

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1031

To protect Federal law enforcement officers who intervene in certain situations to protect life or prevent bodily injury.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 17, 1997

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. D'AMATO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To protect Federal law enforcement officers who intervene in certain situations to protect life or prevent bodily injury.

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 “Federal Law Enforce-
5 ment Officers’ Good Samaritan Act of 1997”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROTECTION OF FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OF-**

7 **FICERS WHO INTERVENE IN CERTAIN SITUA-**

8 **TIONS TO PROTECT LIFE OR TO PREVENT**

9 **BODILY INJURY.**

10 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

1 (1) the term “bodily injury” has the meaning
2 given that term in section 1365(g) of title 18, United
3 States Code;

4 (2) the term “crime of violence” has the mean-
5 ing given that term in section 16 of title 18, United
6 States Code;

7 (3) the term “law enforcement officer” has the
8 meaning given that term in section 8401 of title 5,
9 United States Code; and

10 (4) the term “serious bodily injury” has the
11 meaning given that term in section 1365(g) of title
12 18, United States Code.

13 (b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Notwithstanding any
14 other provision of law, for purposes of chapter 171 of title
15 28, United States Code, a law enforcement officer shall
16 be construed to be acting within the scope of his or her
17 office or employment, if the officer takes any action, in-
18 cluding the use of force, that is determined by the officer
19 to be necessary to—

20 (1) protect an individual in the presence of the
21 officer from the imminent infliction of serious bodily
22 injury;

23 (2) provide immediate assistance to an individ-
24 ual who has suffered or who is threatened with seri-
25 ous bodily injury; or

1 (3) prevent the escape of any individual whom
2 the officer reasonably believes to have committed in
3 the presence of the officer a crime of violence.

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