

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9013

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide that unlawful interstate transportation of fireworks is specified unlawful activity for purposes of laundering of monetary instruments.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 2026

Mr. CASE (for himself and Ms. TOKUDA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide that unlawful interstate transportation of fireworks is specified unlawful activity for purposes of laundering of monetary instruments.

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 “Fireworks Trafficking
5 and Money Laundering Prevention Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Illegal fireworks trafficking is a multi-
2 faceted criminal activity involving the transportation,
3 distribution, and sale of explosive materials in viola-
4 tion of Federal and State laws.

5 (2) Law enforcement actions across the United
6 States have demonstrated that individuals engaged
7 in illegal fireworks trafficking frequently participate
8 in related financial crimes, including money laun-
9 dering, and may accumulate substantial illicit pro-
10 ceeds and assets subject to forfeiture.

11 (3) Investigations have revealed that illegal fire-
12 works are often transported across state lines and
13 sold at significant markups, creating highly profit-
14 able black-market operations that can persist over
15 many years.

16 (4) The use of illegal fireworks has resulted in
17 numerous incidents causing serious injuries, mass
18 casualty events, and fatalities, including some of the
19 deadliest explosions and accidents in recent history.

20 (5) Fireworks-related injuries place a signifi-
21 cant burden on emergency response systems and
22 healthcare infrastructure, with thousands of individ-
23 uals requiring emergency medical treatment each
24 year.

1 (6) Illegal trafficking of fireworks poses sub-
2 stantial risks to public safety, as such explosives are
3 often manufactured, transported, stored, and used
4 without proper safety standards, increasing the like-
5 lihood of fires, explosions, injuries, and deaths.

6 (7) Illegal fireworks trafficking is frequently
7 linked to broader criminal activity, including drug
8 trafficking, financial crimes, and organized criminal
9 enterprises, which may use fireworks distribution
10 networks to generate revenue, launder money, and
11 evade law enforcement oversight.

12 (8) The investigation and prosecution of illegal
13 interstate fireworks trafficking are often constrained
14 by the limited statutory penalties, which provide for
15 a maximum term of imprisonment of one year,
16 thereby reducing the prioritization of such offenses
17 relative to more serious Federal crimes, and pro-
18 viding an insufficient disincentive to engage in illegal
19 activity especially as compared to the large financial
20 incentives to do so.

21 (9) Designating illegal interstate fireworks traf-
22 ficking as a specified unlawful activity for purposes
23 of laundering of monetary instruments will strength-
24 en law enforcement efforts by authorizing the appli-
25 cation of Federal money laundering statutes to the

1 proceeds of illegal fireworks trafficking, thereby en-
2 hancing investigative tools, disrupting criminal fi-
3 nancial networks, and increasing the maximum term
4 of imprisonment to up to twenty years.

5 **SEC. 3. UNLAWFUL INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF**
6 **FIREWORKS TO BE CONSIDERED SPECIFIED**
7 **UNLAWFUL ACTIVITY FOR PURPOSES OF**
8 **LAUNDERING OF MONETARY INSTRUMENTS.**

9 Section 1956(c)(7)(D) of title 18, United States
10 Code, is amended by inserting “section 836 (relating to
11 interstate transportation of fireworks),” after “section
12 831 (relating to prohibited transactions involving nuclear
13 materials),”.

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