

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 70

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for displaying nooses in public with intent to harass or intimidate a person because of that person's race, color, religion, or national origin.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for displaying nooses in public with intent to harass or intimidate a person because of that person's race, color, religion, or national origin.

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 "Noose Hate Crime Act  
5 of 2009".

1 **SEC. 2. DISPLAYING NOOSES IN PUBLIC WITH INTENT TO**  
2 **HARASS OR INTIMIDATE.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 13 of title 18, United  
4 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
5 lowing:

6 **“§ 249. Displaying nooses in public with intent to in-**  
7 **timidate**

8 “Whoever, with intent to harass or intimidate any  
9 person because of that person’s race, color, religion, or na-  
10 tional origin, displays a noose in public shall be fined  
11 under this title or imprisoned not more than 2 years, or  
12 both.”.

13 (b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections  
14 at the beginning of chapter 13 of title 18, United States  
15 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new  
16 item:

“249. Displaying nooses in public with intent to intimidate.”.

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