

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3076

To authorize the President of the United States to issue letters of marque and reprisal with respect to certain acts of air piracy upon the United States on September 11, 2001, and other similar acts of war planned for the future.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 10, 2001

Mr. PAUL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

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## A BILL

To authorize the President of the United States to issue letters of marque and reprisal with respect to certain acts of air piracy upon the United States on September 11, 2001, and other similar acts of war planned for the future.

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 “September 11 Marque  
5 and Reprisal Act of 2001”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7        The Congress finds the following:

1           (1) That the terrorist attacks on September 11,  
2           2001 upon the United States were acts of air piracy  
3           contrary to the law of nations.

4           (2) That the terrorist attacks were acts of war  
5           perpetrated by enemy belligerents to destroy the sov-  
6           ereign independence of the United States of America  
7           contrary to the law of nations.

8           (3) That the perpetrators of the terrorist at-  
9           tacks were actively aided and abetted by a con-  
10          spiracy involving one Osama bin Laden and others  
11          known and unknown, either knowingly and actively  
12          affiliated with a terrorist organization known as al  
13          Qaeda or knowingly and actively conspiring with  
14          Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda, both of whom are  
15          dedicated to the destruction of the United States of  
16          America as a sovereign and independent nation.

17          (4) That the al Qaeda conspiracy is a con-  
18          tinuing one among Osama bin Laden, al Qaeda, and  
19          others known and unknown with plans to commit  
20          additional acts of air piracy and other similar acts  
21          of war upon the United States of America and her  
22          people.

23          (5) That the act of war committed on Sep-  
24          tember 11, 2001, by the al Qaeda conspirators, and

1 the other acts of war planned by the al Qaeda con-  
2 spirators, are contrary to the law of nations.

3 (6) That under Article I, Section 8 of the  
4 United States Constitution, Congress has the power  
5 to grant letters of marque and reprisal to punish,  
6 deter, and prevent the piratical aggressions and dep-  
7 redations and other acts of war of the al Qaeda con-  
8 spirators.

9 **SEC. 3. AUTHORITY OF PRESIDENT.**

10 (a) The President of the United States is authorized  
11 and requested to commission, under officially issued let-  
12 ters of marque and reprisal, so many of privately armed  
13 and equipped persons and entities as, in his judgment, the  
14 service may require, with suitable instructions to the lead-  
15 ers thereof, to employ all means reasonably necessary to  
16 seize outside the geographic boundaries of the United  
17 States and its territories the person and property of  
18 Osama bin Laden, of any al Qaeda co-conspirator, and  
19 of any conspirator with Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda  
20 who are responsible for the air piratical aggressions and  
21 depredations perpetrated upon the United States of Amer-  
22 ica on September 11, 2001, and for any planned future  
23 air piratical aggressions and depredations or other acts  
24 of war upon the United States of America and her people.

1           (b) The President of the United States is authorized  
2 to place a money bounty, drawn in his discretion from the  
3 \$40,000,000,000 appropriated on September 14, 2001, in  
4 the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Re-  
5 covery from and Response to Terrorists Attacks on the  
6 United States or from private sources, for the capture,  
7 alive or dead, of Osama bin Laden or any other al Qaeda  
8 conspirator responsible for the act of air piracy upon the  
9 United States on September 11, 2001, under the authority  
10 of any letter of marque or reprisal issued under this Act.

11           (c) No letter of marque and reprisal shall be issued  
12 by the President without requiring the posting of a secu-  
13 rity bond in such amount as the President shall determine  
14 is sufficient to ensure that the letter be executed according  
15 to the terms and conditions thereof.

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