

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2017

To amend section 116 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 27, 2019

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. MCSALLY, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mrs. FISCHER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend section 116 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Federal Prohibition
5 of Female Genital Mutilation Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Congress has previously prohibited the prac-
9 tice of female genital mutilation on minors, which
10 causes physical and psychological harm and is often

1 beyond the ability of any single State or jurisdiction
2 to control.

3 (2) Individuals who perform the practice of fe-
4 male genital mutilation on minors rely on a connec-
5 tion to interstate or foreign commerce, such as inter-
6 state or foreign travel, the transmission or receipt of
7 communications in interstate or foreign commerce,
8 or interstate or foreign payments of any kind in fur-
9 therance of this conduct.

10 (3) Amending section 116 of title 18, United
11 States Code, to specify a link to interstate or foreign
12 commerce would confirm that Congress has the af-
13 firmative power to prohibit this conduct.

14 **SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO CURRENT LAW PROHIBITING FE-**
15 **MALE GENITAL MUTILATION.**

16 Section 116 of title 18, United States Code, is
17 amended—

18 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “, in any cir-
19 cumstance described in subsection (e),” after “who-
20 ever”; and

21 (2) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(e) For purposes of subsection (a), the cir-
23 cumstances described in this subsection are that—

24 “(1) the defendant or victim traveled in inter-
25 state or foreign commerce, or traveled using a

1 means, channel, facility, or instrumentality of inter-
2 state or foreign commerce, in furtherance of or in
3 connection with the conduct described in subsection
4 (a);

5 “(2) the defendant used a means, channel, fa-
6 cility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign
7 commerce in furtherance of or in connection with
8 the conduct described in subsection (a);

9 “(3) any payment of any kind was made, di-
10 rectly or indirectly, in furtherance of or in connec-
11 tion with the conduct described in subsection (a)
12 using any means, channel, facility, or instrumen-
13 tality of interstate or foreign commerce or in or af-
14 fecting interstate or foreign commerce;

15 “(4) the defendant transmitted in interstate or
16 foreign commerce any communication relating to or
17 in furtherance of the conduct described in subsection
18 (a) using any means, channel, facility, or instrumen-
19 tality of interstate or foreign commerce or in or af-
20 fecting interstate or foreign commerce by any means
21 or in any manner, including by computer, mail, wire,
22 or electromagnetic transmission;

23 “(5) the conduct described in subsection (a) oc-
24 curred within the special maritime and territorial ju-
25 risdiction of the United States, or within the District

1 of Columbia or any territory or possession of the
2 United States; or

3 “(6) the conduct described in subsection (a)
4 otherwise occurred in or affected interstate or for-
5 eign commerce.”.

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