
HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES
Section consolidates said sections 343–345 of title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed. The provision as to opening letters was incorporated in paragraph (c).
Venue provisions in said section 345 of title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., were omitted as covered by section 3237 of this title.
Section 346 of title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., defining ‘‘United States’’ was omitted. It is incorporated, however, in section 5 of this title.
References in text to other sections do not include definitive sections. Only those susceptible of violation are cited.
Mandatory punishment provision was rephrased in the alternative.
Minor changes were made in arrangement, translation, and phraseology.

AMENDMENTS
1994—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 103–322 substituted ‘‘fined under this title’’ for ‘‘fined not more than $5,000’’.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1970 AMENDMENT
Amendment by Pub. L. 91–375 effective within 1 year after Aug. 12, 1970, on date established therefor by Board of Governors of United States Postal Service and published by it in Federal Register, see section 15(a) of Pub. L. 91–375, set out as an Effective Date note preceding section 101 of Title 39, Postal Service.


Section acts June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 782; Aug. 12, 1970, Pub. L. 91–375, § 6(c)(28), 84 Stat. 780, provided that libelous matter on wrappers or envelopes was nonmailable.

§ 1719. Franking privilege
Whoever makes use of any official envelope, label, or indorsement authorized by law, to avoid the payment of postage or registry fee on his private letter, packet, package, or other matter in the mail, shall be fined under this title.

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Minor verbal change was made. Section 746(f) of title 8, U.S.C., 1940 ed., Aliens and Nationality, providing same penalty for misuse of franking privilege in natu-