

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 610

To amend title 18, United States Code, to strengthen enforcement of spousal court-ordered property distributions, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 16, 2009

Mr. WEXLER (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. FILNER, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mrs. LOWEY, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. NADLER of New York, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. SIRES, Ms. WATSON, Mr. WEINER, and Ms. WOOLSEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to strengthen enforcement of spousal court-ordered property distributions, 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 “Jane’s Law”.

1 **SEC. 2. SPOUSAL OBLIGATIONS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 11(A) of title 18, United  
3 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
4 lowing:

5 **“§ 3. Failure to pay legal spousal court-ordered prop-**  
6 **erty distribution**

7 “(a) OFFENSE.—Whoever knowingly, travels in inter-  
8 state or foreign commerce, with the intent to evade compli-  
9 ance with a court ordered property distribution as part  
10 of a separation or divorce settlement involving more than  
11 \$5,000, with respect to a spouse or former spouse, shall  
12 be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than  
13 two years or both.

14 “(b) MANDATORY RESTITUTION.—Upon a conviction  
15 under this section, the court shall order restitution under  
16 section 3663A in an amount equal to the total unpaid  
17 property distribution.

18 “(c) DEFINITION.—The term ‘court ordered property  
19 distribution’ means any amount determined under a court  
20 order pursuant to the law of a State or of an Indian tribe  
21 to be due from a spouse or former spouse as an equitable  
22 or other distribution to a spouse or former spouse of assets  
23 in connection with a separation or divorce.”.

24 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO TABLE OF SEC-  
25 TIONS.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter

- 1 11(A) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by add-  
2 ing at the end the following new item:

“228A. Failure to pay legal spousal obligations.”.

