

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2596

To amend title 18, United States Code, to establish Federal criminal penalties for interstate child endangerment.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 14, 2014

Mr. WALSH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to establish Federal criminal penalties for interstate child endangerment.

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. INTERSTATE CHILD ENDANGERMENT.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 110A of title 18, United
5 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 2261A
6 the following:

7 **“§ 2261B. Interstate child endangerment**

8 “(a) OFFENSES.—

9 “(1) TRAVEL OR CONDUCT OF OFFENDER.—It
10 shall be unlawful for any person who travels in inter-

1 state or foreign commerce or enters or leaves Indian
2 country or is present within the special maritime
3 and territorial jurisdiction of the United States to
4 purposely, knowingly, or negligently cause substan-
5 tial risk of death or serious bodily injury to a child
6 by—

7 “(A) placing the child in the physical cus-
8 tody of another individual who the person
9 knows has previously purposely or knowingly
10 caused bodily injury to a child; or

11 “(B) operating a motor vehicle under the
12 influence of alcohol or a controlled substance, in
13 violation of the law of the State in which the
14 motor vehicle is being operated, while the child
15 is in the motor vehicle.

16 “(2) CAUSING TRAVEL OF VICTIM.—It shall be
17 unlawful for any person to cause a child to travel in
18 interstate or foreign commerce or to enter or leave
19 Indian country by force, coercion, duress, or fraud
20 and in the course of, as a result of, or to facilitate
21 such conduct or travel, to commit or attempt to
22 commit an offense under paragraph (1).

23 “(b) PENALTIES.—A person who commits an offense
24 under subsection (a) shall be fined not more than \$50,000,
25 imprisoned for not more than 10 years, or both.

1 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

2 “(1) the term ‘child’ means an individual who
3 has not attained 14 years of age; and

4 “(2) the term ‘controlled substances’ has the
5 meaning given the term in section 102 of the Con-
6 trolled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802).”.

7 (b) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of section for
8 chapter 110A of title 18, United States Code, is amended
9 by inserting after the item relating to section 2261A the
10 following:

“2261B. Interstate child endangerment.”.

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