To improve enforcement against trafficking in cultural property and prevent stolen or illicit cultural property from financing terrorist and criminal networks, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 13, 2015

Mr. KEATING (for himself, Mr. McCaul, and Mr. Engel) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Homeland Security and the Judiciary, 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.

DECEMBER 15, 2016

Reported from the Committee on Homeland Security with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

Additional sponsors: Mr. Langevin, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Higgins, Mr. Royce, Mr. Katko, Mr. Barletta, Mrs. Lowey, Mr. Brendan F. Boyle of Pennsylvania, Mr. Schiff, Mr. Barr, Ms. Jackson Lee, Mr. Cicilline, Mr. Thompson of Mississippi, Mr. Pittenger, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mr. McGovern, and Mr. David Scott of Georgia

SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

Reported from the Committee on Ways and Means with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in boldface roman]

SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

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

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on May 13, 2015]
A BILL

To improve enforcement against trafficking in cultural property and prevent stolen or illicit cultural property from financing terrorist and criminal networks, and for other purposes.
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Prevent Trafficking in
Cultural Property Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITION.

In this Act, the term “cultural property” includes
property covered under—

(1) Article 1 of the Hague Convention for the
Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of
Armed Conflict, adopted at the Hague on May 14,
1954 (Treaty 13 Doc. 106–1(A)); or

(2) Article 1 of the Convention on the Means of
Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Ex-
port, and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Prop-
erty, adopted by the United Nations Educational,

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It shall be the policy of the United States to—

(1) ensure the components of the Department of
Homeland Security enhance and unify efforts to—

(A) interdict, detain, seize, and investigate
cultural property illegally imported into the
United States;
(B) disrupt and dismantle smuggling and trafficking networks and transnational criminal organizations engaged in, conspiring to engage in, or facilitating illegal trade in cultural property, including stolen antiquities used to finance terrorism; and

(C) support Offices of United States Attorneys in prosecuting persons engaged in, conspiring to engage in, or facilitating illegal trade in cultural property; and


SEC. 4. ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall—

(1) designate a principal coordinator within U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immig-
igration and Customs Enforcement, respectively, to di-
rect, manage, coordinate, and update their respective
policies and procedures, as well as conduct inter-
agency communications, regarding illegally imported
cultural property;

(2) update existing directives, regulations, rules,
and memoranda of understanding of U.S. Customs
and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and
Customs Enforcement, respectively, and, if necessary,
devise additional directives, regulations, rules, and
memoranda of understanding, relating to policies and
procedures on the illegal importation of cultural
property in order to—

(A) reflect changes in cultural property law,
including changes and updates to relevant trea-
ties, bilateral agreements, statutes, regulations,
and case law that occurred subsequent to Cus-
toms Directive No. 5230–015, “Customs Direc-
tive on Detention and Seizure of Cultural Prop-
erty”, dated April 18, 1991;

(B) emphasize investigating, and providing
support for investigations and prosecutions, of
persons engaged in, conspiring to engage in, or
facilitating the illegal importation of cultural
property, including smugglers, dealers, buyers,
money launderers, and any other appropriate parties; and

(C) provide for communication and coordination between relevant U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement offices, respectively, in investigating and supporting prosecutions of persons engaged in, conspiring to engage in, or facilitating the illegal importation of cultural property; and

(3) ensure relevant personnel within U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, respectively, receive sufficient training in—

(A) relevant cultural property laws;

(B) the identification of cultural property that is at greatest risk of looting and trafficking; and

(C) methods of interdiction and investigative techniques specifically related to illegal trade in cultural property.

SEC. 5. ROLE OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

The Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure that the heads of all components of the Department of Homeland Security involved in cultural property protection activities
are authorized to enter into agreements or memoranda of
understanding with the Smithsonian Institution to tempo-
rarily engage personnel from the Smithsonian Institution
for the purposes of furthering such cultural property protec-
tion activities.

SEC. 6. REPORT.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment
of this Act and three years thereafter, the Commissioner of
U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Commissioner
of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall joint-
ly submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and the
Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representa-
tives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-
ernmental Affairs and the Committee on Finance of the
Senate a report on—

(1) the progress of the implementation of this
Act; and

(2) other actions to enhance and unify efforts to
interdict, detain, seize, and investigate cultural prop-
erty illegally imported into the United States, and in-
vestigate, disrupt, and dismantle smuggling and traf-
ficking networks engaged in, conspiring to engage in,
or facilitating the illegal importation of cultural
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(1) ensure the components of the Department of Homeland Security enhance and unify efforts to—
(A) interdict, detain, seize, and investigate cultural property illegally imported into the United States;

(B) disrupt and dismantle smuggling and trafficking networks and transnational criminal organizations engaged in, conspiring to engage in, or facilitating illegal trade in cultural property, including stolen antiquities used to finance terrorism; and

(C) support Offices of United States Attorneys in prosecuting persons engaged in, conspiring to engage in, or facilitating illegal trade in cultural property; and


SEC. 4. ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

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(1) designate a principal coordinator within U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, respectively, to direct, manage, coordinate, and update their respective policies and procedures, as well as conduct interagency communications, regarding illegally imported cultural property;

(2) update existing directives, regulations, rules, and memoranda of understanding of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, respectively, and, if necessary, devise additional directives, regulations, rules, and memoranda of understanding, relating to policies and pro-
cedures on the illegal importation of cultural property in order to—

(A) reflect changes in cultural property law, including changes and updates to relevant treaties, bilateral agreements, statutes, regulations, and case law that occurred subsequent to Customs Directive No. 5230–015, “Customs Directive on Detention and Seizure of Cultural Property”, dated April 18, 1991;

(B) emphasize investigating, and providing support for investigations and prosecutions, of persons engaged in, conspiring to engage in, or facilitating the illegal importation of cultural property, including smugglers, dealers, buyers, money launderers, and any other appropriate parties; and

(C) provide for communication and coordination between relevant U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement offices, respectively, in
investigating and supporting prosecutions of persons engaged in, conspiring to engage in, or facilitating the illegal importation of cultural property; and

(3) ensure relevant personnel within U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, respectively, receive sufficient training in—

(A) relevant cultural property laws;

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The Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure that the heads of all components of the Department of Homeland Security involved in cultural property protection activities are authorized to enter into agreements or memo-
manda of understanding with the Smithsonian Institution to temporarily engage personnel from the Smithsonian Institution for the purposes of furthering such cultural property protection activities.

SEC. 6. REPORT.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and three years thereafter, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Commissioner of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall jointly submit to the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on—

(1) the progress of the implementation of this Act; and

(2) other actions to enhance and unify efforts to interdict, detain, seize, and investigate cultural property illegally imported into the United States, and investigate, disrupt, and dismantle smuggling and trafficking networks en-
gaged in, conspiring to engage in, or fa-

cilitating the illegal importation of cul-

tural property.
A BILL

To improve enforcement against trafficking in cultural property and prevent stolen or illicit cultural property from financing terrorist and criminal networks, and for other purposes.

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