

Bill Fact Sheet – December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/108/s/1441

S 1441

Protection Against Terrorist Hoaxes Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Jul 22, 2003

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Jul 22, 2003)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/1441

Sponsor

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

Party: Democratic • State: DE • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 22, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jul 22, 2003)

Protection Against Terrorist Hoaxes Act of 2003 - Amends the Federal criminal code to set criminal and civil penalties for using the mail, telephone, telegraph, or other instrument of, in, or affecting interstate or foreign commerce to knowingly engage in any conduct that is likely to impart the false impression that activity is taking place, or will take place, that violates provisions regarding biological or chemical weapons, nuclear materials, or weapons of mass destruction.

Makes a violator of such civil offense liable to the United States or any State for a civil penalty of the greater of \$10,000 or the amount expended by the United States or the State in responding to the false information.

Directs the court to order a defendant who has been convicted of such a criminal offense to reimburse the United States or a State for any expenses incurred incident to the investigation of the offense, including the cost of any response made to protect public health or safety. Makes such person jointly and severally liable for such expenses with each other person ordered to reimburse the United States or any State.

Actions Timeline

- Jul 22, 2003: Introduced in Senate
- Jul 22, 2003: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S9716-9717)
- Jul 22, 2003: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.