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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To authorize the court to impose a reduced sentence for a youthful victim offender, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

A BILL

To authorize the court to impose a reduced sentence for a youthful victim offender, 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 “Sara’s Law”.

5 **SEC. 2. SENTENCING YOUTHFUL VICTIM OFFENDERS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3553 of chapter 227 of
7 title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
8 end the following:

1 “(h) SENTENCING YOUTHFUL VICTIM OFFEND-
2 ERS.—

3 “(1) STATUTORY MINIMUMS.—In the case of a
4 youthful victim offender, the court shall have the au-
5 thority to impose a sentence that is below a level es-
6 tablished by statute as a minimum sentence so as to
7 consider the effect of trauma on the offender’s con-
8 duct.

9 “(2) SUSPENSION OF SENTENCE.—In the case
10 of a youthful offender, the court shall have the au-
11 thority to suspend any portion of an imposed sen-
12 tence.

13 “(3) YOUTHFUL VICTIM OFFENDER DE-
14 FINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘youthful vic-
15 tim offender’ means an individual who—

16 “(A) has not attained the age of 18; and

17 “(B) has been convicted of a violent of-
18 fense against a person who the court finds, by
19 clear and convincing evidence, engaged in con-
20 duct against such individual, not earlier than 1
21 year before such violent offense, that is an of-
22 fense under section 1591 or an offense under
23 chapter 71, 109A, 110, or 117.”.

1 (b) APPLICATION.—The amendments made by this
2 section shall apply only to a conviction entered on or after
3 the date of the enactment of this Act.

4 **SEC. 3. DIRECTIVE TO THE SENTENCING COMMISSION.**

5 Pursuant to its authority under section 994(p) of title
6 28, United States Code, and in accordance with this sec-
7 tion, the United States Sentencing Commission shall re-
8 view and amend, if appropriate, its guidelines and its pol-
9 icy statements with respect to youthful victim offenders
10 to ensure that the guidelines and policy statements are
11 consistent with the amendments made by section 2.