

Public Law 115–249  
115th Congress

An Act

Sept. 28, 2018  
[S. 994]

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for the protection of community centers with religious affiliation, and for other purposes.

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

Protecting  
Religiously  
Affiliated  
Institutions Act  
of 2018.  
18 USC 1 note.

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Protecting Religiously Affiliated Institutions Act of 2018”.

**SEC. 2. PROTECTION OF COMMUNITY CENTERS WITH RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION.**

Section 247 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2), by inserting after “threat of force,” the following: “including by threat of force against religious real property,”;

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “or (c)” after “subsection (a)”;

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking “and” at the end;

(C) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5);

and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

“(4) if damage to or destruction of property results from the acts committed in violation of this section, which damage to or destruction of such property is in an amount that exceeds \$5,000, a fine in accordance with this title, imprisonment for not more than 3 years, or both; and”;

(3) in subsection (f), by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, or real property owned or leased by a nonprofit, religiously affiliated organization”.

Approved September 28, 2018.

---

**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 994 (H.R. 1730):**

**HOUSE REPORTS:** No. 115–456 (Comm. on the Judiciary) accompanying H.R. 1730.

**SENATE REPORTS:** No. 115–325 (Comm. on the Judiciary).

**CONGRESSIONAL RECORD,** Vol. 164 (2018):

Sept. 4, considered and passed Senate.

Sept. 7, considered and passed House.

