**A Bill to Extend Mandated Reporting to**

**Include Clergy Members**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1**. The United States shall amend the Federal Child Abuse Act to include clergy members as mandated reporters of suspected child abuse or neglect.

**SECTION 2**. Definitions

1. Clergy members are defined as, a recognized leader of any religious body, including but not limited to pastors, rabbis, and bishops.
2. Child Abuse and Neglect is defined by the current state/territory definition and laws.

**SECTION 3.** The new mandated reporters under this bill will report and activate the same mechanisms required under the current FCAA (Federal Child Abuse Act) in all fifty states and U.S. territories.

**SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2025.

**SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Lillian McAllister of Corner Canyon High School.*