104TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION  

H. R. 2587  

To carry out the international obligations of the United States under the Geneva Conventions to provide criminal penalties for certain war crimes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  

NOVEMBER 7, 1995  

Mr. Jones introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A BILL  

To carry out the international obligations of the United States under the Geneva Conventions to provide criminal penalties for certain war crimes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,  

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.  

This Act may be cited as the “War Crimes Act of 1995”.  

SEC. 2. CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR CERTAIN WAR CRIMES.  

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after chapter 117 the following:
CHAPTER 118—WAR CRIMES

Sec. 2401. War crimes.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Whoever, whether inside or outside the United States, commits a grave breach of the Geneva conventions where the victim of such breach is member of the armed forces of the United States or a citizen of the United States, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for life or any term or years, or both, and if death results to the victim, shall also be subject to the penalty of death.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term ‘grave breach of the Geneva conventions’ means conduct defined as a grave breach in any of the international conventions relating to the laws of warfare signed at Geneva 12 August 1949 or any protocol to any such convention, to which the United States is a party.’’

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters for part I of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to chapter 117 the following new item:

‘‘118. War crimes .................................................................................. 2401’’.

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