

NLWJC - Kagan

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**Women's Issues-Sexual Assault
Hotline**

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Sexual Assault
Hotline

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

JANUARY 17, 1996

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. SCHUMER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To establish a National Sexual Assault Hotline.

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 "".

5 **SEC. 2. GRANT FOR A NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT HOT-**
6 **LINE.**

7 The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42
8 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.) is amended by adding after section
9 316 the following:

1 "SEC. 317. NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT HOTLINE GRANT.

2 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award a
3 grant to a private, nonprofit entity to provide for the oper-
4 ation of a national, toll-free telephone hotline to provide
5 information and assistance to victims of sexual assault.

6 "(b) DURATION.—A grant under this section may ex-
7 tend over a period of not more than 5 years.

8 "(c) ANNUAL APPROVAL.—The provision of pay-
9 ments under a grant under this section shall be subject
10 to annual approval by the Secretary and subject to the
11 availability of appropriations for each fiscal year to make
12 the payments.

13 "(d) ACTIVITIES.—Funds received by an entity under
14 this section shall be used to establish and operate a na-
15 tional, toll-free telephone hotline to provide information
16 and assistance to victims of sexual assault. In establishing
17 and operating the hotline, a private, nonprofit entity
18 shall—

19 "(1) contract with a carrier for the use of a
20 toll-free telephone line;

21 "(2) employ, train, and supervise personnel to
22 answer incoming calls and provide counseling and
23 referral services to callers on a 24-hour-a-day basis;

24 "(3) assemble and maintain a current database
25 of information relating to services for victims of sex-
26 ual assault to which callers may be referred through-

1 out the United States, including information on the
2 availability of shelters that serve battered women;
3 and

4 “(4) publicize the hotline to potential users
5 throughout the United States.

6 “(e) APPLICATION.—A grant may not be made under
7 this section unless an application for such grant has been
8 approved by the Secretary. To be approved by the Sec-
9 retary under this subsection an application shall—

10 “(1) contain such agreements, assurances, and
11 information, be in such form and be submitted in
12 such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe
13 through notice in the Federal Register;

14 “(2) include a complete description of the appli-
15 cant’s plan for the operation of a national sexual as-
16 sault hotline, including descriptions of—

17 “(A) the training program for hotline per-
18 sonnel;

19 “(B) the hiring criteria for hotline person-
20 nel;

21 “(C) the methods for the creation, mainte-
22 nance and updating of a resource database;

23 “(D) a plan for publicizing the availability
24 of the hotline;

1 “(E) a plan for providing service to non-
2 English speaking callers, including hotline per-
3 sonnel who speak Spanish; and

4 “(F) a plan for facilitating access to the
5 hotline by persons with hearing impairments;

6 “(3) demonstrate that the applicant has nation-
7 ally recognized expertise in the area of sexual as-
8 sault and a record of high quality service to victims
9 of sexual assault, including a demonstration of sup-
10 port from advocacy groups, such as sexual assault
11 State coalitions or recognized national sexual assault
12 groups;

13 “(4) demonstrates that the applicant has a
14 commitment to diversity, and to the provision of
15 services to ethnic, racial, and non-English speaking
16 minorities, in addition to older individuals and indi-
17 viduals with disabilities; and

18 “(5) contain such other information as the Sec-
19 retary may require.

20 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
22 appropriated to carry out this section—

23 “(A) \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 1995;

24 “(B) \$400,000 for fiscal year 1996;

25 “(C) \$400,000 for fiscal year 1997;

1 “(D) \$400,000 for fiscal year 1998;
2 “(E) \$400,000 for fiscal year 1999; and
3 “(F) \$400,000 for fiscal year 2000.
4 “(2) AVAILABILITY.—Funds authorized to be
5 appropriated under paragraph (1) shall remain
6 available until expended.”.