

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To criminalize the intentional obstruction of roadways on the Interstate System.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. CRAMER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To criminalize the intentional obstruction of roadways on the Interstate System.

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 “Safe Passage on Inter-
5 states Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. OBSTRUCTION OF INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 65 of title 18, United
8 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
9 lowing:

1 **“§ 1370. Obstruction of interstate highways**

2 “(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘inter-
3 state highway’ means a highway on the Interstate System
4 (as defined in section 101(a) of title 23).

5 “(b) OFFENSE.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—It shall be unlawful to
7 knowingly engage in an activity described in para-
8 graph (2) on an interstate highway with the intent
9 to obstruct the free, convenient, and normal use of
10 the interstate highway.

11 “(2) ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.—The activities
12 described in this paragraph are—

13 “(A) deliberately delaying traffic on an
14 interstate highway;

15 “(B) standing or approaching a motor ve-
16 hicle on an interstate highway; or

17 “(C) endangering the safe movement of a
18 motor vehicle on an interstate highway.

19 “(3) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not
20 apply to any lawful activity conducted or authorized
21 by the United States, a State, or a political subdivi-
22 sion of a State.

23 “(c) PENALTIES.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Any person who violates
25 subsection (b) shall be fined not more than \$10,000,
26 imprisoned for not more than 15 years, or both.

1 “(2) OBSTRUCTION OF EMERGENCY VEHI-
2 CLE.—Any person who, in the course of violating
3 subsection (b), knowingly obstructs the passage of
4 an authorized emergency vehicle (as defined in sec-
5 tion 1001.4 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations,
6 or any successor regulation) shall be fined not more
7 than \$15,000, imprisoned for not more than 20
8 years, or both.

9 “(3) VIOLATION RESULTING IN DEATH.—Any
10 person who commits a violation of subsection (b)
11 that results in the death of any other person shall
12 be fined not more than the applicable amount under
13 paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection, imprisoned
14 for any term of years or for life, or both.”.

15 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—
16 The table of sections for chapter 65 of title 18, United
17 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
18 lowing:

“1370. Obstruction of interstate highways.”.