



Current



[<< Previous](#) [TITLE 8 / CHAPTER 12 / SUBCHAPTER II / Part VIII / § 1321](#) [Next >>](#)

[\[Print\]](#) [\[Print selection\]](#)

[\[OLRC Home\]](#) [Help](#)

8 USC 1321: Prevention of unauthorized landing of aliens

Text contains those laws in effect on September 15, 2024

From Title 8-ALIENS AND NATIONALITY

CHAPTER 12-IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY

SUBCHAPTER II-IMMIGRATION

Part VIII-General Penalty Provisions

Jump To:

[Source Credit](#)

[Miscellaneous](#)

[Amendments](#)

[Effective Date](#)

§1321. Prevention of unauthorized landing of aliens

(a) Failure to report; penalties

It shall be the duty of every person, including the owners, masters, officers, and agents of vessels, aircraft, transportation lines, or international bridges or toll roads, other than transportation lines which may enter into a contract as provided in [section 1223 of this title](#), bringing an alien to, or providing a means for an alien to come to, the United States (including an alien crewman whose case is not covered by [section 1284\(a\) of this title](#)) to prevent the landing of such alien in the United States at a port of entry other than as designated by the Attorney General or at any time or place other than as designated by the immigration officers. Any such person, owner, master, officer, or agent who fails to comply with the foregoing requirements shall be liable to a penalty to be imposed by the Attorney General of \$3,000 for each such violation, which may, in the discretion of the Attorney General, be remitted or mitigated by him in accordance with such proceedings as he shall by regulation prescribe. Such penalty shall be a lien upon the vessel or aircraft whose owner, master, officer, or agent violates the provisions of this section, and such vessel or aircraft may be libeled therefor in the appropriate United States court.

(b) Prima facie evidence

Proof that the alien failed to present himself at the time and place designated by the immigration officers shall be prima facie evidence that such alien has landed in the United States at a time or place other than as designated by the immigration officers.

(c) Liability of owners and operators of international bridges and toll roads

(1) Any owner or operator of a railroad line, international bridge, or toll road who establishes to the satisfaction of the Attorney General that the person has acted diligently and reasonably to fulfill the duty imposed by subsection (a) shall not be liable for the penalty described in such subsection, notwithstanding the failure of the person to prevent the unauthorized landing of any alien.

(2)(A) At the request of any person described in paragraph (1), the Attorney General shall inspect any facility established, or any method utilized, at a point of entry into the United States by such person for the purpose of complying with subsection (a). The Attorney General shall approve any