

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5975

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide mandatory minimum terms of imprisonment for certain trafficking offenses, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

Mr. WALKER (for himself, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide mandatory minimum terms of imprisonment for certain trafficking offenses, 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 “Bettering Resources
5 in Guarding from Human Trafficking Act of 2016” or the
6 “BRIGHT Act of 2016”.

1 **SEC. 2. MANDATORY MINIMUMS FOR CERTAIN TRAF-**
2 **FICKING OFFENSES.**

3 (a) PEONAGE.—Section 1581(a) of title 18, United
4 States Code, is amended—

5 (1) in the first sentence, by striking “or impris-
6 oned not more than 20 years, or both” and inserting
7 “and imprisoned for not less than five years and not
8 more than 20 years”; and

9 (2) in the second sentence, by striking “or im-
10 prisoned for any term of years or life, or both” and
11 inserting “and imprisoned for not less than five
12 years”.

13 (b) VESSELS FOR SLAVE TRADE.—Section 1582 of
14 title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “or
15 imprisoned not more than seven years, or both” and in-
16 serting “and imprisoned for not less than five years and
17 not more than seven years”.

18 (c) ENTICEMENT INTO SLAVERY.—Section 1583 of
19 title 18, United States Code, is amended—

20 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “, imprisoned
21 not more than 20 years, or both” and inserting “and
22 imprisoned for not less than five years and not more
23 than 20 years”; and

24 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “, imprisoned
25 for any term of years or for life, or both” and insert-
26 ing “and imprisoned for not less than five years”.

1 (d) SALE INTO INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE.—Section
2 1584(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

3 (1) in the first sentence, by striking “or impris-
4 oned not more than 20 years, or both” and inserting
5 “and imprisoned for not less than five years and not
6 more than 20 years”; and

7 (2) in the second sentence, by striking “or im-
8 prisoned for any term or years or life, or both” and
9 inserting “and imprisoned for not less than five
10 years”.

11 (e) SEIZURE, DETENTION, TRANSPORTATION OR
12 SALE OF SLAVES.—Section 1585 of title 18, United
13 States Code, is amended by striking “or imprisoned not
14 more than seven years, or both” and inserting “and im-
15 prisoned for not less than five years and not more than
16 seven years”.

17 (f) SERVICE ON VESSELS IN SLAVE TRADE.—Section
18 1586 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by strik-
19 ing “or imprisoned not more than two years, or both” and
20 inserting “and imprisoned for not less than one year and
21 not more than two years”.

22 (g) POSSESSION OF SLAVES ABOARD VESSEL.—Sec-
23 tion 1587 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by
24 striking “or imprisoned not more than four years, or

1 both” and inserting “and imprisoned for not less than one
2 year and not more than four years”.

3 (h) TRANSPORTATION OF SLAVES FROM UNITED
4 STATES.—Section 1588 of title 18, United States Code,
5 is amended by striking “or imprisoned not more than 10
6 years, or both” and inserting “and imprisoned for not less
7 than five years and not more than 10 years”.

8 (i) FORCED LABOR.—Section 1589(d) of title 18,
9 United States Code, is amended—

10 (1) in the first sentence, by striking “, impris-
11 oned not more than 20 years, or both” and inserting
12 “and imprisoned for not less than five years and not
13 more than 20 years”; and

14 (2) in the second sentence, by striking “, im-
15 prisoned for any term of years or life, or both” and
16 inserting “and imprisoned for not less than five
17 years”.

18 (j) TRAFFICKING WITH RESPECT TO PEONAGE,
19 SLAVERY, INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE, OR FORCED
20 LABOR.—Section 1590(a) of title 18, United States Code,
21 is amended—

22 (1) in the first sentence, by striking “or impris-
23 oned not more than 20 years, or both” and inserting
24 “and imprisoned for not less than five years and not
25 more than 20 years”; and

1 (2) in the second sentence, by striking “or im-
2 prisoned for any term of years or life, or both” and
3 inserting “and imprisoned for not less than 5
4 years”.

5 (k) UNLAWFUL CONDUCT WITH RESPECT TO DOCU-
6 MENTS IN FURTHERANCE OF TRAFFICKING, PEONAGE,
7 SLAVERY, INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE, OR FORCED
8 LABOR.—Section 1592(a) of title 18, United States Code,
9 is amended to read as follows:

10 “(a) Whoever knowingly destroys, conceals, removes,
11 confiscates, or possesses any actual or purported passport
12 or other immigration document, or any other actual or
13 purported government identification document, of another
14 person—

15 “(1)(A) in the course of a violation of section
16 1581, 1583, 1584, 1589, 1590, or 1594(a);

17 “(B) with intent to violate section 1581, 1583,
18 1584, 1589, or 1590; or

19 “(C) to prevent or restrict or to attempt to pre-
20 vent or restrict, without lawful authority, the per-
21 son’s liberty to move or travel, in order to maintain
22 the labor or services of that person, when the person
23 is or has been a victim of a severe form of traf-
24 ficking in persons, as defined in section 103 of the
25 Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000,

1 shall be fined under this title and imprisoned for not less
2 than one year and not more than five years; or

3 “(2) in the course of a violation of section
4 1591, or with intent to violate such section, shall be
5 fined under this title and imprisoned for not less
6 than 5 years and not more than 10 years.”.

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