

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4034

To authorize the establishment of a program to combat oil theft in the
Permian Basin.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 17, 2025

Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas introduced the following bill; which was
referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To authorize the establishment of a program to combat oil
theft in the Permian Basin.

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 “Protect the Permian
5 Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. PERMIAN BASIN OIL THEFT TASK FORCE.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Federal Bu-
8 reau of Investigation is authorized to establish a program
9 to combat oil theft in the Permian Basin to be carried

1 out through the Permian Basin Oil Theft Task Force
2 (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the “task force”).

3 (b) COORDINATION.—In carrying out the program es-
4 tablished pursuant to subsection (a), the Director of the
5 Federal Bureau of Investigation shall coordinate with the
6 heads of relevant State, local, and Tribal law enforcement
7 organizations, including other relevant organizations, at
8 the Director’s discretion, with expertise in the oil and gas
9 industry, such as the Railroad Commission of Texas.

10 (c) COMPOSITION.—The task force shall consist of
11 not fewer than 2 full time employees of the Federal Bu-
12 reau of Investigation, one of whom shall be the head of
13 the task force, and may include such local, State, and trib-
14 al law enforcement partners as the Director of the Federal
15 Bureau of Investigation determines appropriate.

16 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
17 of enactment of this Act and annually thereafter, the task
18 force shall submit to the President and relevant congres-
19 sional committees a report on all task force activities, in-
20 cluding—

21 (1) the number of criminal charges brought and
22 convictions resulting from the task force’s activities;
23 and

24 (2) a detailed account of all funds obligated for
25 task force operational and administrative costs.

1 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to be appropriated not less than \$100,000 and
3 not more than \$1,000,000 to carry out this section.

4 (f) RELEVANT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—For
5 purposes of this section, the term “relevant congressional
6 committees” means—

7 (1) the Committee on Appropriations of the
8 Senate;

9 (2) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Sen-
10 ate;

11 (3) the Committee on Appropriations of the
12 House of Representatives; and

13 (4) the Committee on the Judiciary of the
14 House of Representatives.

15 **SEC. 3. ENHANCING CRIMINAL PENALTIES.**

16 (a) INTERSTATE OR FOREIGN SHIPMENTS BY CAR-
17 RIER; STATE PROSECUTIONS.—Section 659 of title 18,
18 United States Code, is amended—

19 (1) by inserting after “pipeline system” the fol-
20 lowing: “or oil refinery or related asset”;

21 (2) by striking “3 years” and inserting “5
22 years”; and

23 (3) by striking “10 years” and inserting “15
24 years”.

1 (b) TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN GOODS, SECURI-
 2 TIES, MONEYS, FRAUDULENT STATE TAX STAMPS, OR
 3 ARTICLES USED IN COUNTERFEITING.—Section 2314 of
 4 such title is amended—

5 (1) by inserting after “goods, wares, merchan-
 6 dise,” the following: “oil, pipeline, oil and gas equip-
 7 ment or technology,”;

8 (2) by striking “one year” and inserting “5
 9 years”; and

10 (3) by striking “ten years” and inserting “15
 11 years”.

12 (c) SALE OR RECEIPT OF STOLEN GOODS, SECURI-
 13 TIES, MONEYS, OR FRAUDULENT STATE TAX STAMPS.—
 14 Section 2315 of such title is amended by striking “ten
 15 years” and inserting “15 years”.

16 **SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZED USE OF BYRNE JAG**
 17 **FUNDS.**

18 Section 501(a)(1) of the Omnibus Crime Control and
 19 Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10152(a)(1)) is
 20 amended by adding at the end the following:

21 “(J) Programs to reduce or combat oil
 22 theft and related crimes (including theft of
 23 pipes, technology, equipment, or other assets re-
 24 lated to oil refineries or pipelines), as well as

1 the hiring of personnel dedicated to inves-
2 tigating and preventing oil theft.”.

○