

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7055

To provide for an increased fine and term of imprisonment for fraud in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 28, 2020

Mr. MEUSER (for himself and Mr. SUOZZI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide for an increased fine and term of imprisonment for fraud in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other purposes.

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 “Coronavirus
5 Scammers, Crooks, and Manipulators Act” or the “SCAM
6 Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. MAIL FRAUD AND OTHER FRAUD OFFENSES.**

8 (a) FRAUDS AND SWINDLES.—Section 1341 of title
9 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after “30
10 years, or both.” the following: “If the violation occurs in

1 relation to, or involving any benefit authorized, trans-
2 ported, transmitted, transferred, disbursed, or paid in con-
3 nection with the emergency declared on March 13, 2020,
4 by the President under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster
5 Relief and Emergency Assistance Act relating to
6 Coronavirus Disease 2019, such person shall be fined not
7 more than \$1,500,000 or imprisoned not more than 45
8 years, or both.”.

9 (b) FRAUD BY WIRE, RADIO, OR TELEVISION.—Sec-
10 tion 1343 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by
11 inserting after “30 years, or both.” the following: “If the
12 violation occurs in relation to, or involving any benefit au-
13 thorized, transported, transmitted, transferred, disbursed,
14 or paid in connection with the emergency declared on
15 March 13, 2020, by the President under the Robert T.
16 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
17 relating to Coronavirus Disease 2019, such person shall
18 be fined not more than \$1,500,000 or imprisoned not
19 more than 45 years, or both.”.

20 **SEC. 3. COUNTERFEIT GOODS AND SERVICES.**

21 Section 2320(b) of title 18, United States Code, is
22 amended by adding at the end the following:

23 “(4) COVID-19.—Any person who commits an
24 offense under subsection (a) involving a counterfeit
25 good, which is advertised by the person as having

1 the ability to treat, prevent, or cure COVID-19,
2 shall, in the case of an individual, be fined not more
3 than \$2,500,000, or imprisoned not more than 45
4 years, or both, or in the case of a person other than
5 an individual, be fined \$5,500,000.”.

○