117TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. 3066

To amend title 18, United States Code, to include Guam for purposes of statutes prohibiting trafficking in contraband cigarettes, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 7, 2021

Mr. SAN NICOLAS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to include Guam for purposes of statutes prohibiting trafficking in contraband cigarettes, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
- 4 This Act may be cited as the "Guam Cigarette Tax
- 5 Enforcement Act".
- 6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.
- 7 Congress finds as follows:
- 8 (1) There are many examples of disparities
- 9 within Federal law in its application to the United

- 1 States territories, including within the Federal 2 criminal code.
 - (2) The territory of Guam has lost significant revenue due to prolific trafficking of contraband cigarettes onto the island.
 - (3) Since Guam had increased its tobacco tax by 200 percent in 2010, local numbers have indicated that at least 98 million cigarettes are untaxed every three years, amounting to a loss of approximately \$14.6 million.
 - (4) Given its proximity to Asian countries where tobacco products, including cigarettes, are incredibly inexpensive, the propensity for cigarette trafficking leading to tax evasion is greater.
- 15 (5) Without the assistance of Federal enforce-16 ment and resources, Guam remains vulnerable to 17 cigarette trafficking and is at a high risk for tax 18 evasion.
- 19 SEC. 3. GUAM INCLUDED FOR PURPOSES OF STATUTES
- 20 **PROHIBITING TRAFFICKING IN CONTRABAND**
- 21 CIGARETTES.

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

- Section 2341 of title 18, United States Code, is
- 23 amended in paragraph (4), by inserting after "the Com-
- 24 monwealth of Puerto Rico," the following: "Guam,".