

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend section 111 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit barricading while evading arrest.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MORENO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend section 111 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit barricading while evading arrest.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Secure Takedown and
5 Obstruction Prevention Act” or the “STOP Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Law enforcement officers across the United
9 States face unprecedented challenges and dangers in

1 the execution of their duties to protect communities,
2 enforce laws, and maintain public order.

3 (2) Barricading actions often escalate con-
4 frontations, prolong dangerous standoffs, divert crit-
5 ical resources, and increase the risk of serious phys-
6 ical harm or death to officers, suspects, and innocent
7 bystanders.

8 (3) Federal law enforcement officers make pro-
9 found sacrifices every day, including risking their
10 lives to serve and protect the people of the United
11 States. Their unwavering dedication deserves the full
12 support and protection of Federal law.

13 **SEC. 3. OFFENSE OF BARRICADING DURING ARREST EVA-**
14 **SION.**

15 Section 111 of title 18, United States Code, is
16 amended—

17 (1) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
18 section (d); and

19 (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
20 lowing:

21 “(c) BARRICADING ONESELF DURING ARREST EVA-
22 SION.—

23 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

24 “(A) BARRICADE.—The term ‘barricade’
25 means—

1 “(i) taking a position in a physical lo-
2 cation that prevents immediate access by
3 any Federal law enforcement officer; and

4 “(ii) refusing and resisting order to
5 exit the location, or comply with other law-
6 ful direction, when the person knows or
7 reasonably should know that the Federal
8 law enforcement officer is attempting to
9 apprehend the person.

10 “(B) FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFI-
11 CER.—The term ‘Federal law enforcement offi-
12 cer’ has the meaning given the term in section
13 115.

14 “(2) OFFENSE.—It shall be unlawful for any
15 person to—

16 “(A) engage in barricading in the course of
17 forcibly resisting a Federal law enforcement of-
18 ficer engaged in the performance of official du-
19 ties, in violation of subsection (a)(1); or

20 “(B) aid, assist, or attempt to aid or assist
21 another person in committing conduct described
22 in subparagraph (A).

23 “(3) PENALTY.—Any person who violates para-
24 graph (2)—

1 “(A) shall be fined under this title, impris-
2 oned for not more than 3 years, or both; or

3 “(B) shall be fined under this title, impris-
4 oned for not more than 5 years, or both, if,
5 during the commission of a violation of para-
6 graph (2)—

7 “(i) the violation creates a risk of or
8 causes serious physical harm to any per-
9 son;

10 “(ii) the person has possession or
11 claims possession of a deadly weapon; or

12 “(iii) a third party is present and is
13 unable to immediately and safely leave the
14 physical location of the violation.”.