

S 2534

Reducing Crime and Terrorism at America's Seaports Act of 2002

Congress: 107 (2001–2003, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Foreign Trade and International Finance

Introduced: May 21, 2002

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (May 21, 2002)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/senate-bill/2534>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Biden, Joseph R., Jr. [D-DE]

Party: Democratic • State: DE • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Specter, Arlen [R-PA]	R · PA		May 21, 2002
Sen. Hollings, Ernest F. [D-SC]	D · SC		May 22, 2002
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jun 4, 2002
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jun 4, 2002

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 21, 2002

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Foreign Trade and International Finance

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Reducing Crime and Terrorism at America's Seaports Act of 2002 - Amends the Tariff Act of 1930 to: (1) increase civil and criminal financial penalties for noncompliance with manifest requirements; and (2) apply them to owners of vehicles as well as operators.

Prescribes criminal penalties for intentional falsification of a certificate of origin for exports.

Requires persons in charge of land, air, or vessel carriers, including their agents, who must by law present a manifest to transmit certain specified identification and inventory information pursuant to an electronic data interchange system information before lading of cargo or clearance and loading of cargo.

Requires shippers of waterborne cargo loading in a U.S. port (including an ocean transportation intermediary that is a nonvessel-operating common carrier) to submit a complete set of shipping documents within 72 hours before vessel departure. Subjects undocumented goods to search, seizure and forfeiture.

Directs the Customs Service to develop a uniform system of securing or sealing at loading all containers originating in or destined for the United States.

Prescribes a fine and a prison sentence for endangering safety at a seaport by committing an act of violence against a person at such a location or damaging the facilities. Increases penalties for theft from customs and for theft of funds earmarked for payment of customs duties, taxes, or fees.

Amends the Arms Export Control Act to extend its exemption from certain prohibitions against transactions with countries supporting international terrorism to any transaction by a U.S. law enforcement agent determined by the President to be essential to U.S. national security interests or relating to an imminent threat of harm to a U.S. person or property (especially undercover investigations into unlawful arms trafficking).

Directs the Attorney General to: (1) issue regulations to require carriers and port owners or operators to report certain information about cargo thefts; and (2) create a database for such reports.

Actions Timeline

- **May 21, 2002:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 21, 2002:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S4625-4626)
- **May 21, 2002:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.