

(a) shall be fined not more than \$2,000,000 and shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment not less than 25 years or to imprisonment for life.

(2) OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES.—Any person who, in the course of a violation of subsection (a), uses, attempts or conspires to use, or possesses and threatens to use, any item or items described in subsection (a), shall be fined not more than \$2,000,000 and imprisoned for not less than 30 years or imprisoned for life.

(3) SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.—If the death of another results from a person's violation of subsection (a), the person shall be fined not more than \$2,000,000 and punished by imprisonment for life.

(Added Pub. L. 108-458, title VI, §6905, Dec. 17, 2004, 118 Stat. 3772.)

### § 2332i. Acts of nuclear terrorism

(a) OFFENSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Whoever knowingly and unlawfully—

(A) possesses radioactive material or makes or possesses a device—

(i) with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury; or

(ii) with the intent to cause substantial damage to property or the environment; or

(B) uses in any way radioactive material or a device, or uses or damages or interferes with the operation of a nuclear facility in a manner that causes the release of or increases the risk of the release of radioactive material, or causes radioactive contamination or exposure to radiation—

(i) with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury or with the knowledge that such act is likely to cause death or serious bodily injury;

(ii) with the intent to cause substantial damage to property or the environment or with the knowledge that such act is likely to cause substantial damage to property or the environment; or

(iii) with the intent to compel a person, an international organization or a country to do or refrain from doing an act,

shall be punished as prescribed in subsection (c).

(2) THREATS.—Whoever, under circumstances in which the threat may reasonably be believed, threatens to commit an offense under paragraph (1) shall be punished as prescribed in subsection (c). Whoever demands possession of or access to radioactive material, a device or a nuclear facility by threat or by use of force shall be punished as prescribed in subsection (c).

(3) ATTEMPTS AND CONSPIRACIES.—Whoever attempts to commit an offense under paragraph (1) or conspires to commit an offense under paragraph (1) or (2) shall be punished as prescribed in subsection (c).

(b) JURISDICTION.—Conduct prohibited by subsection (a) is within the jurisdiction of the United States if—

(1) the prohibited conduct takes place in the United States or the special aircraft jurisdiction of the United States;

(2) the prohibited conduct takes place outside of the United States and—

(A) is committed by a national of the United States, a United States corporation or legal entity or a stateless person whose habitual residence is in the United States;

(B) is committed on board a vessel of the United States or a vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States (as defined in section 70502 of title 46) or on board an aircraft that is registered under United States law, at the time the offense is committed; or

(C) is committed in an attempt to compel the United States to do or abstain from doing any act, or constitutes a threat directed at the United States;

(3) the prohibited conduct takes place outside of the United States and a victim or an intended victim is a national of the United States or a United States corporation or legal entity, or the offense is committed against any state or government facility of the United States; or

(4) a perpetrator of the prohibited conduct is found in the United States.

(c) PENALTIES.—Whoever violates this section shall be fined not more than \$2,000,000 and shall be imprisoned for any term of years or for life.

(d) NONAPPLICABILITY.—This section does not apply to—

(1) the activities of armed forces during an armed conflict, as those terms are understood under the law of war, which are governed by that law; or

(2) activities undertaken by military forces of a state in the exercise of their official duties.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term—

(1) “armed conflict” has the meaning given that term in section 2332f(e)(11) of this title;

(2) “device” means:

(A) any nuclear explosive device; or

(B) any radioactive material dispersal or radiation-emitting device that may, owing to its radiological properties, cause death, serious bodily injury or substantial damage to property or the environment;

(3) “international organization” has the meaning given that term in section 831(f)(3)<sup>1</sup> of this title;

(4) “military forces of a state” means the armed forces of a country that are organized, trained and equipped under its internal law for the primary purpose of national defense or security and persons acting in support of those armed forces who are under their formal command, control and responsibility;

(5) “national of the United States” has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(22) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(22));

(6) “nuclear facility” means:

(A) any nuclear reactor, including reactors on vessels, vehicles, aircraft or space objects for use as an energy source in order to propel such vessels, vehicles, aircraft or space objects or for any other purpose;

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

(B) any plant or conveyance being used for the production, storage, processing or transport of radioactive material; or

(C) a facility (including associated buildings and equipment) in which nuclear material is produced, processed, used, handled, stored or disposed of, if damage to or interference with such facility could lead to the release of significant amounts of radiation or radioactive material;

(7) “nuclear material” has the meaning given that term in section 831(f)(1)<sup>1</sup> of this title;

(8) “radioactive material” means nuclear material and other radioactive substances that contain nuclides that undergo spontaneous disintegration (a process accompanied by emission of one or more types of ionizing radiation, such as alpha-, beta-, neutron particles and gamma rays) and that may, owing to their radiological or fissile properties, cause death, serious bodily injury or substantial damage to property or to the environment;

(9) “serious bodily injury” has the meaning given that term in section 831(f)(4)<sup>1</sup> of this title;

(10) “state” has the same meaning as that term has under international law, and includes all political subdivisions thereof;

(11) “state or government facility” has the meaning given that term in section 2332f(e)(3) of this title;

(12) “United States corporation or legal entity” means any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of the United States or any State, Commonwealth, territory, possession or district of the United States;

(13) “vessel” has the meaning given that term in section 1502(19) of title 33;<sup>1</sup> and

(14) “vessel of the United States” has the meaning given that term in section 70502 of title 46.

(Added Pub. L. 114–23, title VIII, §811(a), June 2, 2015, 129 Stat. 309.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 831(f) of this title, referred to in subsec. (e)(3), (7), (9), was redesignated section 831(g) by Pub. L. 114–23, title VIII, §812(d), June 2, 2015, 129 Stat. 312.

Section 1502(19) of title 33, referred to in subsec. (e)(13), probably should be a reference to section 3(19) of the Deepwater Port Act of 1974, which is classified to section 1502(19) of Title 33, Navigation and Navigable Waters.

### § 2333. Civil remedies

(a) ACTION AND JURISDICTION.—Any national of the United States injured in his or her person, property, or business by reason of an act of international terrorism, or his or her estate, survivors, or heirs, may sue therefor in any appropriate district court of the United States and shall recover threefold the damages he or she sustains and the cost of the suit, including attorney’s fees.

(b) ESTOPPEL UNDER UNITED STATES LAW.—A final judgment or decree rendered in favor of the United States in any criminal proceeding under section 1116, 1201, 1203, or 2332 of this title or section 46314, 46502, 46505, or 46506 of title 49 shall

estop the defendant from denying the essential allegations of the criminal offense in any subsequent civil proceeding under this section.

(c) ESTOPPEL UNDER FOREIGN LAW.—A final judgment or decree rendered in favor of any foreign state in any criminal proceeding shall, to the extent that such judgment or decree may be accorded full faith and credit under the law of the United States, estop the defendant from denying the essential allegations of the criminal offense in any subsequent civil proceeding under this section.

(d) LIABILITY.—

(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term “person” has the meaning given the term in section 1 of title 1.

(2) LIABILITY.—In an action under subsection (a) for an injury arising from an act of international terrorism committed, planned, or authorized by an organization that had been designated as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189), as of the date on which such act of international terrorism was committed, planned, or authorized, liability may be asserted as to any person who aids and abets, by knowingly providing substantial assistance, or who conspires with the person who committed such an act of international terrorism.

(e) USE OF BLOCKED ASSETS TO SATISFY JUDGMENTS OF U.S. NATIONALS.—For purposes of section 201 of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 (28 U.S.C. 1610 note), in any action in which a national of the United States has obtained a judgment against a terrorist party pursuant to this section, the term “blocked asset” shall include any asset of that terrorist party (including the blocked assets of any agency or instrumentality of that party) seized or frozen by the United States under section 805(b) of the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act (21 U.S.C. 1904(b)).

(Added Pub. L. 102–572, title X, §1003(a)(4), Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4522; amended Pub. L. 103–429, §2(1), Oct. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 4377; Pub. L. 114–222, §4(a), Sept. 28, 2016, 130 Stat. 854; Pub. L. 115–253, §3(a), Oct. 3, 2018, 132 Stat. 3183.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 201 of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, referred to in subsec. (e), is section 201 of Pub. L. 107–297, of which subsecs. (a), (b), and (d) are set out as a note under section 1610 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure. For complete classification of section 201 to the Code, see Tables.

#### AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 115–253 added subsec. (e).

2016—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 114–222 added subsec. (d).

1994—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 103–429 substituted “section 46314, 46502, 46505, or 46506 of title 49” for “section 902(i), (k), (l), (n), or (r) of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 (49 U.S.C. App. 1472(i), (k), (l), (n), or (r))”.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 115–253, §3(b), Oct. 3, 2018, 132 Stat. 3184, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to any judgment entered before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act [Oct. 3, 2018].”