

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8272

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit physically impeding an ambulance from providing emergency medical treatment, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit physically impeding an ambulance from providing emergency medical treatment, and for other purposes.

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 “Emergency Services
5 Access Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON BLOCKING AMBULANCES AT HOS-**
2 **PITAL ENTRANCES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 65 of title 18, United
4 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 **“§ 1370. Blocking ambulances at hospital entrances**

7 “Whoever travels in interstate or foreign commerce
8 or uses any facility of interstate or foreign commerce, and
9 thereafter knowingly physically impedes an ambulance or
10 other emergency vehicle, or an emergency medical techni-
11 cian assigned to such vehicle from—

12 “(1) providing treatment to an individual in
13 need of emergency medical treatment; or

14 “(2) accessing the entrance to a hospital, in the
15 case of a vehicle transporting an individual in need
16 of emergency medical treatment,

17 shall be imprisoned for not more than 5 years or fined
18 under this title, or both, or if death results, imprisoned
19 for any term of years or for life, or fined under this title,
20 or both.”.

21 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
22 for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the fol-
23 lowing:

“1370. Blocking ambulances at hospital entrances.”.

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