

who is on an American vessel or is otherwise under or within the jurisdiction of the United States, directly or indirectly—

(1) to set up, operate, or own or hold any interest in any gambling ship or any gambling establishment on any gambling ship; or

(2) in pursuance of the operation of any gambling establishment on any gambling ship, to conduct or deal any gambling game, or to conduct or operate any gambling device, or to induce, entice, solicit, or permit any person to bet or play at any such establishment,

if such gambling ship is on the high seas, or is an American vessel or otherwise under or within the jurisdiction of the United States, and is not within the jurisdiction of any State.

(b) Whoever violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than two years, or both.

(c) Whoever, being (1) the owner of an American vessel, or (2) the owner of any vessel under or within the jurisdiction of the United States, or (3) the owner of any vessel and being an American citizen, shall use, or knowingly permit the use of, such vessel in violation of any provision of this section shall, in addition to any other penalties provided by this chapter, forfeit such vessel, together with her tackle, apparel, and furniture, to the United States.

(Added May 24, 1949, ch. 139, §23, 63 Stat. 92; amended Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, §330016(1)(L), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 103-322 substituted “fined under this title” for “fined not more than \$10,000”.

§ 1083. Transportation between shore and ship; penalties

(a) It shall be unlawful to operate or use, or to permit the operation or use of, a vessel for the carriage or transportation, or for any part of the carriage or transportation, either directly or indirectly, of any passengers, for hire or otherwise, between a point or place within the United States and a gambling ship which is not within the jurisdiction of any State. This section does not apply to any carriage or transportation to or from a vessel in case of emergency involving the safety or protection of life or property.

(b) The Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe necessary and reasonable rules and regulations to enforce this section and to prevent violations of its provisions.

For the operation or use of any vessel in violation of this section or of any rule or regulation issued hereunder, the owner or charterer of such vessel shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$200 for each passenger carried or transported in violation of such provisions, and the master or other person in charge of such vessel shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$300. Such penalty shall constitute a lien on such vessel, and proceedings to enforce such lien may be brought summarily by way of libel in any court of the United States having jurisdiction thereof. The Secretary of the Treasury may mitigate or

remit any of the penalties provided by this section on such terms as he deems proper.

(Added May 24, 1949, ch. 139, §23, 63 Stat. 92.)

§ 1084. Transmission of wagering information; penalties

(a) Whoever being engaged in the business of betting or wagering knowingly uses a wire communication facility for the transmission in interstate or foreign commerce of bets or wagers or information assisting in the placing of bets or wagers on any sporting event or contest, or for the transmission of a wire communication which entitles the recipient to receive money or credit as a result of bets or wagers, or for information assisting in the placing of bets or wagers, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than two years, or both.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the transmission in interstate or foreign commerce of information for use in news reporting of sporting events or contests, or for the transmission of information assisting in the placing of bets or wagers on a sporting event or contest from a State or foreign country where betting on that sporting event or contest is legal into a State or foreign country in which such betting is legal.

(c) Nothing contained in this section shall create immunity from criminal prosecution under any laws of any State.

(d) When any common carrier, subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Communications Commission, is notified in writing by a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, acting within its jurisdiction, that any facility furnished by it is being used or will be used for the purpose of transmitting or receiving gambling information in interstate or foreign commerce in violation of Federal, State or local law, it shall discontinue or refuse, the leasing, furnishing, or maintaining of such facility, after reasonable notice to the subscriber, but no damages, penalty or forfeiture, civil or criminal, shall be found against any common carrier for any act done in compliance with any notice received from a law enforcement agency. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prejudice the right of any person affected thereby to secure an appropriate determination, as otherwise provided by law, in a Federal court or in a State or local tribunal or agency, that such facility should not be discontinued or removed, or should be restored.

(e) As used in this section, the term “State” means a State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United States.

(Added Pub. L. 87-216, §2, Sept. 13, 1961, 75 Stat. 491; amended Pub. L. 100-690, title VII, §7024, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4397; Pub. L. 101-647, title XII, §1205(g), Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4831; Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, §330016(1)(L), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 103-322 substituted “fined under this title” for “fined not more than \$10,000”.

1990—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 101-647 inserted “commonwealth,” before “territory or possession of the United States”.

1988—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 100-690, §7024(a), inserted “or foreign country” after “State” in two places.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 100-690, §7024(b)(2), struck out “, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, territory, possession, or the District of Columbia” after “State”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 100-690, §7024(b)(1), added subsec. (e).

SHORT TITLE

This section is popularly known as the “Wire Act”.

CHAPTER 50A—GENOCIDE

Sec.

1091.	Genocide.
1092.	Exclusive remedies.
1093.	Definitions.

§ 1091. Genocide

(a) BASIC OFFENSE.—Whoever, whether in time of peace or in time of war and with the specific intent to destroy, in whole or in substantial part, a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group as such—

- (1) kills members of that group;
- (2) causes serious bodily injury to members of that group;
- (3) causes the permanent impairment of the mental faculties of members of the group through drugs, torture, or similar techniques;
- (4) subjects the group to conditions of life that are intended to cause the physical destruction of the group in whole or in part;
- (5) imposes measures intended to prevent births within the group; or
- (6) transfers by force children of the group to another group;

shall be punished as provided in subsection (b).

(b) PUNISHMENT FOR BASIC OFFENSE.—The punishment for an offense under subsection (a) is—

- (1) in the case of an offense under subsection (a)(1), where death results, by death or imprisonment for life and a fine of not more than \$1,000,000, or both; and
- (2) a fine of not more than \$1,000,000 or imprisonment for not more than twenty years, or both, in any other case.

(c) INCITEMENT OFFENSE.—Whoever directly and publicly incites another to violate subsection (a) shall be fined not more than \$500,000 or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

(d) ATTEMPT AND CONSPIRACY.—Any person who attempts or conspires to commit an offense under this section shall be punished in the same manner as a person who completes the offense.

(e) JURISDICTION.—There is jurisdiction over the offenses described in subsections (a), (c), and (d) if—

- (1) the offense is committed in whole or in part within the United States; or
- (2) regardless of where the offense is committed, the alleged offender is—

(A) a national of the United States (as that term is defined in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101));

(B) an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States (as that term is defined in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101));

(C) a stateless person whose habitual residence is in the United States; or

(D) present in the United States.

(f) NONAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding section 3282, in the case of an offense under this section, an indictment may be found, or information instituted, at any time without limitation.

(Added Pub. L. 100-606, §2(a), Nov. 4, 1988, 102 Stat. 3045; amended Pub. L. 103-322, title VI, §60003(a)(13), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 1970; Pub. L. 107-273, div. B, title IV, §4002(a)(4), (b)(7), Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1806, 1808; Pub. L. 110-151, §2, Dec. 21, 2007, 121 Stat. 1821; Pub. L. 111-122, §3(a), Dec. 22, 2009, 123 Stat. 3481.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2009—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 111-122, §3(a)(1), struck out “, in a circumstance described in subsection (d)” before “and with the specific” in introductory provisions and “or attempts to do so,” before “shall be punished” in concluding provisions.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 111-122, §3(a)(2), struck out “in a circumstance described in subsection (d)” before “directly”.

Subsecs. (d) to (f). Pub. L. 111-122, §3(a)(3), (4), added subsecs. (d) to (f) and struck out former subsecs. (d) and (e) which related to the required circumstance for offenses referred to in subsecs. (a) and (c) and nonapplicability of certain limitations, respectively.

2007—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 110-151 added subsec. (d) and struck out former subsec. (d). Text of former subsec. (d) read as follows: “The circumstance referred to in subsections (a) and (c) is that—

“(1) the offense is committed within the United States; or

“(2) the alleged offender is a national of the United States (as defined in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101)).”

2002—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 107-273, §4002(b)(7), substituted “subsection (a)(1),” for “subsection (a)(1),”.

Pub. L. 107-273, §4002(a)(4), made technical correction to directory language of Pub. L. 103-322. See 1994 Amendment note below.

1994—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 103-322, as amended by Pub. L. 107-273, §4002(a)(4), substituted “, where death results, by death or imprisonment for life and a fine of not more than \$1,000,000, or both;” for “a fine of not more than \$1,000,000 and imprisonment for life.”

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 107-273, div. B, title IV, §4002(a)(4), Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1806, provided that the amendment made by section 4002(a)(4) is effective Sept. 13, 1994.

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 100-606, §1, Nov. 4, 1988, 102 Stat. 3045, provided that: “This Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Genocide Convention Implementation Act of 1987 (the Proxmire Act).’”

§ 1092. Exclusive remedies

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as precluding the application of State or local laws to the conduct proscribed by this chapter, nor shall anything in this chapter be construed as creating any substantive or procedural right enforceable by law by any party in any proceeding.

(Added Pub. L. 100-606, §2(a), Nov. 4, 1988, 102 Stat. 3046.)