

## ***A Strategic, Bipartisan Plan to End Child Sexual Abuse (CSA)***

The CDC reports that **1 in 4 girls** and **1 in 13 boys** in the U.S. experience sexual abuse before the age of 18. According to the FBI the **most likely age to be a victim** of sexual assault in the U.S. is **FOURTEEN (14) years old**, the **second most likely age to be a victim** of sexual assault is **FOUR (4) years old**. In fact, almost **two-thirds of ALL victims** of sexual assault in the U.S. are **minors**. So, if you have kids or know people who do and you stop to think about that for a moment, you can probably appreciate just how staggering and horrific these statistics are. And yet, although it is truly epidemic in scale, child sexual abuse is largely **a preventable public health crisis**.

Today, the federal response remains reactive and fragmented – we spend **\$5.4 BILLION per year incarcerating offenders**, yet only about **\$3 MILLION was approved for prevention** research under HHS/CDC National Center for Injury Prevention and Control in the 2025 continuing resolution.

The **Bloom Safe Act** establishes a bold, comprehensive, national public-private initiative aimed at ending child sexual abuse within a generation. By unifying efforts at federal, state, local, and private levels, this Act positions America as a global leader in child safety.

**We will take you through a high-level overview of the bill in a moment, but first I'd like to explain why we wanted to take this to you specifically:**

- This bill is **decidedly nonpartisan – it's about protecting children, strengthening families, and saving taxpayer dollars** in the long run – a cause dear to every heart.
- There is already growing **bipartisan consensus** that Congress must act decisively on child sexual abuse prevention.
  - In May 2025, a **coalition of House lawmakers** – including Rep. **Don Bacon** (R- NE) alongside Reps. **Lucy McBath** (D-GA), **Danny K. Davis** (D-IL), and a **dozen others** – penned a letter (included as an attachment to this presentation) urging a major increase in federal funding for child sexual abuse prevention research. They highlighted the same sobering statistics from the CDC.
- This is an opportunity for unity and solidarity in defense of our most valuable treasure, our next generation, and members from all political backgrounds can see this epidemic and desperate need and come together to benefit of this country and make it a leader in protecting children and giving them a childhood free from sexual harm.
- This is not just a good moral decision. It is also a good economic decision.
- This bill is designed to focus on what unites us as people, rather than get bogged down in the “political football” issues that divide us.

- It is common sense legislation that creates a coalition taskforce founded on robust scientific pursuit of the truth to ensure both effectiveness and accountability every step of the way.
- And it is designed to be universally accessible and leave no child out.

**The Bloom Safe Act Has Five Core Objectives that We Call “The Five Pillars”:**

1. **Education and Prevention:** Building on the success of “Erin’s Law” at the state level, the Act implements evidence-based, age-appropriate PreK–12 child sexual abuse prevention curricula nationwide.
2. **Adult Training:** The Act requires "Bloom Safe" certification and training for ALL adults who care for and work with children – **teachers, coaches, faith leaders, healthcare workers, foster/adoptive parents, law enforcement, etc.** – equipping them to identify, prevent, and respond to child sexual abuse appropriately, starting with all mandated reporters.
3. **Public Awareness:** The Act launches a sustained national campaign to break the silence and destigmatize conversations about child sexual abuse, similar to what “Just Say No” and the D.A.R.E. program did for drug abuse prevention.
4. **Survivor Support:** The Act expands services to ensure all survivors have immediate and sustained access to support.
5. **Research and Data:** The Act establishes a National Child Sexual Abuse Research Hub for ongoing data collection, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting, ensuring evidence-based peer reviewed science is the foundation for ongoing improvements in policy and practice.

The Act creates a **central “Bloom Safe Task Force”** – an interagency body co-chaired by HHS, CDC, and the Department of Education (with the Department of Justice in advisory support) – to coordinate efforts across federal agencies and states. This ensures unified leadership, unified data, and sets uniform standards nationwide. The legislation also mandates **transparent annual reporting** on progress, outcomes, and spending.

In short, Bloom Safe couples funding with **strict oversight, transparency, and data-driven evaluation** to guarantee taxpayers see results.

This is a chance to **lead an historic, life-saving initiative** in Congress – uniting members of both parties, all the related agencies, professionals who care for and work with children, parents, families, and communities around the shared goal of making America the safest place in the world to be a kid. We urge you to seize this opportunity to build a safer future for all children and promote the **Bloom Safe: Make America the Safest Place to Be A Kid Act.**

This is a **legacy building piece of legislation** that will truly make a life-long, high impact difference in **millions of lives**.