

§ 553. Importation or exportation of stolen motor vehicles, off-highway mobile equipment, vessels, or aircraft

(a) Whoever knowingly imports, exports, or attempts to import or export—

(1) any motor vehicle, off-highway mobile equipment, vessel, aircraft, or part of any motor vehicle, off-highway mobile equipment, vessel, or aircraft, knowing the same to have been stolen; or

(2) any motor vehicle or off-highway mobile equipment or part of any motor vehicle or off-highway mobile equipment, knowing that the identification number of such motor vehicle, equipment, or part has been removed, obliterated, tampered with, or altered;

shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.

(b) Subsection (a)(2) shall not apply if the removal, obliteration, tampering, or alteration—

(1) is caused by collision or fire; or

(2)(A) in the case of a motor vehicle, is not a violation of section 511 of this title (relating to altering or removing motor vehicle identification numbers); or

(B) in the case of off-highway mobile equipment, would not be a violation of section 511 of this title if such equipment were a motor vehicle.

(c) As used in this section, the term—

(1) “motor vehicle” has the meaning given that term in section 32101 of title 49;

(2) “off-highway mobile equipment” means any self-propelled agricultural equipment, self-propelled construction equipment, and self-propelled special use equipment, used or designed for running on land but not on rail or highway;

(3) “vessel” has the meaning given that term in section 401 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1401);

(4) “aircraft” has the meaning given that term in section 40102(a) of title 49; and

(5) “identification number”—

(A) in the case of a motor vehicle, has the meaning given that term in section 511 of this title; and

(B) in the case of any other vehicle or equipment covered by this section, means a number or symbol assigned to the vehicle or equipment, or part thereof, by the manufacturer primarily for the purpose of identifying such vehicle, equipment, or part.

(Added Pub. L. 98-547, title III, §301(a), Oct. 25, 1984, 98 Stat. 2771; amended Pub. L. 100-690, title VII, §7021, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4396; Pub. L. 102-519, title I, §102, Oct. 25, 1992, 106 Stat. 3385; Pub. L. 103-272, §5(e)(5), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1374.)

AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 103-272, §5(e)(5)(A), substituted “section 32101 of title 49” for “section 2 of the Motor Vehicle Information and Cost Savings Act”.

Subsec. (c)(4). Pub. L. 103-272, §5(e)(5)(B), substituted “section 40102(a) of title 49” for “section 101 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 (49 U.S.C. App. 1301)”.

1992—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-519 substituted “fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 10 years” for “fined not more than \$15,000 or imprisoned not more than five years” in concluding provisions.

1988—Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 100-690 amended par. (2) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (2) read as follows: “is not a violation of section 511 of this title.”

§ 554. Smuggling goods from the United States

(a) IN GENERAL.—Whoever fraudulently or knowingly exports or sends from the United States, or attempts to export or send from the United States, any merchandise, article, or object contrary to any law or regulation of the United States, or receives, conceals, buys, sells, or in any manner facilitates the transportation, concealment, or sale of such merchandise, article or object, prior to exportation, knowing the same to be intended for exportation contrary to any law or regulation of the United States, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.

(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “United States” has the meaning given that term in section 545.

(Added Pub. L. 109-177, title III, §311(a), Mar. 9, 2006, 120 Stat. 242.)

CODIFICATION

Another section 554 was renumbered section 555 of this title.

§ 555. Border tunnels and passages

(a) Any person who knowingly constructs or finances the construction of a tunnel or subterranean passage that crosses the international border between the United States and another country, other than a lawfully authorized tunnel or passage known to the Secretary of Homeland Security and subject to inspection by Immigration and Customs Enforcement, shall be fined under this title and imprisoned for not more than 20 years.

(b) Any person who knows or recklessly disregards the construction or use of a tunnel or passage described in subsection (a) on land that the person owns or controls shall be fined under this title and imprisoned for not more than 10 years.

(c) Any person who uses a tunnel or passage described in subsection (a) to unlawfully smuggle an alien, goods (in violation of section 545), controlled substances, weapons of mass destruction (including biological weapons), or a member of a terrorist organization (as defined in section 2339B(g)(6)) shall be subject to a maximum term of imprisonment that is twice the maximum term of imprisonment that would have otherwise been applicable had the unlawful activity not made use of such a tunnel or passage.

(Added Pub. L. 109-295, title V, §551(a), Oct. 4, 2006, 120 Stat. 1389, §554; renumbered §555, Pub. L. 110-161, div. E, title V, §553(a)(1), Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2082.)

AMENDMENTS

2007—Pub. L. 110-161 renumbered section 554, relating to border tunnels and passages, as this section.

CHAPTER 29—ELECTIONS AND POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

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| 609. | Use of military authority to influence vote of member of Armed Forces. |
| 610. | Coercion of political activity. |
| 611. | Voting by aliens. |
| | [612 to 617. Repealed.] |

SENATE REVISION AMENDMENT

By Senate amendment, item 610 was changed to read, "610. Contributions or expenditures by national banks, corporations, or labor organizations". See Senate Report No. 1620, amendment Nos. 4 and 5, 80th Cong.

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-208, div. C, title II, § 216(b), Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-573, added item 611.

1993—Pub. L. 103-94, § 4(c)(2), Oct. 6, 1993, 107 Stat. 1005, added item 610.

1990—Pub. L. 101-647, title XXXV, § 3516, Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4923, substituted "Making political contributions" for "Place of solicitation" in item 603 and "Place of solicitation" for "Making political contributions" in item 607.

1986—Pub. L. 99-410, title II, § 202(b), Aug. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 929, added items 608 and 609.

1980—Pub. L. 96-187, title II, § 201(a)(2), Jan. 8, 1980, 93 Stat. 1367, struck out item 591 "Definitions".

1976—Pub. L. 94-453, § 2, Oct. 2, 1976, 90 Stat. 1517, substituted "political contribution" for "political activity" in item 601.

Pub. L. 94-283 title II, § 201(b), May 11, 1976, 90 Stat. 496, struck out items "608. Limitations on contributions and expenditures", "610. Contributions or expenditures by national banks, corporations or labor organizations", "611. Contributions by Government contractors", "612. Publication or distribution of political statements", "613. Contributions by foreign nationals", "614. Prohibition of contributions in name of another", "615. Limitation on contributions of currency", "616. Acceptance of excessive honorariums", and "617. Fraudulent misrepresentation of campaign authority".

1974—Pub. L. 93-443, title I, § 101(d)(4)(B), (f)(3), Oct. 15, 1974, 88 Stat. 1267, 1268, substituted "Contributions by foreign nationals" for "Contributions by agents of foreign principals" in item 613, and added items 614 to 617.

1972—Pub. L. 92-225, title II, § 207, Feb. 7, 1972, 86 Stat. 11, substituted "contributions and expenditures" for "political contributions and purchases" in item 608, "Repealed" for "Maximum contributions and expenditures" in item 609, and "Government contractors" for "firms or individuals contracting with the United States" in item 611.

1966—Pub. L. 89-486, § 8(c)(1), July 4, 1966, 80 Stat. 249, added item 613.

STATE LAWS AFFECTED; DEFINITIONS

Section 104 of Pub. L. 93-443 provided that:

"(a) The provisions of chapter 29 of title 18, United States Code, relating to elections and political activities, supersede and preempt any provision of State law with respect to election to Federal office.

"(b) For purposes of this section, the terms 'election', 'Federal office', and 'State' have the meanings given them by section 591 of title 18, United States Code."

[§ 591. Repealed. Pub. L. 96-187, title II, § 201(a)(1), Jan. 8, 1980, 93 Stat. 1367]

Section, acts June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 719; May 24, 1949, ch. 139, § 9, 63 Stat. 90; Sept. 22, 1970, Pub. L. 91-405, title II, § 204(d)(4), 84 Stat. 853; Feb. 7, 1972, Pub. L. 92-225, title II, § 201, 86 Stat. 8; Oct. 15, 1974, Pub. L. 93-443, title I, §§ 101(f)(2), 102, 88 Stat. 1268, 1269; May 11, 1976, Pub. L. 94-283, title I, § 115(g), title II, § 202, 90 Stat. 496, 497, defined terms applicable to prohibitions respecting elections and political activities.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective Jan. 8, 1980, see section 301(a) of Pub. L. 96-187, set out as an Effective Date of 1980 Amendment note under section 431 of Title 2, The Congress.

§ 592. Troops at polls

Whoever, being an officer of the Army or Navy, or other person in the civil, military, or naval service of the United States, orders, brings, keeps, or has under his authority or control any troops or armed men at any place where a general or special election is held, unless such force be necessary to repel armed enemies of the United States, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both; and be disqualified from holding any office of honor, profit, or trust under the United States.

This section shall not prevent any officer or member of the armed forces of the United States from exercising the right of suffrage in any election district to which he may belong, if otherwise qualified according to the laws of the State in which he offers to vote.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 719; Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(K), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., §§ 55 and 59 (Mar. 4, 1909, ch. 321, §§ 22, 26, 35 Stat. 1092, 1093).

This section consolidates sections 55 and 59 of title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed.

Mandatory punishment provision was rephrased in the alternative.

In second paragraph, words "or member of the Armed Forces of the United States" were substituted for "soldier, sailor, or marine" so as to cover those auxiliaries which are now component parts of the Army and Navy.

Changes in phraseology were also made.

AMENDMENTS

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

§ 593. Interference by armed forces

Whoever, being an officer or member of the Armed Forces of the United States, prescribes or fixes or attempts to prescribe or fix, whether by proclamation, order or otherwise, the qualifications of voters at any election in any State; or

Whoever, being such officer or member, prevents or attempts to prevent by force, threat, intimidation, advice or otherwise any qualified voter of any State from fully exercising the