

S 535

Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act

**Congress:** 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Crime and Law Enforcement

**Introduced:** Feb 8, 2007

**Current Status:** By Senator Leahy from Committee on the Judiciary filed written report. Report No. 110-88.

**Latest Action:** By Senator Leahy from Committee on the Judiciary filed written report. Report No. 110-88. (Jun 22, 2007)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/senate-bill/535>

Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** CT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (19 total)

| Cosponsor                         | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]     | D · VT        |      | Feb 8, 2007  |
| Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]   | D · NY        |      | Feb 13, 2007 |
| Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]     | D · LA        |      | Feb 16, 2007 |
| Sen. McCaskill, Claire [D-MO]     | D · MO        |      | Feb 28, 2007 |
| Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]         | R · MS        |      | Mar 1, 2007  |
| Sen. Alexander, Lamar [R-TN]      | R · TN        |      | Mar 6, 2007  |
| Sen. Kennedy, Edward M. [D-MA]    | D · MA        |      | Apr 26, 2007 |
| Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]   | D · MD        |      | Jun 7, 2007  |
| Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]          | R · TX        |      | Jun 7, 2007  |
| Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]    | D · IL        |      | Jun 7, 2007  |
| Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]       | R · UT        |      | Jun 7, 2007  |
| Sen. Specter, Arlen [R-PA]        | R · PA        |      | Jun 7, 2007  |
| Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]   | D · RI        |      | Jun 7, 2007  |
| Sen. Biden, Joseph R., Jr. [D-DE] | D · DE        |      | Jun 12, 2007 |
| Sen. Obama, Barack [D-IL]         | D · IL        |      | Jun 19, 2007 |
| Sen. Byrd, Robert C. [D-WV]       | D · WV        |      | Oct 4, 2007  |
| Sen. Levin, Carl [D-MI]           | D · MI        |      | Jul 24, 2008 |
| Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]      | R · MS        |      | Jul 25, 2008 |
| Sen. Smith, Gordon H. [R-OR]      | R · OR        |      | Jul 28, 2008 |

Committee Activity

| Committee           | Chamber | Activity    | Date         |
|---------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Judiciary Committee | Senate  | Reported By | Jun 20, 2007 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

| Bill       | Relationship   | Last Action  |
|------------|----------------|--|
| 110 HR 923 | Identical bill | Oct 7, 2008: Became Public Law No: 110-344.  |
| 110 S 3430 | Related bill   | Sep 8, 2008: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 944. |
| 110 S 3348 | Related bill   | Aug 1, 2008: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S8017-8019)  |

Summary (as of Jun 20, 2007)

Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act - Directs the Attorney General to designate a Deputy Chief in the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. Makes the Deputy Chief responsible for investigating and prosecuting violations of criminal civil rights statutes in which the alleged violation occurred before January 1, 1970 and resulted in death.

(Sec. 4) Directs the Attorney General to designate a Supervisory Special Agent in the Civil Rights Unit of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) of the Department of Justice to investigate violations of criminal civil rights statutes that occurred before January 1, 1970 and resulted in a death.

(Sec. 5) Authorizes the Attorney General to award grants to state or local law enforcement agencies for the investigation and prosecution of violations of state or local laws that are similar to the federal criminal civil rights statutes. Authorizes appropriations.

(Sec. 6) Authorizes appropriations.

(Sec. 8) Terminates the effectiveness of the above provisions at the end of FY2017.

(Sec. 9) Amends the Crime Control Act of 1990 to authorize staff of an Inspector General to assist the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children by conducting reviews of inactive case files to develop recommendations for further investigations and engaging in similar activities.

Actions Timeline

- Jun 22, 2007: By Senator Leahy from Committee on the Judiciary filed written report. Report No. 110-88.
- Jun 20, 2007: Committee on the Judiciary. Reported by Senator Leahy with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title. Without written report.
- Jun 20, 2007: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 211.
- Jun 14, 2007: Committee on the Judiciary. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- Feb 8, 2007: Introduced in Senate
- Feb 8, 2007: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S1788)
- Feb 8, 2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S1788-1789)