117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION **H. R. 7818**

To amend section 2441 of title 18, United States Code, to broaden the scope of individuals subject to prosecution for war crimes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 18, 2022

Mr. CICILLINE (for himself and Mrs. SPARTZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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A BILL

To amend section 2441 of title 18, United States Code, to broaden the scope of individuals subject to prosecution for war crimes.

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 "Justice for Victims

5 of War Crimes Act".

6 **SEC. 2. WAR CRIMES.**

7 Section 2441 of title 18, United States Code, is

8 amended—

9 (1) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the

10 following:

1   "(b) JURISDICTION.—There is jurisdiction over an

2 offense described in subsection (a) if—

3   "(1) the offense occurs in whole or in part with-

4   in the United States; or

5   "(2) regardless of where the offense occurs—

6   "(A) the victim or offender is—

7   "(i) a national of the United States or

8   an alien lawfully admitted for permanent

9   residence; or

10   "(ii) a member of the Armed Forces

11   of the United States, regardless of nation-

12   ality; or

13   "(B) the offender is present in the United

14   States, regardless of the nationality of the vic-

15   tim or offender."; and

16   (2) by adding at the end the following:

17   "(e) NONAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN LIMITA-

18 TIONS.—In the case of an offense described in subsection

19 (a), an indictment may be found or an information may

20 be instituted at any time without limitation.

21   "(f) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—No prosecu-

22 tion for an offense described in subsection (a) shall be un-

23 dertaken by the United States except on written certifi-

24 cation of the Attorney General or a designee that a pros-

1 ecution by the United States is in the public interest and

2 necessary to secure substantial justice.''.

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