

## S 4708

### Strengthening Child Exploitation Enforcement Act

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Crime and Law Enforcement

**Introduced:** Jul 11, 2024

**Current Status:** Held at the desk.

**Latest Action:** Held at the desk. (Nov 22, 2024)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/4708>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]

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

### Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jul 11, 2024

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Nov 21, 2024

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 9047	Related bill	<b>Jul 15, 2024:</b> Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

## **Strengthening Child Exploitation Enforcement Act**

This bill makes changes to federal criminal laws related to various offenses, particularly sexual abuse offenses against minors.

The bill revises the federal kidnapping statute by specifying that obtaining a victim by defrauding or deceiving a third party constitutes the offense of kidnapping. Additionally, for a kidnapping offense that involves a victim who has not attained the age of 16, the bill specifies that it is not a defense that the victim consented to the conduct of the offender, unless the offender establishes by a preponderance of the evidence that the offender reasonably believed that the victim had attained the age of 16.

The bill also revises statutes related to sexual abuse offenses against minors to specify the following:

- that crossing international lines with the intent to engage in a sexual act with a child who has not attained the age of 12 constitutes aggravated sexual abuse (currently, the statute only references crossing state lines),
- that the offense of sexual abuse of a minor also includes knowingly causing the intentional touching of any person by a person who has not attained the age of 16, and
- that attempting to commit abusive sexual contact is also a crime that is subject to the same penalty as the completed offense.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Nov 22, 2024:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Nov 22, 2024:** Received in the House.
- **Nov 22, 2024:** Held at the desk.
- **Nov 21, 2024:** Senate Committee on the Judiciary discharged by Unanimous Consent.
- **Nov 21, 2024:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent.
- **Nov 21, 2024:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Nov 21, 2024:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S6734-6735; text: CR S6734-6735)
- **Jul 11, 2024:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 11, 2024:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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