

§ 2237. Criminal sanctions for failure to heave to, obstruction of boarding, or providing false information

(a)(1) It shall be unlawful for the master, operator, or person in charge of a vessel of the United States, or a vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, to knowingly fail to obey an order by an authorized Federal law enforcement officer to heave to that vessel.

(2) It shall be unlawful for any person on board a vessel of the United States, or a vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, to—

(A) forcibly resist, oppose, prevent, impede, intimidate, or interfere with a boarding or other law enforcement action authorized by any Federal law or to resist a lawful arrest; or

(B) provide materially false information to a Federal law enforcement officer during a boarding of a vessel regarding the vessel's destination, origin, ownership, registration, nationality, cargo, or crew.

(b)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, whoever knowingly violates subsection (a) shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both.

(2)(A) If the offense is one under paragraph (1) or (2)(A) of subsection (a) and has an aggravating factor set forth in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, the offender shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for any term of years or life, or both.

(B) The aggravating factor referred to in subparagraph (A) is that the offense—

(i) results in death; or

(ii) involves—

(I) an attempt to kill;

(II) kidnapping or an attempt to kidnap; or

(III) an offense under section 2241.

(3) If the offense is one under paragraph (1) or (2)(A) of subsection (a) and results in serious bodily injury (as defined in section 1365), the offender shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than 15 years, or both.

(4) If the offense is one under paragraph (1) or (2)(A) of subsection (a), involves knowing transportation under inhumane conditions, and is committed in the course of a violation of section 274 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, or chapter 77 or section 113 (other than under subsection (a)(4) or (a)(5) of such section) or 117 of this title, the offender shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than 15 years, or both.

(c) This section does not limit the authority of a customs officer under section 581 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1581), or any other provision of law enforced or administered by the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary of Homeland Security, or the authority of any Federal law enforcement officer under any law of the United States, to order a vessel to stop or heave to.

(d) A foreign nation may consent or waive objection to the enforcement of United States law by the United States under this section by radio, telephone, or similar oral or electronic means. Consent or waiver may be proven by certification of the Secretary of State or the designee of the Secretary of State.

(e) In this section—

(1) the term “Federal law enforcement officer” has the meaning given the term in section 115(c);

(2) the term “heave to” means to cause a vessel to slow, come to a stop, or adjust its course or speed to account for the weather conditions and sea state to facilitate a law enforcement boarding;

(3) the term “vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States” has the meaning given the term in section 70502 of title 46;

(4) the term “vessel of the United States” has the meaning given the term in section 70502 of title 46; and

(5) the term “transportation under inhumane conditions” means—

(A) transportation—

(i) of one or more persons in an engine compartment, storage compartment, or other confined space;

(ii) at an excessive speed; or

(iii) of a number of persons in excess of the rated capacity of the vessel; or

(B) intentional grounding of a vessel in which persons are being transported.

(Added Pub. L. 109-177, title III, §303(a), Mar. 9, 2006, 120 Stat. 233; amended Pub. L. 111-281, title IX, §917, Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3021.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 274 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(4), is classified to section 1324 of Title 8, Aliens and Nationality.

AMENDMENTS

2010—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 111-281, §917(a), amended subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment subsec. (b) read as follows: “Any person who intentionally violates this section shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both.”

Subsec. (e)(3). Pub. L. 111-281, §917(b)(1), amended par. (3) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (3) read as follows: “the term ‘vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States’ has the meaning given the term in section 2 of the Maritime Drug Law Enforcement Act (46 U.S.C. App. 1903); and”.

Subsec. (e)(4). Pub. L. 111-281, §917(b)(2), substituted “section 70502 of title 46; and” for “section 2 of the Maritime Drug Law Enforcement Act (46 U.S.C. App. 1903).”

Subsec. (e)(5). Pub. L. 111-281, §917(b)(3), added par. (5).

CHAPTER 109A—SEXUAL ABUSE

Sec.	
2241.	Aggravated sexual abuse.
2242.	Sexual abuse.
2243.	Sexual abuse of a minor or ward.
2244.	Abusive sexual contact.
2245.	Sexual abuse resulting in death. ¹
2246.	Definitions for chapter.
2247.	Repeat offenders.
2248.	Mandatory restitution.

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 99-646 and Pub. L. 99-654 added identical chapters 109A.

AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-322, title IV, §§40111(c), 40113(a)(2), title VI, §60010(b), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 1903, 1907,

¹ Section catchline amended by Pub. L. 109-248 without corresponding amendment of chapter analysis.

1973, redesignated item 2245 as 2246 and added items 2245, 2247, and 2248.

§ 2241. Aggravated sexual abuse

(a) BY FORCE OR THREAT.—Whoever, in the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States or in a Federal prison, or in any prison, institution, or facility in which persons are held in custody by direction of or pursuant to a contract or agreement with the head of any Federal department or agency, knowingly causes another person to engage in a sexual act—

- (1) by using force against that other person; or
- (2) by threatening or placing that other person in fear that any person will be subjected to death, serious bodily injury, or kidnapping;

or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for any term of years or life, or both.

(b) BY OTHER MEANS.—Whoever, in the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States or in a Federal prison, or in any prison, institution, or facility in which persons are held in custody by direction of or pursuant to a contract or agreement with the head of any Federal department or agency, knowingly—

- (1) renders another person unconscious and thereby engages in a sexual act with that other person; or
- (2) administers to another person by force or threat of force, or without the knowledge or permission of that person, a drug, intoxicant, or other similar substance and thereby—

(A) substantially impairs the ability of that other person to appraise or control conduct; and

(B) engages in a sexual act with that other person;

or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for any term of years or life, or both.

(c) WITH CHILDREN.—Whoever crosses a State line with intent to engage in a sexual act with a person who has not attained the age of 12 years, or in the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States or in a Federal prison, or in any prison, institution, or facility in which persons are held in custody by direction of or pursuant to a contract or agreement with the head of any Federal department or agency, knowingly engages in a sexual act with another person who has not attained the age of 12 years, or knowingly engages in a sexual act under the circumstances described in subsections (a) and (b) with another person who has attained the age of 12 years but has not attained the age of 16 years (and is at least 4 years younger than the person so engaging), or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title and imprisoned for not less than 30 years or for life. If the defendant has previously been convicted of another Federal offense under this subsection, or of a State offense that would have been an offense under either such provision had the offense occurred in a Federal prison, unless the death penalty is imposed, the defendant shall be sentenced to life in prison.

(d) STATE OF MIND PROOF REQUIREMENT.—In a prosecution under subsection (c) of this section,

the Government need not prove that the defendant knew that the other person engaging in the sexual act had not attained the age of 12 years.

(Added Pub. L. 99-646, §87(b), Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3620, and Pub. L. 99-654, §2, Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3660; amended Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, §330021(1), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2150; Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title I, §101(a) [title I, §121[7(b)]], Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009, 3009-26, 3009-31; Pub. L. 105-314, title III, §301(a), Oct. 30, 1998, 112 Stat. 2978; Pub. L. 109-162, title XI, §1177(a)(1), (2), Jan. 5, 2006, 119 Stat. 3125; Pub. L. 109-248, title II, §§206(a)(1), 207(2), July 27, 2006, 120 Stat. 613, 615; Pub. L. 110-161, div. E, title V, §554, Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2082.)

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 99-646 and Pub. L. 99-654 added identical sections 2241.

AMENDMENTS

2007—Subsecs. (a) to (c). Pub. L. 110-161 substituted “the head of any Federal department or agency” for “the Attorney General”.

2006—Subsecs. (a), (b). Pub. L. 109-248, §207(2), inserted comma after “Attorney General” in introductory provisions.

Pub. L. 109-162, §1177(a)(1), inserted “or in any prison, institution, or facility in which persons are held in custody by direction of or pursuant to a contract or agreement with the Attorney General” after “in a Federal prison,” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 109-248 inserted comma after “Attorney General” and substituted “and imprisoned for not less than 30 years or for life” for “, imprisoned for any term of years or life, or both” in first sentence.

Pub. L. 109-162, §1177(a)(2), inserted “or in any prison, institution, or facility in which persons are held in custody by direction of or pursuant to a contract or agreement with the Attorney General” after “in a Federal prison,” in first sentence.

1998—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 105-314 substituted “younger than the person so engaging” for “younger than that person”.

1996—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 104-208 reenacted heading without change and amended text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “Whoever, in the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States or in a Federal prison, knowingly engages in a sexual act with another person who has not attained the age of 12 years, or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for any term of years or life, or both.”

1994—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 103-322 substituted “kidnapping” for “kidnaping”.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 99-646, §87(e), Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3624, and Pub. L. 99-654, §4, Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3664, provided, respectively, that: “This section and the amendments made by this section [see Short Title note below] shall take effect 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 10, 1986].” and “This Act and the amendments made by this Act [see Short Title note below] shall take effect 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 14, 1986].”

SHORT TITLE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title I, §101(a) [title I, §121[7(a)]], Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009, 3009-31, provided that: “This section [probably means subsec. 7 of section 121 of Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title I, §101(a), which amended sections 2241 and 2243 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Amber Hagerman Child Protection Act of 1996.’”

SHORT TITLE OF 1986 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 99-646, §87(a), Nov. 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3620, and Pub. L. 99-654, §1, Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3660, provided,