

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1914

To amend title 18, United States Code, to ensure the death penalty for terrorists, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 18, 2007

Mr. CARTER (for himself, Mr. FORBES, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. POE, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. WAMP, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. REHBERG, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. McCaul of Texas, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. HAYES, Mr. MCHENRY, and Mr. CULBERSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to ensure the death penalty for terrorists, 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 “Terrorist Death Pen-
5 alty Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. ENSURING DEATH PENALTY FOR TERRORIST OF-**
2 **FENSES WHICH CREATE GRAVE RISK OF**
3 **DEATH.**

4 (a) ADDITION OF TERRORISM TO DEATH PENALTY
5 OFFENSES NOT RESULTING IN DEATH.—Section
6 3591(a)(1) of title 18, United States Code, is amended
7 by inserting “, section 2339E,” after “section 794”.

8 (b) MODIFICATION OF AGGRAVATING FACTORS FOR
9 TERRORISM OFFENSES.—Section 3592(b) of title 18,
10 United States Code, is amended—

11 (1) in the heading, by inserting “, terrorism,”
12 after “espionage”; and
13 (2) by inserting immediately after paragraph
14 (3) the following:

15 “(4) SUBSTANTIAL PLANNING.—The defendant
16 committed the offense after substantial planning.”.

17 **SEC. 3. MODIFICATION OF DEATH PENALTY PROVISIONS.**

18 (a) IMPANELING OF NEW JURY WHEN UNANIMOUS
19 RECOMMENDATION CANNOT BE REACHED.—Section
20 3594 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by in-
21 serting after the first sentence the following: “If the jury
22 is unable to reach any unanimous recommendation under
23 section 3593(e), the court, upon motion by the Govern-
24 ment, may impanel a jury under section 3593(b)(2)(E) for
25 a new sentencing hearing.”.

1 (b) MODIFICATION OF MITIGATING FACTORS.—Section 3592(a)(4) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

4 (1) by striking “Another” and inserting “The
5 Government could have, but has not, sought the
6 death penalty against another”; and

7 (2) by striking “, will not be punished by
8 death”.

9 (c) MODIFICATION OF AGGRAVATING FACTORS FOR
10 OFFENSES RESULTING IN DEATH.—Section 3592(c) of
11 title 18, United States Code, is amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (7), by inserting “or by cre-
13 ating the expectation of payment,” after “or promise
14 of payment,”;

15 (2) in paragraph (1), by inserting “section
16 2339E (terrorist offenses resulting in death),” after
17 “destruction,”;

18 (3) by inserting immediately after paragraph
19 (16) the following:

20 “(17) OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE.—The defen-
21 dant engaged in any conduct resulting in the death of
22 another person in order to obstruct investigation or
23 prosecution of any offense.”.

1 (d) ADDITIONAL GROUND FOR IMPANELING NEW
2 JURY.—Section 3593(b)(2) of title 18, United States
3 Code, is amended—

4 (1) by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph
5 (C);

6 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(E) a new penalty hearing is necessary
9 due to the inability of the jury to reach a unan-
10 imous penalty verdict as required by section
11 3593(e); or”.

12 (e) JURIES OF LESS THAN 12 MEMBERS.—Sub-
13 section (b) of section 3593 of title 18, United States Code,
14 is amended by striking “unless” and all that follows
15 through the end of the subsection and inserting “unless
16 the court finds good cause, or the parties stipulate, with
17 the approval of the court, a lesser number.”.

18 (f) PEREMPTORY CHALLENGES.—Rule 24(c) of the
19 Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure is amended—

20 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “6” and in-
21 serting “9”; and

22 (2) in paragraph (4), by adding at the end the
23 following:

24 “(C) SEVEN, EIGHT OR NINE ALTER-
25 NATES.—Four additional peremptory challenges

1 are permitted when seven, eight, or nine alter-
2 nates are impaneled.”.

