

**§ 1204. International parental kidnapping**

(a) Whoever removes a child from the United States, or attempts to do so, or retains a child (who has been in the United States) outside the United States with intent to obstruct the lawful exercise of parental rights shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 3 years, or both.

(b) As used in this section—

(1) the term “child” means a person who has not attained the age of 16 years; and

(2) the term “parental rights”, with respect to a child, means the right to physical custody of the child—

(A) whether joint or sole (and includes visiting rights); and

(B) whether arising by operation of law, court order, or legally binding agreement of the parties.

(c) It shall be an affirmative defense under this section that—

(1) the defendant acted within the provisions of a valid court order granting the defendant legal custody or visitation rights and that order was obtained pursuant to the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act or the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act and was in effect at the time of the offense;

(2) the defendant was fleeing an incidence or pattern of domestic violence; or

(3) the defendant had physical custody of the child pursuant to a court order granting legal custody or visitation rights and failed to return the child as a result of circumstances beyond the defendant’s control, and the defendant notified or made reasonable attempts to notify the other parent or lawful custodian of the child of such circumstances within 24 hours after the visitation period had expired and returned the child as soon as possible.

(d) This section does not detract from The Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Parental Child Abduction, done at The Hague on October 25, 1980.

(Added Pub. L. 103–173, §2(a), Dec. 2, 1993, 107 Stat. 1998; amended Pub. L. 108–21, title I, §107, Apr. 30, 2003, 117 Stat. 655.)

## AMENDMENTS

2003—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 108–21, §107(1), inserted “, or attempts to do so,” before “or retains”.

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 108–21, §107(2)(A), inserted “or the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act” before “and was”.

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 108–21, §107(2)(B), inserted “or” after semicolon at end.

## SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING USE OF PROCEDURES UNDER THE HAGUE CONVENTION ON THE CIVIL ASPECTS OF INTERNATIONAL PARENTAL CHILD ABDUCTION

Section 2(b) of Pub. L. 103–173 provided that: “It is the sense of the Congress that, inasmuch as use of the procedures under the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Parental Child Abduction has resulted in the return of many children, those procedures, in circumstances in which they are applicable, should be the option of first choice for a parent who seeks the return of a child who has been removed from the parent.”

**CHAPTER 57—LABOR**

Sec.  
1231.           Transportation of strikebreakers.  
[1232.           Repealed.]

## AMENDMENTS

1990—Pub. L. 101–647, title XXXV, §3539, Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4925, struck out item 1232 “Enticement of workman from armory or arsenal”.

**§ 1231. Transportation of strikebreakers**

Whoever willfully transports in interstate or foreign commerce any person who is employed or is to be employed for the purpose of obstructing or interfering by force or threats with (1) peaceful picketing by employees during any labor controversy affecting wages, hours, or conditions of labor, or (2) the exercise by employees of any of the rights of self-organization or collective bargaining; or

Whoever is knowingly transported or travels in interstate or foreign commerce for any of the purposes enumerated in this section—

Shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than two years, or both.

This section shall not apply to common carriers.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 760; May 24, 1949, ch. 139, §30, 63 Stat. 94; Pub. L. 103–322, title XXXIII, §330016(1)(K), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147.)

## HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

## 1948 ACT

Based on title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., §407a (June 24, 1936, ch. 746, 49 Stat. 1899; June 29, 1938, ch. 813, 52 Stat. 1242).

Language designating offense as felony was omitted in uniformity with definitive section 1 of this title. (See reviser’s note under section 550 of this title.)

Words “and shall, upon conviction” were omitted as surplusage since punishment cannot be imposed until a conviction is secured.

Reference to persons aiding, abetting or causing was omitted as such persons are made principals by section 2 of this title.

Changes were made in phraseology and arrangement, but without change of substance.

## 1949 ACT

This section [section 30] corrects a typographical error in section 1231 of title 18, U.S.C.

## AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103–322 substituted “fined under this title” for “fined not more than \$5,000” in third par.

1949—Act May 24, 1949, substituted “or travels in” for “in or travels” in second par.

**[§ 1232. Repealed. Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, § 53, 70A Stat. 641]**

Section, act June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 761, prohibited enticement of workman from armory or arsenal.

**CHAPTER 59—LIQUOR TRAFFIC**

Sec.  
1261.           Enforcement, regulations, and scope.  
1262.           Transportation into State prohibiting sale.  
1263.           Marks and labels on packages.  
1264.           Delivery to consignee.  
1265.           C.O.D. shipments prohibited.

**§ 1261. Enforcement, regulations, and scope**

(a)<sup>1</sup> The Attorney General—

<sup>1</sup> So in original. There is no subsec. (b).