

**CHAPTER 77—PEONAGE, SLAVERY, AND TRAFFICKING
IN PERSONS**

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§ 1581. Peonage; obstructing enforcement

(a) Whoever holds or returns any person to a condition of peonage, or arrests any person with the intent of placing him in or returning him to a condition of peonage, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both. If death results from the violation of this section, or if the violation includes kidnapping or an attempt to kidnap, aggravated sexual abuse or the attempt to commit aggravated sexual abuse, or an attempt to kill, the defendant shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for any term of years or life, or both.

(b) Whoever obstructs, or attempts to obstruct, or in any way interferes with or prevents the enforcement of this section, shall be liable to the penalties prescribed in subsection (a).

(June 25, 1948, c. 645, 62 Stat. 772; Sept. 13, 1994, Pub.L. 103-322, Title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(K), 108 Stat. 2147; Sept. 30, 1996, Pub.L. 104-208, Div. C, Title II, § 218(a), 110 Stat. 3009-573; Oct. 28, 2000, Pub.L. 106-386, Div. A, § 112(a)(1), 114 Stat. 1486.)

HISTORICAL AND STATUTORY NOTES

Effective and Applicability Provisions

1996 Acts. Section 218(d) of Div. C of Pub.L. 104-208 provided that: "This section and the amendments made by this section [amending subsec. (a) of this section and sections 1583, 1584, and 1588 of this title and enacting a provision set out as a note under section 994 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure] shall apply with respect to offenses occur-

ring on or after the date of the enactment of this Act [Sept. 30, 1996]."

Severability of Provisions

If any provision of Division C of Pub.L. 104-208 or the application of such provision to any person or circumstances is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of Division C of Pub.L. 104-208 and the application of the provisions of Division C of Pub.L. 104-208 to any person or circumstance not to be affected thereby, see section 1(e) of Pub.L. 104-208, set out as a note under section 1101 of Title 8, Aliens and Nationality.

§ 1582. Vessels for slave trade

Whoever, whether as master, factor, or owner, builds, fits out, equips, loads, or otherwise prepares or sends away any vessel, in any port or place within the United States, or causes such vessel to sail from any such port or place, for the purpose of procuring any person from any foreign kingdom or country to be transported and held, sold, or otherwise disposed of as a slave, or held to service or labor, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than seven years, or both.

(June 25, 1948, c. 645, 62 Stat. 772; Sept. 13, 1994, Pub.L. 103-322, Title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(K), 108 Stat. 2147.)

§ 1583. Enticement into slavery

(a) Whoever—

(1) kidnaps or carries away any other person, with the intent that such other person be sold into involuntary servitude, or held as a slave;

(2) entices, persuades, or induces any other person to go on board any vessel or to any other place with the intent that he or she may be made or held as a slave, or sent out of the country to be so made or held; or

(3) obstructs, or attempts to obstruct, or in any way interferes with or prevents the enforcement of this section,

shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

(b) Whoever violates this section shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for any term of years or for life, or both if—

(1) the violation results in the death of the victim; or

(2) the violation includes kidnaping, an attempt to kidnap, aggravated sexual abuse, an attempt to commit aggravated sexual abuse, or an attempt to kill.

(June 25, 1948, c. 645, 62 Stat. 772; Sept. 13, 1994, Pub.L. 103-322, Title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(K), 108 Stat. 2147; Sept. 30, 1996, Pub.L. 104-208, Div. C, Title II, § 218(a), 110 Stat. 3009-573; Oct. 28, 2000, Pub.L. 106-386, Div. A, § 112(a)(1),

114 Stat. 1486; Dec. 23, 2008, Pub.L. 110-457, Title II, § 222(b)(1), 122 Stat. 5067.)

HISTORICAL AND STATUTORY NOTES

Effective and Applicability Provisions

1996 Acts. Amendment by section 218(a) of Pub.L. 104-208 applicable with respect to offenses occurring on or after Sept. 30, 1996, see section 218(d) of Pub.L. 104-208, set out as a note under section 1581 of this title.

Severability of Provisions

If any provision of Division C of Pub.L. 104-208 or the application of such provision to any person or circumstances is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of Division C of Pub.L. 104-208 and the application of the provisions of Division C of Pub.L. 104-208 to any person or circumstance not to be affected thereby, see section 1(e) of Pub.L. 104-208, set out as a note under section 1101 of Title 8, Aliens and Nationality.

§ 1584. Sale into involuntary servitude

(a) Whoever knowingly and willfully holds to involuntary servitude or sells into any condition of involuntary servitude, any other person for any term, or brings within the United States any person so held, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both. If death results from the violation of this section, or if the violation includes kidnapping or an attempt to kidnap, aggravated sexual abuse or the attempt to commit aggravated sexual abuse, or an attempt to kill, the defendant shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for any term of years or life, or both.

(b) Whoever obstructs, attempts to obstruct, or in any way interferes with or prevents the enforcement of this section, shall be subject to the penalties described in subsection (a).

(June 25, 1948, c. 645, 62 Stat. 773; Sept. 13, 1994, Pub.L. 103-322, Title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(K), 108 Stat. 2147; Sept. 30, 1996, Pub.L. 104-208, Div. C, Title II, § 218(a), 110 Stat. 3009-573; Oct. 23, 2000, Pub.L. 106-386, Div. A, § 112(a)(1), 114 Stat. 1486; Dec. 23, 2008, Pub.L. 110-457, Title II, § 222(b)(2), 122 Stat. 5068.)

HISTORICAL AND STATUTORY NOTES

Effective and Applicability Provisions

1996 Acts. Amendment by section 218(a) of Pub.L. 104-208 applicable with respect to offenses occurring on or after Sept. 30, 1996, see section 218(d) of Pub.L. 104-208, set out as a note under section 1581 of this title.

Severability of Provisions

If any provision of Division C of Pub.L. 104-208 or the application of such provision to any person or circumstances is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of Division C of Pub.L. 104-208 and the application of the provisions of Division C of Pub.L. 104-208 to any person or circumstance not to be affected thereby, see section 1(e) of Pub.L. 104-208, set out as a note under section 1101 of Title 8, Aliens and Nationality.

§ 1585. Seizure, detention, transportation or sale of slaves

Whoever, being a citizen or resident of the United States and a member of the crew or ship's company of any foreign vessel engaged in the slave trade, or whoever, being of the crew or ship's company of any vessel owned in whole or in part, or navigated for, or in behalf of, any citizen of the United States, lands from such vessel, and on any foreign shore seizes any person with intent to make that person a slave, or decoys, or forcibly brings, carries, receives, confines, detains or transports any person as a slave on board such vessel, or, on board such vessel, offers or attempts to sell any such person as a slave, or on the high seas or anywhere on tide water, transfers or delivers to any other vessel any such person with intent to make such person a slave, or lands or delivers on shore from such vessel any person with intent to sell, or having previously sold, such person as a slave, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than seven years, or both.

(June 25, 1948, c. 645, 62 Stat. 773; Sept. 13, 1994, Pub.L. 103-322, Title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(K), 108 Stat. 2147.)

§ 1586. Service on vessels in slave trade

Whoever, being a citizen or resident of the United States, voluntarily serves on board of any vessel employed or made use of in the transportation of slaves from any foreign country or place to another, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than two years, or both.

(June 25, 1948, c. 645, 62 Stat. 773; Sept. 13, 1994, Pub.L. 103-322, Title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(I), 108 Stat. 2147.)

§ 1587. Possession of slaves aboard vessel

Whoever, being the captain, master, or commander of any vessel found in any river, port, bay, harbor, or on the high seas within the jurisdiction of the United States, or hovering off the coast thereof, and having on board any person for the purpose of selling such person as a slave, or with intent to land such person for such purpose, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than four years, or both.

(June 25, 1948, c. 645, 62 Stat. 773; Sept. 13, 1994, Pub.L. 103-322, Title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(L), 108 Stat. 2147.)

§ 1588. Transportation of slaves from United States

Whoever, being the master or owner or person having charge of any vessel, receives on board any other person with the knowledge or intent that such person is to be carried from any place within the United States to any other place to be held or sold as a slave, or carries away from any place within the United States any such person with the intent that he may be so held or sold as a slave, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.

(June 25, 1948, c. 645, 62 Stat. 773; Sept. 13, 1994, Pub.L. 103-322, Title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(K), 108 Stat. 2147; Sept.

30, 1996, Pub.L. 104-208, Div. C, Title II, § 218(a), 110 Stat. 3009-573.)

HISTORICAL AND STATUTORY NOTES

Effective and Applicability Provisions

1996 Acts. Amendment by section 218(a) of Pub.L. 104-208 applicable with respect to offenses occurring on or after Sept. 30, 1996, see section 218(d) of Pub.L. 104-208, set out as a note under section 1581 of this title.

Severability of Provisions

If any provision of Division C of Pub.L. 104-208 or the application of such provision to any person or circumstances is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of Division C of Pub.L. 104-208 and the application of the provisions of Division C of Pub.L. 104-208 to any person or circumstance not to be affected thereby, see section 1(e) of Pub.L. 104-208, set out as a note under section 1101 of Title 8, Aliens and Nationality.

§ 1589. Forced labor

(a) Whoever knowingly provides or obtains the labor or services of a person by any one of, or by any combination of, the following means—

(1) by means of force, threats of force, physical restraint, or threats of physical restraint to that person or another person;

(2) by means of serious harm or threats of serious harm to that person or another person;

(3) by means of the abuse or threatened abuse of law or legal process; or

(4) by means of any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause the person to believe that, if that person did not perform such labor or services, that person or another person would suffer serious harm or physical restraint,

shall be punished as provided under subsection (d).

(b) Whoever knowingly benefits, financially or by receiving anything of value, from participation in a venture which has engaged in the providing or obtaining of labor or services by any of the means described in subsection (a), knowing or in reckless disregard of the fact that the venture has engaged in the providing or obtaining of labor or services by any of such means, shall be punished as provided in subsection (d).

(c) In this section:

(1) The term "abuse or threatened abuse of law or legal process" means the use or threatened use of a law or legal process, whether administrative, civil, or criminal, in any manner or for any purpose for which the law was not designed, in order to exert pressure on another person to cause that person to take some action or refrain from taking some action.

(2) The term "serious harm" means any harm, whether physical or nonphysical, including psychological, financial, or reputational harm, that is sufficiently serious, under all the surrounding circumstances, to compel a reasonable person of the same background and in the same circumstances to per-

form or to continue performing labor or services in order to avoid incurring that harm.

(d) Whoever violates this section shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both. If death results from a violation of this section, or if the violation includes kidnaping, an attempt to kidnap, aggravated sexual abuse, or an attempt to kill, the defendant shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for any term of years or life, or both.

(Added Pub.L. 106-386, Div. A, § 112(a)(2), Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1486; amended Pub.L. 110-457, Title II, § 222(b)(3), Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5068.)

§ 1590. Trafficking with respect to peonage, slavery, involuntary servitude, or forced labor

(a) Whoever knowingly recruits, harbors, transports, provides, or obtains by any means, any person for labor or services in violation of this chapter shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both. If death results from the violation of this section, or if the violation includes kidnaping or an attempt to kidnap, aggravated sexual abuse, or an attempt to commit aggravated sexual abuse, or an attempt to kill, the defendant shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for any term of years or life, or both.

(b) Whoever obstructs, attempts to obstruct, or in any way interferes with or prevents the enforcement of this section, shall be subject to the penalties under subsection (a).

(Added Pub.L. 106-386, Div. A, § 112(a)(2), Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1487; amended Pub.L. 110-457, Title II, § 222(b)(4), Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5069.)

§ 1591. Sex trafficking of children or by force, fraud, or coercion

(a) Whoever knowingly—

(1) in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce, or within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States, recruits, entices, harbors, transports, provides, obtains, or maintains by any means a person; or

(2) benefits, financially or by receiving anything of value, from participation in a venture which has engaged in an act described in violation of paragraph (1),

knowing, or in reckless disregard of the fact, that means of force, threats of force, fraud, coercion described in subsection (e)(2), or any combination of such means will be used to cause the person to engage in a commercial sex act, or that the person has not attained the age of 18 years and will be caused to engage in a commercial sex act, shall be punished as provided in subsection (b).

(b) The punishment for an offense under subsection (a) is—

(1) if the offense was effected by means of force, threats of force, fraud, or coercion described in subsection (e)(2), or by any combination of such means, or if the person recruited, enticed, harbored, transported, provided, or obtained had not attained the age of 14 years at the time of such offense, by a fine under this title and imprisonment for any term of years not less than 15 or for life; or

(2) if the offense was not so effected, and the person recruited, enticed, harbored, transported, provided, or obtained had attained the age of 14 years but had not attained the age of 18 years at the time of such offense, by a fine under this title and imprisonment for not less than 10 years or for life.

(c) In a prosecution under subsection (a)(1) in which the defendant had a reasonable opportunity to observe the person so recruited, enticed, harbored, transported, provided, obtained or maintained, the Government need not prove that the defendant knew that the person had not attained the age of 18 years.

(d) Whoever obstructs, attempts to obstruct, or in any way interferes with or prevents the enforcement of this section, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for a term not to exceed 20 years, or both.

(e) In this section:

(1) The term "abuse or threatened abuse of law or legal process" means the use or threatened use of a law or legal process, whether administrative, civil, or criminal, in any manner or for any purpose for which the law was not designed, in order to exert pressure on another person to cause that person to take some action or refrain from taking some action.

(2) The term "coercion" means—

(A) threats of serious harm to or physical restraint against any person;

(B) any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause a person to believe that failure to perform an act would result in serious harm to or physical restraint against any person; or

(C) the abuse or threatened abuse of law or the legal process.

(3) The term "commercial sex act" means any sex act, on account of which anything of value is given to or received by any person.

(4) The term "serious harm" means any harm, whether physical or nonphysical, including psychological, financial, or reputational harm, that is sufficiently serious, under all the surrounding circumstances, to compel a reasonable person of the same background and in the same circumstances to perform or to continue performing commercial sexual activity in order to avoid incurring that harm.

(5) The term "venture" means any group of two or more individuals associated in fact, whether or not a legal entity.

(Added Pub.L. 106-386, Div. A, § 112(a)(2), Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1487; amended Pub.L. 108-21, Title I, § 103(a)(3), Apr. 30, 2003, 117 Stat. 653; Pub.L. 108-193, § 5(a), Dec. 19, 2003, 117 Stat. 2879; Pub.L. 109-248, Title II, § 208, July 27, 2006, 120 Stat. 615; Pub.L. 110-457, Title II, § 222(b)(6), Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5069.)

HISTORICAL AND STATUTORY NOTES

Codifications

Amendment by Pub.L. 109-248, Title II, § 208(2)(B), July 27, 2006, 120 Stat. 615, directing striking of "; or both" in subsec. (b)(2), was incapable of execution since "; or both" had already been stricken by prior amendment by Pub.L. 109-248, § 208(2)(A).

§ 1592. Unlawful conduct with respect to documents in furtherance of trafficking, peonage, slavery, involuntary servitude, or forced labor

(a) Whoever knowingly destroys, conceals, removes, confiscates, or possesses any actual or purported passport or other immigration document, or any other actual or purported government identification document, of another person—

(1) in the course of a violation of section 1581, 1583, 1584, 1589, 1590, 1591, or 1594(a);

(2) with intent to violate section 1581, 1583, 1584, 1589, 1590, or 1591; or

(3) to prevent or restrict or to attempt to prevent or restrict, without lawful authority, the person's liberty to move or travel, in order to maintain the labor or services of that person, when the person is or has been a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons, as defined in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000,

shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both.

(b) Subsection (a) does not apply to the conduct of a person who is or has been a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons, as defined in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, if that conduct is caused by, or incident to, that trafficking.

(c) Whoever obstructs, attempts to obstruct, or in any way interferes with or prevents the enforcement of this section, shall be subject to the penalties described in subsection (a).

(Added Pub.L. 106-386, Div. A, § 112(a)(2), Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1488; amended Pub.L. 110-457, Title II, § 222(b)(6), Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5070.)

HISTORICAL AND STATUTORY NOTES

References in Text

Section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, referred to in text, means Pub.L. 106-386, Div. A, § 103, Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1469, which enacted section 7102 of Title 22.

§ 1593. Mandatory restitution

(a) Notwithstanding section 3663 or 3663A, and in addition to any other civil or criminal penalties authorized by law, the court shall order restitution for any offense under this chapter.

(b)(1) The order of restitution under this section shall direct the defendant to pay the victim (through the appropriate court mechanism) the full amount of the victim's losses, as determined by the court under paragraph (3) of this subsection.

(2) An order of restitution under this section shall be issued and enforced in accordance with section 3664 in the same manner as an order under section 3663A.

(3) As used in this subsection, the term "full amount of the victim's losses" has the same meaning as provided in section 2259(b)(3) and shall in addition include the greater of the gross income or value to the defendant of the victim's services or labor or the value of the victim's labor as guaranteed under the minimum wage and overtime guarantees of the Fair Labor Standards Act (29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.).

(4) The forfeiture of property under this subsection shall be governed by the provisions of section 413 (other than subsection (d) of such section) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 853).

(c) As used in this section, the term "victim" means the individual harmed as a result of a crime under this chapter, including, in the case of a victim who is under 18 years of age, incompetent, incapacitated, or deceased, the legal guardian of the victim or a representative of the victim's estate, or another family member, or any other person appointed as suitable by the court, but in no event shall the defendant be named such representative or guardian.

(Added Pub.L. 106-386, Div. A, § 112(a)(2), Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1488; amended Pub.L. 110-457, Title II, § 221(1), Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5067.)

HISTORICAL AND STATUTORY NOTES**References in Text**

The Fair Labor Standards Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(3), probably means the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, Act June 25, 1938, c. 676, 52 Stat. 1060, as amended, which is classified principally to chapter 8 (section 201 et seq.) of Title 29. See Tables for complete classification.

§ 1593A. Benefitting financially from peonage, slavery, and trafficking in persons

Whoever knowingly benefits, financially or by receiving anything of value, from participation in a venture which has engaged in any act in violation of section 1581(a), 1592, or 1595(a), knowing or in reckless disregard of the fact that the venture has engaged in such violation, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned in the same manner as a completed violation of such section.

(Added Pub.L. 110-457, Title II, § 222(d)(1), Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5070.)

§ 1594. General provisions

(a) Whoever attempts to violate section 1581, 1583, 1584, 1589, 1590, or 1591 shall be punishable in the same manner as a completed violation of that section.

(b) Whoever conspires with another to violate section 1581, 1583, 1589, 1590, or 1592 shall be punished in the same manner as a completed violation of such section.

(c) Whoever conspires with another to violate section 1591 shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for any term of years or for life, or both.

(d) The court, in imposing sentence on any person convicted of a violation of this chapter, shall order, in addition to any other sentence imposed and irrespective of any provision of State law, that such person shall forfeit to the United States—

(1) such person's interest in any property, real or personal, that was used or intended to be used to commit or to facilitate the commission of such violation; and

(2) any property, real or personal, constituting or derived from, any proceeds that such person obtained, directly or indirectly, as a result of such violation.

(e)(1) The following shall be subject to forfeiture to the United States and no property right shall exist in them:

(A) Any property, real or personal, used or intended to be used to commit or to facilitate the commission of any violation of this chapter.

(B) Any property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to any violation of this chapter.

(2) The provisions of chapter 46 of this title relating to civil forfeitures shall extend to any seizure or civil forfeiture under this subsection.

(f) **Witness protection.**—Any violation of this chapter shall be considered an organized criminal activity or other serious offense for the purposes of application of chapter 224 (relating to witness protection).

(Added Pub.L. 106-386, Div. A, § 112(a)(2), Oct. 28, 2000, 114 Stat. 1489; amended Pub.L. 110-457, Title II, § 222(c), Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5070.)

HISTORICAL AND STATUTORY NOTES**References in Text**

Chapter 46 of this title, referred to in text, is classified to section 981 to 1000 of this title.

Chapter 224, referred to in text, probably means chapter 224 of this title, which is classified to sections 3521 to 3528 of this title.

§ 1595. Civil remedy

(a) An individual who is a victim of a violation may bring a civil action against the perpetrator (or whoever knowingly benefits, financially or by receiving anything

of value from participation in a venture which that person knew or should have known has engaged in an act in violation of this chapter) in an appropriate district court of the United States and may recover damages and reasonable attorneys fees.

(b)(1) Any civil action filed under this section shall be stayed during the pendency of any criminal action arising out of the same occurrence in which the claimant is the victim.

(2) In this subsection, a "criminal action" includes investigation and prosecution and is pending until final adjudication in the trial court.

(c) No action may be maintained under this section unless it is commenced not later than 10 years after the cause of action arose.

(Added Pub.L. 108-193, § 4(a)(4)(A), Dec. 19, 2003, 117 Stat. 2878; amended Pub.L. 110-457, Title II, § 221(2), Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5067.)

§ 1596. Additional jurisdiction in certain trafficking offenses

(a) In general.—In addition to any domestic or extra-territorial jurisdiction otherwise provided by law, the courts of the United States have extra-territorial jurisdiction over any offense (or any attempt or conspiracy to commit an offense) under section 1581, 1583, 1584, 1589, 1590, or 1591 if—

(1) an alleged offender is a national of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence (as those terms are defined in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101)); or

(2) an alleged offender is present in the United States, irrespective of the nationality of the alleged offender.

(b) Limitation on prosecutions of offenses prosecuted in other countries.—No prosecution may be commenced against a person under this section if a foreign government, in accordance with jurisdiction recognized by the United States, has prosecuted or is prosecuting such person for the conduct constituting such offense, except upon the approval of the Attorney General or the Deputy Attorney General (or a person acting in either such capacity), which function of approval may not be delegated.

(Added Pub.L. 110-457, Title II, § 223(a), Dec. 23, 2008, 122 Stat. 5071.)

§ 1597. Unlawful conduct with respect to immigration documents

(a) Destruction, concealment, removal, confiscation, or possession of immigration documents.—It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly destroy, conceal, remove, confiscate, or possess, an actual or purported passport or other immigration document of another individual —

(1) in the course of violating section 1351 of this title or section 1324 of Title 8;

(2) with intent to violate section 1351 of this title or section 1324 of Title 8; or

(3) in order to, without lawful authority, maintain, prevent, or restrict the labor of services of the individual.

(b) Penalty.—Any person who violates subsection (a) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both.

(c) Obstruction.—Any person who knowingly obstructs, attempts to obstruct, or in any way interferes with or prevents the enforcement of this section, shall be subject to the penalties described in subsection (b). (Added Pub.L. 113-4, Title XII, § 1211(c)(1), Mar. 7, 2013, 127 Stat. 142.)

CHAPTER 79—PERJURY

- Sec.
1621. Perjury generally.
1622. Subornation of perjury.
1623. False declarations before grand jury or court.

§ 1621. Perjury generally

Whoever—

(1) having taken an oath before a competent tribunal, officer, or person, in any case in which a law of the United States authorizes an oath to be administered, that he will testify, declare, depose, or certify truly, or that any written testimony, declaration, deposition, or certificate by him subscribed, is true, willfully and contrary to such oath states or subscribes any material matter which he does not believe to be true; or

(2) in any declaration, certificate, verification, or statement under penalty of perjury as permitted under section 1746 of title 28, United States Code, willfully subscribes as true any material matter which he does not believe to be true;

is guilty of perjury and shall, except as otherwise expressly provided by law, be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both. This section is applicable whether the statement or subscription is made within or without the United States.

(June 25, 1948, c. 645, 62 Stat. 773; Oct. 3, 1964, Pub.L. 88-619, § 1, 78 Stat. 995; Oct. 18, 1976, Pub.L. 94-550, § 2, 90 Stat. 2534; Sept. 13, 1994, Pub.L. 103-322, Title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(I), 108 Stat. 2147.)