

Union Calendar No. 4

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 386

[Report No. 112–11, Part I]

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for aiming laser pointers at airplanes, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 20, 2011

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California (for himself, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. HARPER, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Mr. GALLEGLY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

FEBRUARY 11, 2011

Additional sponsors: Mr. LONG, Ms. CHU, and Mr. COBLE

FEBRUARY 11, 2011

Reported from the Committee on the Judiciary

FEBRUARY 11, 2011

Committee on the Budget discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for aiming laser pointers at airplanes, 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 “Securing Aircraft
5 Cockpits Against Lasers Act of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION AGAINST AIMING A LASER POINTER**
7 **AT AN AIRCRAFT.**

8 (a) OFFENSE.—Chapter 2 of title 18, United States
9 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

10 **“§ 39A. Aiming a laser pointer at an aircraft**

11 “(a) Whoever knowingly aims the beam of a laser
12 pointer at an aircraft in the special aircraft jurisdiction
13 of the United States, or at the flight path of such an air-
14 craft, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not
15 more than 5 years, or both.

16 “(b) As used in this section, the term ‘laser pointer’
17 means any device designed or used to amplify electro-
18 magnetic radiation by stimulated emission that emits a
19 beam designed to be used by the operator as a pointer
20 or highlighter to indicate, mark, or identify a specific posi-
21 tion, place, item, or object.

22 “(c) This section does not prohibit aiming a beam
23 of a laser pointer at an aircraft, or the flight path of such
24 an aircraft, by—

1 “(1) an authorized individual in the conduct of
2 research and development or flight test operations
3 conducted by an aircraft manufacturer, the Federal
4 Aviation Administration, or any other person author-
5 ized by the Federal Aviation Administration to con-
6 duct such research and development or flight test
7 operations;

8 “(2) members or elements of the Department of
9 Defense or Department of Homeland Security acting
10 in an official capacity for the purpose of research,
11 development, operations, testing or training; or

12 “(3) by an individual using a laser emergency
13 signaling device to send an emergency distress sig-
14 nal.

15 “(d) The Attorney General, in consultation with the
16 Secretary of Transportation, may provide by regulation,
17 after public notice and comment, such additional excep-
18 tions to this section, as may be necessary and appropriate.
19 The Attorney General shall provide written notification of
20 any proposed regulations under this section to the Com-
21 mittees on the Judiciary of the House and Senate, the
22 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in the
23 House, and the Committee on Commerce, Science and
24 Transportation in the Senate not less than 90 days before
25 such regulations become final.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
2 at the beginning of chapter 2 of title 18, United States
3 Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to
4 section 39 the following new item:

“39A. Aiming a laser pointer at an aircraft.”.

5 **SEC. 3. COMPLIANCE WITH PAYGO.**

6 The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of
7 complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010,
8 shall be determined by reference to the latest statement
9 titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this
10 Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record
11 by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the
12 House of Representatives, provided that such statement
13 has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

Union Calendar No. 4

112TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

H. R. 386

[Report No. 112-11, Part I]

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for aiming laser pointers at airplanes, and for other purposes.

FEBRUARY 11, 2011

Committee on the Budget discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed