

Public Law 94-408
94th Congress

An Act

To provide for protection of the spouses of major Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees.

Sept. 11, 1976
[H.R. 15371]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subsection (a) of the first section of the Act of June 6, 1968, Public Law 90-331, 82 Stat. 170, is amended by adding the following sentence at the end thereof: "Upon request of a Presidential or Vice Presidential nominee of a major political party, as determined by the Secretary after consultation with the advisory committee, the Secretary may authorize the United States Secret Service to furnish protection to the spouse of such major Presidential or Vice Presidential nominee, except that such protection shall not commence more than sixty days prior to the general Presidential election."

Presidential candidates. Spouse protection. 18 USC 3056 note.

SEC. 2. Section 3056 of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(a) Subject to the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, the United States Secret Service, Treasury Department, is authorized to protect the person of the President of the United States, the members of his immediate family, the President-elect, the Vice President or other officer next in the order of succession to the Office of President, and the Vice President-elect, and the members of their immediate families unless the members decline such protection; protect the person of a former President and his wife during his lifetime, the person of a widow of a former President until her death or remarriage, and minor children of a former President until they reach sixteen years of age, unless such protection is declined; protect the person of a visiting head of a foreign state or foreign government and, at the direction of the President, other distinguished foreign visitors to the United States and official representatives of the United States performing special missions abroad; detect and arrest any person committing any offense against the laws of the United States relating to coins, obligations, and securities of the United States and of foreign governments; detect and arrest any person violating any of the provisions of sections 508, 509, and 871 of this title and, insofar as the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Federal land banks, joint-stock land banks and Federal land bank associations are concerned, of sections 218, 221, 433, 493, 657, 709, 1006, 1007, 1011, 1013, 1014, 1907, and 1909 of this title; execute warrants issued under the authority of the United States; carry firearms; offer and pay rewards for services or information looking toward the apprehension of criminals; pay expenses for unforeseen emergencies of a confidential nature under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury and accounted for solely on his certificate; and perform such other functions and duties as are authorized by law. In the performance of their duties under this section, the Director, Deputy Director, Assistant Directors, Assistants to the Director, inspectors, and agents of the Secret Service are authorized to make arrests without warrant for any offense against the United States committed in their presence, or for any felony cognizable under the laws of the United States if they have reasonable grounds to believe that the

Secret Service powers.

18 USC 508, 509, 871.

18 USC 218, 221, 433, 493, 657, 709, 1006, 1007, 1011, 1013, 1014, 1907, 1909.

person to be arrested has committed or is committing such felony. Moneys expended from Secret Service appropriations for the purchase of counterfeits and subsequently recovered shall be reimbursed to the appropriation current at the time of deposit.

Penalty.

“(b) Whoever knowingly and willfully obstructs, resists, or interferes with an agent of the United States Secret Service or other Federal law enforcement agent engaged in the performance of the protective functions authorized by this section, by the Act of June 6, 1968 (82 Stat. 170) or by section 1752 of title 18, United States Code, shall be fined not more than \$300 or imprisoned not more than one year or both.”

Approved September 11, 1976.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):

Sept. 2, considered and passed House.

Sept. 7, considered and passed Senate.