



# IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

April 18th, 2021

Ms. TOWARD for herself,( Rep. KYOUKO, Rep. TOBY, Sen.  
DUNBAR, Sen. JOHNSON, Rep. HARRIS, Rep. PAGE, Rep.  
PLURIBUS, Rep. NOAH, Sen. WAYNE, Sen. JUSTICE, Sen.  
LIGHTWOOD ) introduced the following bill;

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## A BILL

To abolish the Federal Death Penalty in the United States

*Be it resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of  
America in Congress Assembled,*

### **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Federal Death Penalty Abolition Act of 2021.”

### **SEC. 2. ABOLITION OF THE FEDERAL DEATH PENALTY**

(a) Notwithstanding any previous or other provision of Federal Law, no person shall be sentenced to death for any crime by the United States of America, nor put to death by the United States of America for any crime on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) Notwithstanding any other previous or other provision of Federal Law, those Federal offenses which, immediately prior to the passage of this Act, allowed for the sentence of death may now be punished by life in prison without the opportunity for parole, if they are not already punishable by such a sentence.

(c) Those individuals currently sentenced to death for a Federal crime hereby have their sentence reduced to life imprisonment without the opportunity for parole.

### **SEC. 3. MILITARY LIMITATION**

(a) Except as otherwise provided for in this Act, no crime committed under the Uniform Code of Military Justice may be punished with the penalty of death.

(b) The exception to Section 3(a) of this Act is that the sentence of death may be issued to a soldier or other member of the military who commits mutiny while in active service to one or more of the branches of the Armed Forces of the United States during war time or when otherwise stationed in an area of imminent and ever-present danger, and when no other means can adequately protect the non-mutinous soldiers and other members of the military in their unit.

(c) The Department of Defense, within 120 days of the passage of this Act, shall more clearly define the instances in which Section 3(b) of this Act may be applicable.

### **SECTION. 4. REGULATION OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE**

(a) The sale, import, and transportation across state lines of any lethal gases, toxins, poisons, or other substances intended to inflict the death penalty, whether by lethal injection or asphyxiation or some other means, is prohibited.

(b) Any firm or individual who violates Section 4(a) of this Act shall have the compounds or substances in question confiscated and shall be fined \$1,000,000 per instance, as defined by the Department of Commerce.

(c) The sale, import, and transportation across state lines of any electric chair or other device intended to cause execution by lethal injection, which is not going to a museum or university or similar place for historical display or study, is prohibited.

(d) Any firm or individual who violates Section 4(c) of this Act shall have the devices in question confiscated and shall be fined \$1,000,000 per instance, as defined by the Department of Commerce.

(e) In order to be prosecuted under this Section, a person must have intended for the prohibited objects or devices to be used in an execution or in a crime.

### **SEC.5. FEDERAL RECOMMENDATION TO STATE GOVERNMENTS**

(a) This Congress declares its support for abolishing the penalty of death for state crimes.

- (b) This Congress encourages every governor or other state executive officer or officials, in whose power it rests to commute state sentences, to commute every sentence of death to a sentence of life in prison.

#### **SEC.6. ENACTMENT**

(a) If a provision of this legislation is or becomes illegal, invalid, or unenforceable in any jurisdiction, that shall not affect, the validity and enforceability in that jurisdiction of any other provision in this legislation; or the validity and enforceability in that jurisdiction of that or any other provision in this legislation.

- (b) This act shall be enacted immediately after enactment into law.

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(credit due to the original author Collin)