S. 2387

To establish guidelines and incentives for States to establish arsonist registries and to require the Attorney General to establish a national arsonist registry and notification program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

November 16, 2007

Mrs. Feinstein (for herself and Mrs. Boxer) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To establish guidelines and incentives for States to establish arsonist registries and to require the Attorney General to establish a national arsonist registry and notification program, 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 "Managing Arson
- 5 Through Criminal History (MATCH) Act of 2007".

1	SEC. 2. ARSONIST REGISTRATION AND NOTIFICATION PRO-
2	GRAM.
3	(a) Registry Requirements for Jurisdic-
4	TIONS.—
5	(1) Jurisdiction to maintain a registry.—
6	Each jurisdiction shall establish and maintain a ju-
7	risdiction-wide arsonist registry conforming to the
8	requirements of this section.
9	(2) Guidelines and regulations.—The At-
10	torney General shall issue guidelines and regulations
11	to interpret and implement this section.
12	(b) Registry Requirements for Criminal
13	Arsonists.—
14	(1) In General.—A criminal arsonist shall
15	register, and shall keep the registration current, in
16	each jurisdiction where the arsonist resides, where
17	the arsonist is an employee, and where the arsonist
18	is a student. For initial registration purposes only,
19	a criminal arsonist shall also register in the jurisdic-
20	tion in which convicted if such jurisdiction is dif-
21	ferent from the jurisdiction of residence.
22	(2) Initial registration.—The criminal ar-
23	sonist shall initially register—
24	(A) before completing a sentence of impris-
25	onment with respect to the offense giving rise
26	to the registration requirement; or

- 1 (B) not later than 5 business days after 2 being sentenced for that offense, if the criminal 3 arsonist is not sentenced to a term of imprison-4 ment.
 - (3) Keeping the registration current.—A criminal arsonist shall, not later than 10 business days after each change of name, residence, employment, or student status, appear in person in at least one jurisdiction involved pursuant to paragraph (1) and inform that jurisdiction of all changes in the information required for that arsonist in the arsonist registry involved. That jurisdiction shall immediately provide the revised information to all other jurisdictions in which the arsonist is required to register.
 - (4) Application of registration requirements.—
 - (A) In General.—Except as provided in guidelines under subparagraph (B), the requirements of this section, including the duties to register and to keep a registration current, shall apply only to a criminal arsonist who was convicted of a criminal offense involving arson on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, and who was notified of such duties and registered in accordance with subsection (f).

1	(B) Application to criminal arsonists
2	UNABLE TO COMPLY WITH PARAGRAPH (2).—
3	(i) Guidelines.—The Attorney Gen-
4	eral shall establish guidelines in accordance
5	with the provisions of this subparagraph
6	for each jurisdiction for the application of
7	the requirements of this section to criminal
8	arsonists convicted before the date of the
9	enactment of this Act or the date of its im-
10	plementation in such a jurisdiction, and
11	shall prescribe rules for the registration of
12	any such criminal arsonists who are other-
13	wise unable to comply with paragraph (2).
14	(ii) Information required to be
15	INCLUDED IN REGISTRY.—With respect to
16	each criminal arsonist described in clause
17	(i) convicted during the 10-year period pre-
18	ceding the date of the enactment of this
19	Act, the guidelines under clause (i) shall
20	provide for the inclusion in the arsonist
21	registry of each applicable jurisdiction
22	(and, in accordance with subsection (j), the
23	provision by such jurisdiction to each enti-
24	ty described in such subsection) of the fol-
25	lowing information:

1	(I) The name of the arsonist (in-
2	cluding any alias used by the arson-
3	ist).
4	(II) The Social Security number
5	of the arsonist.
6	(III) The most recent known ad-
7	dress of the residence at which the ar-
8	sonist has resided.
9	(IV) A physical description of the
10	arsonist.
11	(V) The text of the provision of
12	law defining the criminal offense re-
13	lated to arson for which the arsonist
14	is convicted.
15	(VI) A set of fingerprints and
16	palm prints of the arsonist.
17	(VII) A photocopy of a valid driv-
18	er's license or identification card
19	issued to the arsonist by a jurisdic-
20	tion, if available.
21	(VIII) Any other information re-
22	quired by the Attorney General.
23	(iii) Notice required.—The guide-
24	lines under clause (i) shall provide notice
25	to each criminal arsonist included in an ar-

- sonist registry pursuant to this subparagraph of such inclusion.
 - (5) STATE PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO COM-PLY.—Each jurisdiction, other than a Federally recognized Indian tribe, shall provide a criminal penalty that includes a maximum term of imprisonment that is greater than one year for the failure of a criminal arsonist to comply with the requirements of this section.
 - (6) AUTHORITY TO EXEMPT CERTAIN CRIMINAL ARSONISTS FROM REGISTRY REQUIREMENTS.—A jurisdiction shall have the authority to exempt a criminal arsonist who has been convicted of the offense of arson in violation of the laws of the jurisdiction in which the offense was committed or the United States for the first time from the registration requirements under this section in exchange for such arsonist's substantial assistance in the investigation or prosecution of another person who has committed an offense. The Attorney General shall assure that any regulations promulgated under this section include guidelines that reflect the general appropriateness of exempting such an arsonist from the registration requirements under this section.
 - (c) Information Required in Registration.—

1	(1) Provided by the arsonist.—A criminal
2	arsonist shall provide the following information to
3	the appropriate official for inclusion in the arsonist
4	registry of a jurisdiction in which such arsonist is
5	required to register:
6	(A) The name of the arsonist (including
7	any alias used by the arsonist).
8	(B) The Social Security number of the ar-
9	sonist.
10	(C) The address of each residence at which
11	the arsonist resides or will reside.
12	(D) The name and address of any place
13	where the arsonist is an employee or will be an
14	employee.
15	(E) The name and address of any place
16	where the arsonist is a student or will be a stu-
17	dent.
18	(F) The license plate number and a de-
19	scription of any vehicle owned or operated by
20	the arsonist.
21	(G) Any other information required by the
22	Attorney General.
23	(2) Provided by the jurisdiction.—The ju-
24	risdiction in which a criminal arsonist registers shall

1	ensure that the following information is included in
2	the registry for such arsonist:
3	(A) A physical description of the arsonist.
4	(B) The text of the provision of law defin-
5	ing the criminal offense for which the arsonist
6	is registered.
7	(C) The criminal history of the arsonist,
8	including the date of all arrests and convictions;
9	the status of parole, probation, or supervised
10	release; registration status; and the existence of
11	any outstanding arrest warrants for the arson-
12	ist.
13	(D) A current photograph of the arsonist.
14	(E) A set of fingerprints and palm prints
15	of the arsonist.
16	(F) A photocopy of a valid driver's license
17	or identification card issued to the arsonist by
18	a jurisdiction.
19	(G) Any other information required by the
20	Attorney General.
21	(d) Duration of Registration Requirement;
22	EXPUNGING REGISTRIES OF INFORMATION FOR CERTAIN
23	JUVENILE CRIMINAL ARSONISTS.—
24	(1) Duration of registration require-
25	MENT.—A criminal arsonist shall keep the registra-

1	tion information provided under subsection (c) cur-
2	rent for the full registration period (excluding any
3	time the arsonist is in custody). For purposes of this
4	subsection, the full registration period—
5	(A) shall commence on the later of the
6	date on which the arsonist is convicted of an of-
7	fense of arson in violation of the laws of the ju-
8	risdiction in which the offense was committed
9	or the United States, the date on which the ar-
10	sonist is released from prison for such convic-
11	tion, or the date on which such arsonist is
12	placed on parole, supervised release, or proba-
13	tion for such conviction; and
14	(B) shall be—
15	(i) five years for an arsonist who has
16	been convicted of such an offense for the
17	first time;
18	(ii) ten years for an arsonist who has
19	been convicted of such an offense for the
20	second time; and
21	(iii) for the life of the arsonist for an
22	arsonist who has been convicted of such an
23	offense more than twice.
24	(2) Expunding registries of information
25	FOR CERTAIN JUVENILE CRIMINAL ARSONISTS.—

1	(A) In general.—In the case of a crimi-
2	nal arsonist described in subparagraph (B), a
3	jurisdiction shall expunge the arson registry of
4	such jurisdiction of information related to such
5	criminal arsonist as of the date that is 5 years
6	after the last day of the applicable full registra-
7	tion period under paragraph (1).
8	(B) Criminal arsonist described.—
9	For purposes of subparagraph (A), a criminal
10	arsonist described in this subparagraph is a
11	criminal arsonist who—
12	(i) was a juvenile tried as an adult for
13	the offense giving rise to the duty to reg-
14	ister; and
15	(ii) was not convicted of any other
16	criminal felony during the period beginning
17	on the first day of the applicable full reg-
18	istration period under paragraph (1) and
19	ending on the last day of the 5-year period
20	described in subparagraph (A).
21	(C) APPLICATION TO OTHER DATA-
22	BASES.—The Attorney General shall establish a
23	process to ensure that each entity that receives
24	information under subsection (j) with respect to

a criminal arsonist described in subparagraph

1	(B) shall expunge the applicable database of
2	such information as of the date that is 5 years
3	after the last day of the applicable full registra-
4	tion period under paragraph (1).
5	(e) Annual Verification.—Not less than once in
6	each calendar year during the full registration period, a
7	criminal arsonist required to register under this section
8	shall—
9	(1) appear in person at not less than one juris-
10	diction in which such arsonist is required to register;
11	(2) allow such jurisdiction to take a current
12	photograph of the arsonist; and
13	(3) while present at such jurisdiction, verify the
14	information in each registry in which that arsonist
15	is required to be registered.
16	(f) DUTY TO NOTIFY CRIMINAL ARSONISTS OF REG-
17	ISTRATION REQUIREMENTS AND TO REGISTER.—
18	(1) In general.—An appropriate official shall,
19	shortly before release of a criminal arsonist from
20	custody, or, if the arsonist is not in custody, imme-
21	diately after the sentencing of the arsonist for the
22	offense giving rise to the duty to register—
23	(A) inform the arsonist of the duties of the
24	arsonist under this section and explain those
25	duties in a manner that the arsonist can under-

1	stand in light of the arsonist's native language,
2	mental capability, and age;
3	(B) ensure that the arsonist understands
4	the registration requirement, and if so, require
5	the arsonist to read and sign a form stating
6	that the duty to register has been explained and
7	that the arsonist understands the registration
8	requirement;
9	(C) if the arsonist is unable to understand
10	the registration requirements, the official shall
11	sign a form stating that the arsonist is unable
12	to understand the registration requirements;
13	and
14	(D) ensure that the arsonist is registered.
15	(2) Notification of criminal arsonists
16	WHO CANNOT COMPLY WITH PARAGRAPH (1).—The
17	Attorney General shall prescribe rules to ensure the
18	notification and registration of criminal arsonists in
19	accordance with paragraph (1) who cannot be noti-
20	fied and registered at the time set forth in para-
21	graph (1).
22	(g) Access to Criminal Arsonist Information
23	THROUGH THE INTERNET.—
24	(1) In general.—Except as provided in this
25	subsection, each jurisdiction shall make available on

- the Internet, in a manner that is readily accessible to law enforcement personnel and fire safety officers located in the jurisdiction, all information about each criminal arsonist in the registry. The jurisdiction shall also include in the design of its Internet site all field search capabilities needed for full participation in the National criminal arsonist Internet site established under subsection (i) and shall participate in that Internet site as provided by the Attorney General in regulations which comply with this paragraph.
 - (2) Prohibition on access by the public.—Such information about a criminal arsonist shall not be made available on the Internet to the public.
 - (3) Mandatory exemptions.—A jurisdiction shall exempt from disclosure, with respect to information about a criminal arsonist—
 - (A) any information about the arsonist involving conviction for an offense other than the offense or offenses for which the arsonist is registered;
 - (B) any information about the arsonist if the arsonist is participating in a witness protection program and the release of such informa-

1	tion could jeopardize the safety of the arsonist
2	or any other individual; and
3	(C) any other information identified as a
4	mandatory exemption from disclosure by the
5	Attorney General.
6	(4) Optional exemptions.—A jurisdiction is
7	authorized to exempt from disclosure, with respect
8	to information about a criminal arsonist—
9	(A) the name of an employer of the arson-
10	ist; and
11	(B) the name of an educational institution
12	where the arsonist is a student.
13	(5) Correction of Errors.—The Attorney
14	General shall establish guidelines for each jurisdic-
15	tion for a process to seek correction of information
16	included in the Internet site established by the juris-
17	diction pursuant to paragraph (1) in the case that
18	an individual contends such information is erro-
19	neous. Such guidelines shall provide for an adequate
20	period following the date on which the individual has
21	knowledge of the information's inclusion in the
22	Internet site for the individual to seek such correc-
23	tion of information.
24	(6) Warning.—An Internet site established by
25	a jurisdiction pursuant to paragraph (1) shall in-

- 1 clude a warning that information on the site is to be
- 2 used for law enforcement purposes only and may
- only be disclosed in connection with such purposes.
- The warning shall note that any such action could
- 5 result in civil or criminal penalties.

the National Arsonist Registry.

- 6 (h) National Criminal Arsonist Registry.—
- 7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall 8 maintain a national database at the Bureau of Alco-9 hol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for each 10 criminal arsonist. The database shall be known as
- 12 (2) ELECTRONIC FORWARDING.—The Attorney
 13 General shall ensure (through the National Arsonist
 14 Registry or otherwise) that updated information
 15 about a criminal arsonist is immediately transmitted
 16 by electronic forwarding to all relevant jurisdictions.
- 17 (i) NATIONAL ARSONIST INTERNET SITE.—The At18 torney General shall establish and maintain a national ar19 sonist Internet site. The Internet site shall include rel20 evant information for each criminal arsonist. The Internet
 21 site shall allow law enforcement officers and fire safety
 22 officers to obtain relevant information for each such ar23 sonist by a single query for any given zip code or geo-
- 25 limitations as may be established by the Attorney General

graphical radius set by the user in a form and with such

- 1 and shall have such other field search capabilities as the
- 2 Attorney General may provide.
- 3 (j) Notification Procedures.—Under an arsonist
- 4 registration program established by a jurisdiction pursu-
- 5 ant to subsection (a), immediately after a criminal arson-
- 6 ist registers or updates a registration, an appropriate offi-
- 7 cial in the jurisdiction shall provide the information in the
- 8 registry (other than information exempted from disclosure
- 9 by this section or by the Attorney General) about that of-
- 10 fender to the following entities:
- 11 (1) The Attorney General, who shall include
- that information in the National Arsonist Registry.
- 13 (2) Appropriate law enforcement agencies (in-
- 14 cluding probation agencies, if appropriate) in each
- area in which the offender resides, is an employee,
- or is a student.
- 17 (3) Each jurisdiction where the offender re-
- sides, is an employee, or is a student, and each juris-
- diction from or to which a change of residence, em-
- 20 ployment, or student status occurs.
- 21 Information about a criminal arsonist shall not be made
- 22 available on the Internet to the public.
- 23 (k) ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN WHEN CRIMINAL AR-
- 24 Sonist Fails To Comply.—Under an arsonist registra-
- 25 tion program established by a jurisdiction pursuant to

1	subsection (a), an appropriate official of the jurisdiction
2	shall notify the Attorney General and appropriate law en-
3	forcement agencies of any failure by a criminal arsonist
4	to comply with the requirements of the arsonist registry
5	for such jurisdiction, and shall revise the registry to reflect
6	the nature of such failure. The appropriate official, the
7	Attorney General, and each such law enforcement agency
8	shall take any appropriate action to ensure compliance
9	(l) Development and Availability of Registry
10	Management and Website Software.—
11	(1) Duty to develop and support.—The
12	Attorney General shall, in consultation with the ju-
13	risdictions, develop and support software to enable
14	jurisdictions to establish and operate uniform arson-
15	ist registries and Internet sites.
16	(2) Criteria.—The software described in para-
17	graph (1) should facilitate—
18	(A) immediate exchange of information
19	among jurisdictions;
20	(B) access over the Internet to appropriate
21	information, including the number of registered
22	criminal arsonists in each jurisdiction on a cur-
23	rent basis;
24	(C) full compliance with the requirements
25	of this section; and

1	(D) communication of information as re-
2	quired under subsection (j).
3	(3) Deadline.—The Attorney General shall
4	make the first complete edition of this software
5	available to jurisdictions not later than two years
6	after the date of the enactment of this Act.
7	(m) Period for Implementation by Jurisdic-
8	TIONS.—
9	(1) DEADLINE.—To be in compliance with this
10	section, a jurisdiction shall implement this section
11	before the later of—
12	(A) three years after the date of the enact-
13	ment of this Act; or
14	(B) one year after the date on which the
15	software described in subsection (l) is made
16	available to such jurisdiction.
17	(2) Extensions.—The Attorney General may
18	authorize not more than two one-year extensions of
19	the deadline under paragraph (1).
20	(n) Election by Indian Tribes.—
21	(1) Election.—
22	(A) In General.—A federally recognized
23	Indian tribe may, by resolution or other enact-
24	ment of the tribal council or comparable gov-

1	ernmental body, elect to carry out this subtitle
2	as a jurisdiction subject to its provisions.
3	(B) Implementation.—If a tribe does
4	not, within one year of the enactment of this
5	Act, make an election to take on these duties,
6	it shall, by resolution or other enactment of the
7	tribal council or comparable governmental body,
8	enter into a cooperative agreement to arrange
9	for a jurisdiction to carry out any function of
10	the tribe under this Act until such time as the
11	tribe elects to carry out this Act.
12	(2) Cooperation between tribal authori-
13	TIES AND OTHER JURISDICTIONS.—
14	(A) Nonduplication.—A tribe subject to
15	this subtitle is not required to duplicate func-
16	tions under this subtitle which are fully carried
17	out by another jurisdiction or jurisdictions with-
18	in which the territory of the tribe is located.
19	(B) Cooperative agreements.—A tribe
20	may, through cooperative agreements with such
21	a jurisdiction or jurisdictions—
22	(i) arrange for the tribe to carry out
23	any function of such a jurisdiction under
24	this subtitle with respect to arsonists sub-
25	ject to the tribe's jurisdiction; and

1	(ii) arrange for such a jurisdiction to
2	carry out any function of the tribe under
3	this subtitle with respect to arsonists sub-
4	ject to the tribe's jurisdiction.
5	(3) Law enforcement authority in Indian
6	COUNTRY.—Enforcement of this Act in Indian coun-
7	try, as defined in section 1151 of title 18, United
8	States Code, shall be carried out by Federal, Tribal,
9	and State governments under existing jurisdictional
10	authorities.
11	(o) Immunity for Good Faith Conduct.—The
12	Federal Government, jurisdictions, political subdivisions of
13	jurisdictions, and their agencies, officers, employees, and
14	agents shall be immune from liability for good faith con-
15	duct under this section.
16	(p) Authorization of Appropriations.—In addi-
17	tion to any amounts otherwise authorized to be appro-
18	priated, there are authorized to be appropriated to the At-
19	torney General, to carry out subsections (h) and (i) of this
20	section, such sums as may be necessary for each of the
21	fiscal years 2009 through 2014.
22	SEC. 3. CRIMINAL ARSONIST MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE
23	PROGRAM.
24	(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall estab-
25	lish and implement a Criminal Arsonist Management As-

- 1 sistance program (in this section referred to as the "As-
- 2 sistance Program"), under which the Attorney General
- 3 shall award a grant to a jurisdiction to offset the costs
- 4 of implementing section 2.
- 5 (b) APPLICATION.—The chief executive of a jurisdic-
- 6 tion desiring a grant under this section shall, on an annual
- 7 basis, submit to the Attorney General an application in
- 8 such form and containing such information as the Attor-
- 9 ney General may require.
- 10 (c) Bonus Payments for Prompt Compliance.—
- 11 A jurisdiction that, as determined by the Attorney Gen-
- 12 eral, has substantially implemented section 2 not later
- 13 than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act
- 14 is eligible for a bonus payment. The Attorney General may
- 15 make such a payment under the Assistance Program for
- 16 the first fiscal year beginning after that determination.
- 17 The amount of the bonus payment shall be as follows:
- 18 (1) In the case of a determination that the ju-
- risdiction has substantially implemented such section
- 20 by a date that is not later than the date that is one
- year after the date of the enactment of this Act, 10
- 22 percent of the total received by the jurisdiction
- under the Assistance Program for the preceding fis-
- cal year.

- 1 (2) In the case of a determination that the ju2 risdiction has substantially implemented such section
 3 by a date that is later than one year after the date
 4 of the enactment of this Act, but not later than the
 5 date that is two years after such date of enactment,
 6 percent of such total.
- 7 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addi8 tion to any amounts otherwise authorized to be appro9 priated, there are authorized to be appropriated to the At10 torney General, to be available only for the Assistance Pro11 gram, such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal
 12 years 2009 through 2014.

13 SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

- 14 For purposes of this Act:
 - (1) CRIMINAL ARSONIST.—The term "criminal arsonist" means an individual who is convicted of any criminal offense for committing arson in violation of the laws of the jurisdiction in which such offense was committed or the United States. Such term shall not include a juvenile who is convicted of such an offense unless such juvenile was tried as an adult for such offense.
 - (2) Arsonist registry' means a registry of criminal arsonists, and a notification program, maintained by a jurisdiction.

1	(3) Criminal offense.—The term "criminal
2	offense" means a State, local, tribal, foreign, or mili-
3	tary offense (to the extent specified by the Secretary
4	of Defense under section 115(a)(8)(C)(i) of Public
5	Law 105–119 (10 U.S.C. 951 note)) or other crimi-
6	nal offense.
7	(4) Employee.—The term "employee" includes
8	an individual who is self-employed or works for any
9	other entity, whether compensated or not.
10	(5) Fire safety officer.—The term "fire
11	safety officer" means—
12	(A) a firefighter, as such term is defined in
13	section 1204 of the Omnibus Crime Control and
14	Safe Street Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796b); or
15	(B) an individual serving in an official ca-
16	pacity as a firefighter, fire investigator, or other
17	arson investigator, as defined by the jurisdiction
18	for the purposes of this Act.
19	(6) Jurisdiction.—The term "jurisdiction"
20	means any of the following:
21	(A) A State.
22	(B) The District of Columbia.
23	(C) The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
24	(D) Guam.
25	(E) American Samoa.

1	(F) The Northern Mariana Islands.
2	(G) The United States Virgin Islands.
3	(H) To the extent provided and subject to
4	the requirements of section 2(o), a federally
5	recognized Indian tribe.
6	(7) Law enforcement officer.—The term
7	"law enforcement officer" has the meaning given
8	such term in section 1204 of the Omnibus Crime
9	Control and Safe Street Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C.
10	3796b).
11	(8) Resides.—The term "resides" means, with
12	respect to an individual, the location of the individ-
13	ual's home or other place where the individual habit-
14	ually lives.
15	(9) Student.—The term "student" means an
16	individual who enrolls in or attends an educational
17	institution (whether public or private), including a
18	secondary school, trade or professional school, and
10	institution of higher advertion

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