

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To require the prompt reporting for national instant criminal background check system purposes of members of the Armed Forces convicted of domestic violence offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. FLAKE (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To require the prompt reporting for national instant criminal background check system purposes of members of the Armed Forces convicted of domestic violence offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, 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 “Domestic Violence
5 Loophole Closure Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROMPT REPORTING FOR NATIONAL INSTANT**
2 **CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK SYSTEM**
3 **PURPOSES OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED**
4 **FORCES CONVICTED OF DOMESTIC VIO-**
5 **LENCE OFFENSES UNDER THE UNIFORM**
6 **CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE.**

7 (a) **REPORTING REQUIRED.**—Under regulations and
8 procedures prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, each
9 Secretary concerned shall submit to the Attorney General
10 for inclusion in the national instant criminal background
11 check system the name and other appropriate information
12 on each member of the Armed Forces under the jurisdic-
13 tion of such Secretary who—

14 (1) has been convicted of an offense under
15 chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uni-
16 form Code of Military Justice), for conduct that
17 would constitute an offense of domestic violence
18 against a spouse, domestic partner, or dependent
19 child under State law; or

20 (2) has entered into a plea agreement accepting
21 liability for an offense described in paragraph (1).

22 (b) **DEADLINE FOR REPORTING.**—The name and
23 other information on a member required to be submitted
24 pursuant to subsection (a) shall be submitted not later
25 than three days after the following (as applicable):

1 (1) The date of entry of judgment with respect
2 to the member for the offense concerned in the case
3 of a general court-martial or special court-martial.

4 (2) The date of judgment with respect to the
5 member for the offense concerned in the case of a
6 summary court-martial.

7 (3) The date of acceptance of the plea agree-
8 ment of the member with respect to the offense con-
9 cerned by the military judge.

10 (c) FAILURE TO SUBMIT.—If the Secretary con-
11 cerned does not submit the name and other information
12 on a member required by subsection (a) within the dead-
13 line provided by subsection (b), the Secretary shall, as
14 soon as practicable after the deadline, submit to Congress
15 in writing a notice on the lack of submittal within the
16 deadline, including an explanation for the lack of sub-
17 mittal within the deadline and a statement when the name
18 and other information will be so submitted.

19 (d) REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES.—

20 (1) OFFENSES.—The regulations prescribed by
21 the Secretary of Defense pursuant to subsection (a)
22 shall set forth the offenses under chapter 47 of title
23 10, United States Code, that would constitute an of-
24 fense of domestic violence against a spouse, domestic
25 partner, or dependent child under State law for pur-

1 poses of subsection (a). The offenses so prescribed
2 shall be uniform throughout the United States.

3 (2) UNIFORMITY ACROSS ARMED FORCES.—The
4 regulations and procedures prescribed pursuant to
5 subsection (a) shall apply uniformly across the
6 Armed Forces.

7 (e) ANNUAL REPORTS ON COMPLIANCE.—Not later
8 than February 15 each year, the Inspector General of the
9 Department of Defense shall, in consultation with the
10 Comptroller General of the United States, submit to Con-
11 gress a report setting forth a description and assessment
12 of the compliance of the Secretaries concerned with the
13 requirements of this section during the preceding year, in-
14 cluding a description and assessment of the accuracy,
15 completeness, and timeliness of the information submitted
16 by the Secretaries concerned to the Attorney General
17 under this section during such year.

18 (f) REPORT ON REMEDIATION OF DEFICIENCIES IN
19 SYSTEM.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the
20 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall sub-
21 mit to Congress a report setting forth a description of the
22 actions taken, and to be taken, in order to ensure that
23 the information in the national instant criminal back-
24 ground check system on members and former members of
25 the Armed Forces fully and accurately covers the members

1 and former members who have been convicted of an of-
2 fense or entered into a plea agreement described in sub-
3 section (a) as of the date of the report.

4 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) The term “national instant criminal back-
6 ground check system” means the system established
7 under section 103 of the Brady Handgun Violence
8 Prevention Act (34 U.S.C. 40901).

9 (2) The term “Secretary concerned” has the
10 meaning given that term in section 101(a)(9) of title
11 10, United States Code.

12 **SEC. 3. CLARIFICATION OF APPLICABILITY OF PROHIBI-**
13 **TION ON POSSESSION AND TRANSPORTATION**
14 **OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION BY INDIVID-**
15 **UALS CONVICTED OF MISDEMEANOR CRIMES**
16 **OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TO INDIVIDUALS**
17 **CONVICTED OF SIMILAR OFFENSES UNDER**
18 **THE UNIFORM CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE.**

19 Section 922(g)(9) of title 18, United States Code, is
20 amended by inserting before the comma at the end the
21 following: “, or has been convicted by court-martial of an
22 offense under chapter 47 of title 10 (the Uniform Code
23 of Military Justice) for conduct that would constitute such
24 a crime under State law”.