "ABC's of Safety". This could only be done by elevating the awareness of public school students. Those students would then pass on what they had learned to their family and neighbors. This would be the most cost effective means to elevate public awareness since the system of distributing this knowledge is already in place.

By elevating the public's awareness to the modus operandi used by criminal predators, fewer potential victims will fall prey, thereby lowering the crime rate and costs associated with those crimes. This will also lower the expense of prosecuting, incarcerating, and parole monitoring of potential criminals. What price can we place on protecting children from the trauma associated with victimization at the hands of a criminal predator?

The Safe and Healthier Communities Initiative and its Super Safety Project provides parents and teachers the training tools needed to give children the insight and mental points of reference to recognize danger before the predator has a chance to strike and the viable means to properly respond in order to stay safe. The old saying is true "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." In this case the ounce of prevention is worth the savings of billions of taxpayers' dollars.

Many abused children, without intervention, grow up to be adult abusers. With this law in place the project will break that perpetual cycle of abuse and the associated costs.

One of the hardest things to gauge is prevention. There are too many unpredictable variables associated for an accurate projection. The individual's retention standard for this program is gauged at 84% but even if the Super Safety Project was 50% effective, the savings in the area of sexual predators alone would be over three hundred billion dollars nationwide. This does not include the priceless PREVENTION of the long term effects of emotional trauma to victims, parents, relatives, friends, and the community as a whole.

Since our goal is to offer the information free to educators there is no monetary investment for the enactment of this common sense child empowerment law.