

SRES 626

A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Supreme Court of the United States erroneously decided *Kennedy v. Louisiana*, No. 07-343 (2008), and that the eighth amendment to the Constitution of the United States allows the imposition of the death penalty for the rape of a child.

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Jul 25, 2008

Current Status: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S7481-7482)

Latest Action: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S7481-7482) (Jul 25, 2008)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/senate-resolution/626>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA]

Party: Republican • **State:** LA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Burr, Richard [R-NC]	R · NC		Jul 25, 2008
Sen. Coburn, Tom [R-OK]	R · OK		Jul 25, 2008
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Jul 25, 2008
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Jul 25, 2008
Sen. DeMint, Jim [R-SC]	R · SC		Jul 25, 2008
Sen. Dole, Elizabeth [R-NC]	R · NC		Jul 25, 2008
Sen. Kyl, Jon [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Jul 25, 2008
Sen. Sessions, Jeff [R-AL]	R · AL		Jul 25, 2008
Sen. Graham, Lindsey [R-SC]	R · SC		Jul 29, 2008

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 25, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 HJRES 96	Related bill	Jun 26, 2008: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.
110 HJRES 83	Related bill	Jun 3, 2008: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.

Expresses the sense of the Senate that: (1) the eighth amendment to the Constitution allows the death penalty for the rape of a child where the crime did not result, and was not intended to result, in death of the victim; (2) the Louisiana statute making child rape punishable by death is constitutional; (3) because *Kennedy v. Louisiana* was decided under a mistaken view of federal law, the U.S. Supreme Court should grant any petition for rehearing of the case and the portions of the decision regarding the national consensus or evolving standards of decency with respect to the imposition of the death penalty for child rape should not be viewed as binding precedent; and (4) the Supreme Court should reverse its decision on rehearing or in a future case because it was supported by neither commonly held beliefs about cruel and unusual punishment nor by the text, structure, or history of the Constitution.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 25, 2008:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 25, 2008:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S7481-7482)