

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4970, AS REPORTED  
OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF NEW JERSEY**

Page 34, after line 18, insert the following:

1           “(18) providing assistance to victims of sexual  
2           assault who are seeking to obtain protection orders  
3           (as such term is defined in section 2266 of title 18,  
4           United States Code), and revising State laws and  
5           policies as necessary to permit such protection or-  
6           ders to be provided permanently;”.

Page 34, line 19, strike “(18)” and insert “(19)”.

Page 34, line 24, strike “(19)” and insert “(20)”.

Page 70, after line 14, insert the following:

7 **SEC. 111. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS REGARDING RE-**  
8 **STRAINING ORDERS.**

9           (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds as follows:

10           (1) The criminal codes of many States do not  
11           provide victims of sexual assault the opportunity to  
12           obtain permanent restraining orders if the victims  
13           fall outside of the statutory definition of domestic vi-  
14           olence.

1           (2) Approximately  $\frac{2}{3}$  of assaults are committed  
2           by someone known to the victim and 38 percent are  
3           committed by a friend or acquaintance. Accordingly,  
4           in the States that do not provide permanent re-  
5           straining orders, almost 40 percent of sexual assault  
6           victims are not afforded equal and permanent pro-  
7           tection.

8           (3) Protection orders provide a much needed  
9           layer of permanent protection for victims and en-  
10          courage victims to come forward to hold their abuser  
11          accountable.

12          (b) SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.—It is the sense of  
13          the Congress that—

14                (1) each State should provide the same protec-  
15                tions to victims of sexual assault who do not fall  
16                under the statutory definition of domestic violence as  
17                the protections that are available to women and fam-  
18                ilies who suffer from domestic abuse;

19                (2) each State should provide adequate legal  
20                remedies to ensure that victims of sex offenses are  
21                offered permanent protection from their offenders;  
22                and

23                (3) grant funds provided under paragraph (18)  
24                of section 2001(b) of title I of the Omnibus Crime  
25                Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C.

1        3711(b)) should be used by a State to revise State  
2        law to permit a permanent continuance of protection  
3        orders for victims of sexual assault.

