

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 196

To amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to the offense of stalking.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 2011

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California (for herself, Ms. FOXX, and Mr. BOSWELL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

---

## A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to  
the offense of stalking.

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 “Simplifying The Am-  
5 biguous Law, Keeping Everyone Reliably Safe Act of  
6 2011” or the “STALKERS Act of 2011”.

7 **SEC. 2. STALKING.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2261A of title 18, United  
9 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

1 **“§ 2261A. Stalking**

2       “(a) Whoever, with intent to kill, physically injure,  
3 harass, or intimidate a person, or place under surveillance  
4 with the intent to kill, physically injure, harass, or intimi-  
5 date a person, travels in interstate or foreign commerce  
6 or within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction  
7 of the United States, or enters or leaves Indian country,  
8 and in the course of, or as a result of, such travel—

9               “(1) causes or attempts to cause bodily injury  
10 or serious emotional distress to a person other than  
11 the person engaging in the conduct; or

12               “(2) engages in conduct that would be reason-  
13 ably expected to cause the other person serious emo-  
14 tional distress;

15 shall be punished as provided in subsection (c).

16       “(b) Whoever, with intent to kill, physically injure,  
17 harass, or intimidate a person, engages in a course of con-  
18 duct in or substantially affecting interstate or foreign com-  
19 merce that—

20               “(1) causes or attempts to cause bodily injury  
21 or serious emotional distress to a person other than  
22 the person engaging in the conduct; or

23               “(2) occurs in circumstances where the conduct  
24 would be reasonably expected to cause the other per-  
25 son serious emotional distress;

26 shall be punished as provided in subsection (c).

1 “(c) The punishment for an offense under this section  
2 is the same as that for an offense under section 2261,  
3 except that—

4 “(1) if the offense involves conduct in violation  
5 of a protection order; and

6 “(2) if the victim of the offense is under the  
7 age of 18 years or over the age of 65 years, the of-  
8 fender has reached the age of 18 years at the time  
9 the offense was committed, and the offender knew or  
10 should have known that the victim was under the  
11 age of 18 years or over the age of 65 years;

12 the maximum term of imprisonment that may be imposed  
13 is increased by 5 years over the term of imprisonment oth-  
14 erwise provided for that offense in section 2261.”.

15 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The item relating to  
16 section 2261A in the table of sections at the beginning  
17 of chapter 110A of title 18, United States Code, is amend-  
18 ed to read as follows:

“2261A. Stalking.”.

19 **SEC. 3. BEST PRACTICES REGARDING ENFORCEMENT OF**  
20 **ANTI-STALKING LAWS TO BE INCLUDED IN**  
21 **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY GEN-**  
22 **ERAL.**

23 In the annual report under section 529 of title 28,  
24 United States Code, the Attorney General shall—

1           (1) include an evaluation of Federal, tribal,  
2           State, and local efforts to enforce laws relating to  
3           stalking; and

4           (2) identify and describe those elements of such  
5           efforts that constitute the best practices for the en-  
6           forcement of such laws.

7 **SEC. 4. PAYGO COMPLIANCE.**

8           The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of  
9           complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010,  
10          shall be determined by reference to the latest statement  
11          titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this  
12          Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record  
13          by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, pro-  
14          vided that such statement has been submitted prior to the  
15          vote on passage.

○