

# **SECTION-BY-SECTION**

House Committee on Education and the Workforce Ranking Member Robert C. "Bobby" Scott

# Missing Children's Assistance Reauthorization Act (S. 2051)

Section 1. Short Title.

The "Missing Children's Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2023"

# Section 2. Missing Children's Assistance Act Amendments.

*Definitions (34 U.S.C. §11292)* Provides a definition for the term "child sexual abuse material.

# Duties and Functions of the Administrator (34 U.S.C. §11293)

Updates the activities authorized through the annual grant to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) to enhance coordination with law enforcement and state child welfare systems, promote safety for children using technology, and combat the online exploitation of children. Specifically, the bill enhances NCMEC's ability to:

- Provide technical assistance and referrals to law enforcement to identify, locate, and recover missing and exploited children
- Coordinate with federal, state, and local government agencies on children missing from foster care
- Develop and distribute educational information, including tips and strategies that reduce the risk of child sex trafficking, online enticement, sextortion, and cyberbullying.
- Provide education and technical assistance to organizations in conducting background checks on individuals working with children
- Provide support services, including counseling recommendations and recovery support, to missing and exploited children and their families
- Facilitate requests to have child sexual abuse material removed from the internet, codifying an existing initiative NCMEC has been operating

Clarifies that the National Incidence Studies conducted by the Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention must include analysis of the demographic data on the children reporting missing, abducted, kidnapped, and recovered each year.

# Reporting (34 U.S.C. §11295a)

Adds additional elements to annual reporting required of NCMEC, including the number of children reported as missing from state-sponsored care, the number of such children whose recovery was reported, and the number of such children who are likely victims of child sex trafficking.

Instructs NCMEC to annually report on the criteria and processes used to establish forensic partnerships and recommend forensic resources to law enforcement.

# Authorization of Appropriations (34 U.S.C. §11297)

Authorizes appropriations of \$49.3 million, up to \$41.5 million (the appropriated amount for the current fiscal year) of which will be provided to NCMEC, for fiscal years 2024 through 2028.