

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2163

To amend section 1951 of title 18, United States Code, commonly called the Hobbs Act, to clarify that the use of violence to achieve collective bargaining objectives can be a violation of such section.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 15, 1997

Mr. COBLE (for himself, Mr. BALLENGER, Mr. CRANE, Mr. HAYWORTH, and Mr. NORWOOD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend section 1951 of title 18, United States Code, commonly called the Hobbs Act, to clarify that the use of violence to achieve collective bargaining objectives can be a violation of such section.

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 “Freedom From Union  
5       Violence Act of 1997”.

6       **SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION OF COVERAGE OF THE HOBBS ACT.**

7       Section 1951 of title 18, United States Code, is  
8       amended by adding at the end the following:

1       “(d) For the purposes of this section, the use of ac-  
2 tual or threatened force, violence, or fear in order to  
3 achieve an otherwise legitimate labor relations objective,  
4 other than that use which—

5           “(1) is incidental to otherwise peaceful picket-  
6 ing during a labor dispute;

7           “(2) consists solely of minor bodily injury, or  
8 minor damage to property, or threat or fear of such  
9 minor injury or damage; and

10          “(3) is not a part of a pattern of violent con-  
11 duct or of coordinated violent activity;  
12 is wrongful.”.

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