

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3330

To amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to civil rights related crimes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 21, 1993

Mr. CONYERS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to
civil rights related crimes.

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 “Civil Rights Crimes
5 Act of 1993”.

6 **SEC. 2. REVISION OF SECTION 242.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 242 of title 18 of the
8 United States Code is amended to read as follows:

9 **“§ 242. Interfering with civil rights**

10 “(a) OFFENSE.—Whoever—

1 “(1) under color of law, intentionally engages in
2 conduct and thereby recklessly deprives another per-
3 son of a right, privilege, or immunity secured or pro-
4 tected by the Constitution or laws of the United
5 States; or

6 “(2) intentionally injures, oppresses, threatens,
7 or intimidates another person because of such other
8 person’s having exercised a right, privilege, or immu-
9 nity secured or protected by the Constitution or laws
10 of the United States;

11 or attempts to do so, shall be punished as provided in sub-
12 section (b) of this section.

13 “(b) PUNISHMENT.—The punishment for an offense
14 under this section is—

15 “(1) a fine under this title or imprisonment for
16 life or for any term of years, or both such fine and
17 imprisonment, if the defendant intends to produce
18 bodily injury and recklessly causes the death of any
19 person;

20 “(2) a fine under this title or imprisonment for
21 not longer than 10 years, or both such fine and im-
22 prisonment, if the defendant intentionally causes
23 bodily injury to another person; and

1 “(3) a fine under this title or imprisonment for
2 not longer than 1 year, or both such fine and impris-
3 onment, in any other case.

4 “(c) QUESTION OF LAW.—In a prosecution under
5 this subsection, it is a question of law (as to which no
6 state of mind need be proved) whether what the victim
7 was deprived of or exercised was a right, privilege, or im-
8 munity secured or protected by the Constitution or laws
9 of the United States.”.

10 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
11 at the beginning of chapter 13 of title 18 of the United
12 States Code is amended so that the item relating to sec-
13 tion 242 reads as follows:

“242. Injuries and deprivations of rights under color of law.”.

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