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Reducing Crime and Terrorism at America's Seaports Act of 2005

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Feb 15, 2005

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 86.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 86. (Apr 21, 2005)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/378>

Sponsor

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

Party: Democratic • State: DE • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Allen, George [R-VA]	R · VA		Feb 15, 2005
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Feb 15, 2005
Sen. Kyl, Jon [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Feb 15, 2005
Sen. Specter, Arlen [R-PA]	R · PA		Feb 15, 2005
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Mar 16, 2005
Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]	R · UT		Apr 19, 2005

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Reported By	Apr 21, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
109 HR 2651	Related bill	Jul 1, 2005: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Reducing Crime and Terrorism at America's Seaports Act of 2005 - (Sec. 2) Amends the federal criminal code to prohibit: (1) entry by false pretenses to a secure area of a seaport; (2) knowingly failing to obey an order to heave to by an authorized federal law enforcement officer; (3) forcibly interfering with an authorized law enforcement action or providing materially false information during a boarding; and (4) willfully disabling a passenger vessel.

(Sec. 5) Sets penalties for knowingly and intentionally: (1) placing in U.S. navigable waters a device or dangerous substance likely to destroy or damage a vessel or its cargo or likely to interfere with safe navigation or maritime commerce (authorizes the death penalty if death results from such conduct); (2) discharging or releasing into U.S. navigable water or onto an adjoining shoreline any dangerous substance that would endanger human life, health, or welfare or the marine environment; and (3) transporting aboard any vessel explosive, biological, chemical, or radioactive or nuclear material to be used to commit terrorism (authorizes the death penalty if death results from such conduct).

Sets penalties for: (1) knowingly transporting aboard any vessel a terrorist or terror suspect; (2) willfully causing destruction of a vessel or maritime facility; and (3) imparting or conveying false information concerning an attempt made to commit certain criminal acts.

(Sec. 8) Expands the scope of a prohibition against theft of interstate or foreign shipments. Increases penalties for stowaways on vessels or aircraft. Prohibits bribery affecting port security.

(Sec. 9) Amends the Tariff Act of 1930 to increase penalties for noncompliance with manifest requirements and to expand the scope of those requirements to cover any responsible party, including non-vessel operating common carriers.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 21, 2005:** Committee on the Judiciary. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Apr 21, 2005:** Committee on the Judiciary. Reported by Senator Specter with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Apr 21, 2005:** Committee on the Judiciary. Reported by Senator Specter with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Apr 21, 2005:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 86.
- **Feb 15, 2005:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 15, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S1419)
- **Feb 15, 2005:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.