

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4640

To provide criminal penalties for providing false information in registering a domain name on the Internet.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 2, 2002

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

A BILL

To provide criminal penalties for providing false information in registering a domain name on the Internet.

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. CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR FALSE INFORMA-**
4 **TION IN REGISTRATION OF DOMAIN NAMES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 47 of title 18, United
6 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing new section:

1 **“§ 1037. Fraudulent information in registering do-**
 2 **main name**

3 “(a) OFFENSE.—Whoever knowingly and with intent
 4 to defraud provides material and misleading false contact
 5 information to a domain name registrar, domain name
 6 registry, or other domain name registration authority in
 7 registering a domain name shall be fined under this title
 8 or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

9 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

10 “(1) the term ‘domain name’ means any alpha-
 11 numeric designation which is registered with or as-
 12 signed by a domain name registrar, domain name
 13 registry, or other domain name registration author-
 14 ity as part of an electronic address on the Internet;
 15 and

16 “(2) the term ‘Internet’ has the meaning given
 17 that term in section 230(f)(1) of the Communica-
 18 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230(f)(1)).”.

19 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
 20 tions for chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, is
 21 amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“1037. Fraudulent information in registering domain name.”.

