

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3228

To amend section 249 of title 18, United States Code, relating to hate crimes, to clarify the motive requirement.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 28, 2020

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend section 249 of title 18, United States Code, relating to hate crimes, to clarify the motive requirement.

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 “Justice for Victims
5 of Hate Crimes Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MOTIVE REQUIREMENT FOR HATE CRIMES.**

7 Section 249(e) of title 18, United States Code, is
8 amended—

9 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through
10 (5) as paragraphs (2) through (6), respectively; and

1 (2) by inserting before paragraph (2), as so re-
2 designated, the following:

3 “(1) the term ‘because of’ means that the ac-
4 tual or perceived protected characteristic of the vic-
5 tim was a substantial motivating factor in the of-
6 fense;”.

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