

## S 2352

### Speak Up to Protect Every Abused Kid Act

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Families

**Introduced:** Dec 3, 2015

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Dec 3, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/2352>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]

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

### Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jul 13, 2016

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Dec 3, 2015

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Families

### Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

## **Speak Up to Protect Every Abused Kid Act**

This bill expresses the sense of Congress with respect to abused children.

The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) is amended to direct the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to make grants to eligible entities to carry out educational campaigns and provide evidence-based or evidence-informed training regarding state laws for mandatory reporting of incidents of child abuse or neglect.

The state plan under a grant for child abuse or neglect prevention and treatment programs shall contain specified assurances about:

- state laws or programs that include procedures for an individual to report suspected or known incidents of child abuse or neglect to state child protective services agencies or to law enforcement agencies;
- procedures to ensure coordination between the state law or statewide program and relevant law enforcement and state or community-based victims' services agencies with respect to referrals of child victims of acts by a perpetrator other than a parent or caretaker that would otherwise be considered child abuse or neglect;
- primary state responsibility to accept and investigate reports of known and suspected child abuse or neglect pertaining to an incident that occurred in the state, even if the child or alleged perpetrator resides in a different state; as well as
- established state procedures meeting certain requirements to screen for domestic violence in the course of investigating child abuse.

State law shall require certain licensed, certified, or professional individuals to report suspected or known incidents of child abuse or neglect.

The annual state application for a grant for programs relating to investigation and prosecution of child abuse and neglect cases shall contain an assurance that the state will support training for adults who work with children in a professional or volunteer capacity to report suspected and known incidents of child abuse or neglect. Requires the state multidisciplinary task force on children's justice to evaluate the state's efforts to train such adults to report such incidents.

A state shall adopt state task force recommendations in the category of experimental, model, and demonstration programs for testing innovative approaches and techniques that may improve reporting to the state child protective services agencies or to law enforcement agencies of and response to suspected and known incidents of child abuse or neglect by adults.

A state, to be eligible to receive any form of financial assistance, shall include in its plan or application an assurance that the state has in effect a state law for mandatory reporting of child abuse or neglect.

HHS shall collect information on and otherwise study the efforts of states relating to state laws for mandatory reporting of incidents of child abuse or neglect in order to assess the implementation of CAPTA.

Any application for a community-based grant shall contain an assurance that the state has in effect a state law for mandatory reporting of child abuse or neglect.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Dec 3, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Dec 3, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.