

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 83

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide enhanced penalties for convicted murderers who kill or target America’s public safety officers.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 14, 2025

Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BUDD, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mr. LANKFORD) 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 provide enhanced penalties for convicted murderers who kill or target America’s public safety officers.

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 “Thin Blue Line Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. AGGRAVATING FACTORS FOR DEATH PENALTY.**

6 Section 3592(c) of title 18, United States Code, is
7 amended by inserting after paragraph (16) the following:

8 “(17) KILLING OR TARGETING OF LAW EN-
9 FORCEMENT OFFICERS.—

“(A) The defendant killed or attempted to kill, in a circumstance described in subparagraph (B), a person who is authorized by law—

“(i) to engage in or supervise the prevention, detention, investigation, or prosecution of, or the incarceration of any person for, any criminal violation of law;

“(ii) to apprehend, arrest, or prosecute an individual for any criminal violation of law; or

“(iii) to be a firefighter or other first responder.

“(B) A circumstance referred to in subparagraph (A) is that the person was killed or targeted—

“(i) while he or she was engaged in the performance of his or her official duties;

“(ii) because of the performance of his or her official duties; or

“(iii) because of his or her status as a public official or employee.”.

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