**WERUCHÉ® INSPIRES INTERNATIONAL, INC.**

**LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY & POLICY INITIATIVE**

# THE JAVITS FRIMPONG CHILD SAFETY & ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

A proposed legislative framework for stronger child protection, threat response, evidence preservation, and institutional accountability.

## ABOUT THE INITIATIVE

WERUCHÉ® Inspires International, Inc. is advancing this policy initiative in the belief that every child deserves to learn, travel, and participate in community life free from credible threats, escalating intimidation, and preventable violence. The proposed Act is designed as an advocacy and legislative framework to strengthen the systems that respond when a child reports fear, threats, repeated targeting, or other serious warning signs.

## THE LEGISLATIVE NEED

Serious incidents may be preceded by reports that are fragmented, insufficiently documented, treated in isolation, or not escalated when a pattern emerges. This proposal focuses on what responsible institutions should do when credible warning signs appear: document, assess, protect, preserve evidence, communicate appropriately, and refer suspected criminal conduct to the proper authorities.

| CORE PROTECTION | PROPOSED REQUIREMENT |
|---|---|
| Documentation | Formal recording of credible threats and serious safety concerns, with clear follow-up responsibility. |
| Pattern Review | Repeated incidents involving the same child or pattern of conduct must be assessed collectively for escalation. |
| Risk Assessment | Timely evaluation of immediate and continuing risks, including whether protective measures are necessary. |
| Safety Planning | Written, practical measures to protect a child facing a credible continuing risk of harm. |
| Evidence Preservation | Reasonable preservation of relevant reports, communications, surveillance materials, and other lawful evidence. |

## GUIDING PURPOSE

This proposal is not intended to presume guilt in any particular case or replace the work of investigators, prosecutors, courts, schools, or child-protection authorities. Its purpose is to strengthen prevention and accountability systems so that credible warning signs receive an appropriate response before violence becomes irreversible.

# PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

## 1. SHORT TITLE

This Act may be cited as the “Javits Frimpong Child Safety & Accountability Act.”

## 2. CREDIBLE THREAT & SERIOUS SAFETY CONCERN

The Act would establish clear definitions for credible threats, repeated targeted conduct, and serious safety concerns, including escalating threats of physical harm, stalking, organized targeting, threats involving weapons, and other conduct indicating a heightened risk.

## 3. MANDATORY DOCUMENTATION

Serious reports should be formally documented, including the date, nature of the concern, persons involved where known, prior related incidents, available witnesses, evidence, and the actions taken in response.

## 4. PATTERN & ESCALATION REVIEW

Responsible institutions should not automatically treat repeated reports as isolated incidents. Where a pattern exists, the totality of the conduct should be reviewed for frequency, severity, retaliation, escalation, planning, and other indicators of increased risk.

## 5. CHILD SAFETY RISK ASSESSMENT

When a credible threat or serious safety concern is identified, an appropriate assessment should determine whether immediate or continuing protective measures, family notification, additional intervention, or referral to appropriate authorities is warranted.

## 6. PARENT & GUARDIAN NOTIFICATION

Except where prohibited by law or where notification would create an immediate safety risk, parents or guardians should be promptly informed when a credible threat of serious physical harm to their child has been identified.

## 7. WRITTEN SAFETY PLANS

Where a continuing credible risk exists, a documented safety plan may include supervision, safe arrival and departure procedures, separation measures, designated contacts, safety check-ins, and other practical protections.

## 8. EVIDENCE PRESERVATION

Reasonable steps should be taken to preserve lawfully held and relevant evidence, including incident reports, written complaints, electronic communications, surveillance footage, photographs, and witness information, subject to privacy and applicable law.

## 9. REFERRAL OF SUSPECTED CRIMINAL CONDUCT

When information reasonably indicates suspected criminal conduct or an immediate danger, notification or referral should be made to the appropriate authorities in accordance with applicable law. Nothing in the Act should interfere with due process, police investigations, or prosecutorial discretion.

## 10. ACCOUNTABILITY FOR REQUIRED DUTIES

The proposal would establish mechanisms for administrative review where an authorized person or institution knowingly disregards a documented credible threat, intentionally falsifies or conceals a required report, unlawfully destroys relevant evidence, or knowingly or recklessly fails to carry out a legally required safety procedure.

## 11. FAMILY & VICTIM SUPPORT

Families affected by serious violence against a child should have access, where available and appropriate, to victim advocacy, information about legal and investigative processes, language access, support referrals, and a designated point of contact.

## 12. TRAINING, TRANSPARENCY & REVIEW

Responsible personnel should receive appropriate training in threat recognition, documentation, escalation, evidence preservation, trauma-informed communication, and intervention. Implementation should be periodically reviewed for effectiveness, equity, privacy, and unintended consequences.

## THE JAVITS PRINCIPLE

**“When a child reports fear, threats, repeated targeting, or escalating intimidation, responsible adults and institutions must not wait for tragedy before taking the report seriously.”**

Justice after tragedy is necessary. Prevention before tragedy is essential.
This draft is presented by WERUCHÉ® Inspires International, Inc. as an advocacy framework for legislative review, legal analysis, stakeholder consultation, and potential sponsorship.