

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2020—Pub. L. 116–260, div. O, title X, § 1003(c), Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 2156, struck out item 511A “Unauthorized application of theft prevention decal or device”.

2001—Pub. L. 107–56, title III, §§ 374(e)(4), 375(d)(4), Oct. 26, 2001, 115 Stat. 340, 341, substituted “, stones, or analog, digital, or electronic images” for “or stones” in items 474 and 481.

1996—Pub. L. 104–208, div. A, title I, § 101(f) [title VI, § 648(b)(2)], title II, § 2603(b)(2), Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009–314, 3009–368, 3009–470, amended analysis identically, adding item 514.

1994—Pub. L. 103–322, title XII, § 120003(b)(1), title XXII, § 220003(d)(2), title XXXIII, § 330010(14), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2022, 2077, 2144, added item 470, struck out extraneous period after “money” in item 491, and added item 511A.

1992—Pub. L. 102–550, title XV, § 1553(b), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 4071, added item 474A.

1990—Pub. L. 101–647, title XXXV, § 3513, Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4922, substituted “or paper used as money.” for “used as money or similar to coins” in item 491, “matters” for “entry certificates” in item 496, and “stamps, postage meter stamps,” for “stamps” in item 501.

1986—Pub. L. 99–646, § 31(b), Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3598, redesignated second item 510, relating to securities of the State and private entities, as item 513 and substituted “States” for “State”.

1984—Pub. L. 98–547, title II, § 201(b), Oct. 25, 1984, 98 Stat. 2770, added items 511 and 512.

Pub. L. 98–473, title II, § 1105(b), Oct. 12, 1984, 98 Stat. 2145, added second item 510 “Securities of the State and private entities”.

1983—Pub. L. 98–151, § 115(c), Nov. 14, 1983, 97 Stat. 977, added item 510, relating to forging endorsements.

1965—Pub. L. 89–81, title II, § 211(b), July 23, 1965, 79 Stat. 257, struck out “Gold or silver” before “Coins or bars” in item 485.

1958—Pub. L. 85–921, § 2, Sept. 2, 1958, 72 Stat. 1771, substituted “Printing and filming of United States and foreign obligations and securities” for “Printing stamps for philatelic purposes” in item 504.

1951—Act July 16, 1951, ch. 226, § 5(c), 65 Stat. 122, struck out “; publisher’s illustrations excepted” in item 489.

§ 470. Counterfeit acts committed outside the United States

A person who, outside the United States, engages in the act of—

(1) making, dealing, or possessing any counterfeit obligation or other security of the United States; or

(2) making, dealing, or possessing any plate, stone, analog, digital, or electronic image, or other thing, or any part thereof, used to counterfeit such obligation or security,

if such act would constitute a violation of section 471, 473, or 474 if committed within the United States, shall be punished as is provided for the like offense within the United States.

(Added Pub. L. 103–322, title XII, § 120003(a), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2021; amended Pub. L. 107–56, title III, § 374(a), Oct. 26, 2001, 115 Stat. 340.)

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2001—Pub. L. 107–56, § 374(a)(2), in concluding provisions, substituted “shall be punished as is provided for the like offense within the United States” for “shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both”.

Par. (2). Pub. L. 107–56, § 374(a)(1), inserted “analog, digital, or electronic image,” after “plate, stone.”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

SHORT TITLE OF 1992 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 102–550, title XV, § 1551, Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 4070, provided that: “This subtitle [subtitle E (§§ 1551–1554) of title XV of Pub. L. 102–550, enacting section 474A of this title and amending sections 474 and 504 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Counterfeit Deterrence Act of 1992.’”

COMBATTING INTERNATIONAL COUNTERFEITING OF UNITED STATES CURRENCY

Pub. L. 104–132, title VIII, § 807, Apr. 24, 1996, 110 Stat. 1308, which directed the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the advanced counterfeit deterrence steering committee, to study the use and counterfeiting of United States currency abroad, develop an evaluation audit plan, and submit written reports to Congress, ceased to be effective on Apr. 24, 2006.

§ 471. Obligations or securities of United States

Whoever, with intent to defraud, falsely makes, forges, counterfeits, or alters any obligation or other security of the United States, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 705; Pub. L. 103–322, title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(K), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147; Pub. L. 107–56, title III, § 374(b), Oct. 26, 2001, 115 Stat. 340.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., § 262 (Mar. 4, 1909, ch. 321, § 148, 35 Stat. 1115).

Mandatory punishment provision was rephrased in the alternative.

Changes in phraseology were made.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2001—Pub. L. 107–56 substituted “20 years” for “fifteen years”.

1994—Pub. L. 103–322 substituted “fined under this title” for “fined not more than \$5,000”.

§ 472. Uttering counterfeit obligations or securities

Whoever, with intent to defraud, passes, utters, publishes, or sells, or attempts to pass, utter, publish, or sell, or with like intent brings into the United States or keeps in possession or conceals any falsely made, forged, counterfeited, or altered obligation or other security of the United States, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 705; Pub. L. 103–322, title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(K), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147; Pub. L. 107–56, title III, § 374(c), Oct. 26, 2001, 115 Stat. 340.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., § 265 (Mar. 4, 1909, ch. 321, § 151, 35 Stat. 1116).

Mandatory punishment provision was rephrased in the alternative.

Changes in phraseology were made.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2001—Pub. L. 107–56 substituted “20 years” for “fifteen years”.

1994—Pub. L. 103-322 substituted “fined under this title” for “fined not more than \$5,000”.

§ 473. Dealing in counterfeit obligations or securities

Whoever buys, sells, exchanges, transfers, receives, or delivers any false, forged, counterfeited, or altered obligation or other security of the United States, with the intent that the same be passed, published, or used as true and genuine, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 705; Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(K), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147; Pub. L. 107-56, title III, § 374(d), Oct. 26, 2001, 115 Stat. 340.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., § 268 (Mar. 4, 1909, ch. 321, § 154, 35 Stat. 1117).

Reference to circulating notes of banking associations was omitted as covered by definition of obligation or other security in section 8 of this title.

Changes in phraseology were made.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2001—Pub. L. 107-56 substituted “20 years” for “ten years”.

1994—Pub. L. 103-322 substituted “fined under this title” for “fined not more than \$5,000”.

§ 474. Plates, stones, or analog, digital, or electronic images for counterfeiting obligations or securities

(a) Whoever, having control, custody, or possession of any plate, stone, or other thing, or any part thereof, from which has been printed, or which may be prepared by direction of the Secretary of the Treasury for the purpose of printing, any obligation or other security of the United States, uses such plate, stone, or other thing, or any part thereof, or knowingly suffers the same to be used for the purpose of printing any such or similar obligation or other security, or any part thereof, except as may be printed for the use of the United States by order of the proper officer thereof; or

Whoever makes or executes any plate, stone, or other thing in the likeness of any plate designated for the printing of such obligation or other security; or

Whoever, with intent to defraud, makes, executes, acquires, scans, captures, records, receives, transmits, reproduces, sells, or has in such person's control, custody, or possession, an analog, digital, or electronic image of any obligation or other security of the United States; or

Whoever sells any such plate, stone, or other thing, or brings into the United States any such plate, stone, or other thing, except under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury or other proper officer, or with any other intent, in either case, than that such plate, stone, or other thing be used for the printing of the obligations or other securities of the United States; or

Whoever has in his control, custody, or possession any plate, stone, or other thing in any manner made after or in the similitude of any plate, stone, or other thing, from which any such obli-

gation or other security has been printed, with intent to use such plate, stone, or other thing, or to suffer the same to be used in forging or counterfeiting any such obligation or other security, or any part thereof; or

Whoever has in his possession or custody, except under authority from the Secretary of the Treasury or other proper officer, any obligation or other security made or executed, in whole or in part, after the similitude of any obligation or other security issued under the authority of the United States, with intent to sell or otherwise use the same; or

Whoever prints, photographs, or in any other manner makes or executes any engraving, photograph, print, or impression in the likeness of any such obligation or other security, or any part thereof, or sells any such engraving, photograph, print, or impression, except to the United States, or brings into the United States, any such engraving, photograph, print, or impression, except by direction of some proper officer of the United States—

Is guilty of a class B felony.

(b) For purposes of this section, the term “analog, digital, or electronic image” includes any analog, digital, or electronic method used for the making, execution, acquisition, scanning, capturing, recording, retrieval, transmission, or reproduction of any obligation or security, unless such use is authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury. The Secretary shall establish a system (pursuant to section 504) to ensure that the legitimate use of such electronic methods and retention of such reproductions by businesses, hobbyists, press and others shall not be unduly restricted.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 706; Pub. L. 102-550, title XV, § 1552, Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 4070; Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title I, § 101(f) [title VI, § 648(a)], title II, § 2603(a), Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-314, 3009-367, 3009-470; Pub. L. 107-56, title III, § 374(e)(1)-(3), Oct. 26, 2001, 115 Stat. 340.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., § 264 (Mar. 4, 1909, ch. 321, § 150, 35 Stat. 1116).

References to persons causing, procuring, assisting or aiding were omitted as unnecessary as such persons are made principals by section 2 of this title.

Changes in phraseology were made.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2001—Pub. L. 107-56, § 374(e)(3), substituted “, stones, or analog, digital, or electronic images” for “or stones” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 107-56, § 374(e)(1), inserted after second par. “Whoever, with intent to defraud, makes, executes, acquires, scans, captures, records, receives, transmits, reproduces, sells, or has in such person's control, custody, or possession, an analog, digital, or electronic image of any obligation or other security of the United States; or”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 107-56, § 374(e)(2), inserted first sentence and struck out former first sentence which read as follows: “For purposes of this section, the terms ‘plate’, ‘stone’, ‘thing’, or ‘other thing’ includes any electronic method used for the acquisition, recording, retrieval, transmission, or reproduction of any obligation or other security, unless such use is authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury.”