

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 194

To amend chapter 211 of title 18, United States Code, to modify venue for certain offenses.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2025

Mr. SELF (for himself and Mr. NEHLS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend chapter 211 of title 18, United States Code, to modify venue for certain offenses.

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 “Venue Named Under
5 Exception Act” or the “VENUE Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. VENUE FOR CERTAIN OFFENSES.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 211 of title 18, United
8 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
9 lowing:

1 **“§ 3245. Offenses committed in the National Capital**
2 **Region**

3 “(a) OFFENSES IN NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION.—In
4 the case of an offense that is committed in the National
5 Capital Region on property under the control of the Fed-
6 eral Government, an indictment or information shall be
7 filed in the district of the last known residence of the of-
8 fender or of any one of two or more joint offenders, or
9 if no such residence is known, the indictment or informa-
10 tion may be filed in the District of Columbia.

11 “(b) TRANSFER.—

12 “(1) RIGHT TO TRANSFER.—Notwithstanding
13 subsection (a), a district court shall, upon motion of
14 the defendant, grant a transfer of an indictment or
15 information to the district court encompassing the
16 jurisdiction where the defendant is domiciled.

17 “(2) MULTIPLE DEFENDANTS.—If multiple de-
18 fendants file a motion to transfer an indictment or
19 information under paragraph (1), the district court
20 shall grant the motion of the defendant who filed the
21 motion first.

22 “(3) DEFENDANTS NOT DOMICILED IN THE
23 UNITED STATES.—A defendant not domiciled in the
24 United States may not file a motion to transfer an
25 indictment or information under paragraph (1).

26 “(c) DEFINITION.—In this section:

1 “(1) The term ‘National Capital Region’ means
2 the geographic area located within the boundaries
3 of—

4 “(A) the District of Columbia;

5 “(B) Montgomery and Prince George’s
6 Counties in the State of Maryland;

7 “(C) Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and
8 Prince William Counties and the Cities of Alex-
9 andria and Falls Church in the Commonwealth
10 of Virginia; and

11 “(D) all cities and other units of govern-
12 ment within the geographic areas of such Dis-
13 trict, Counties, and City.

14 “(2) The term ‘property under the control of
15 the Federal Government’ means property owned or
16 leased by the United States, or any agency thereof,
17 except in the case of the United States Postal Serv-
18 ice.

19 “(d) PENDING CASES.—This section shall apply to
20 any offense with respect to which a trial has not been
21 scheduled as of the date of enactment of this section.

22 “(e) LIMITATION.—This section shall only apply to
23 an offense not otherwise subject to section 3235, 3236,
24 3237, 3238, 3239, 3241, 3242, 3243 or 3244.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
2 for chapter 211 of title 18, United States Code, is amend-
3 ed by adding at the end the following:

“3245. Offenses committed in the National Capital Region.”.

