

107TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4640

To provide criminal penalties for providing false information in registering a domain name on the Internet.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 2, 2002

Mr. COBLE (for himself and Mr. BERMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To provide criminal penalties for providing false information in registering a domain name on the Internet.

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. CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR FALSE INFORMA-**  
4 **TION IN REGISTRATION OF DOMAIN NAMES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 47 of title 18, United  
6 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
7 lowing new section:

1 **“§ 1037. Fraudulent information in registering do-**  
2 **main name**

3 “(a) OFFENSE.—Whoever knowingly and with intent  
4 to defraud provides material and misleading false contact  
5 information to a domain name registrar, domain name  
6 registry, or other domain name registration authority in  
7 registering a domain name shall be fined under this title  
8 or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.

9 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

10 “(1) the term ‘domain name’ means any alpha-  
11 numeric designation which is registered with or as-  
12 signed by a domain name registrar, domain name  
13 registry, or other domain name registration author-  
14 ity as part of an electronic address on the Internet;  
15 and

16 “(2) the term ‘Internet’ has the meaning given  
17 that term in section 230(f)(1) of the Communica-  
18 tions Act of 1034 (47 U.S.C. 230(f)(1)).”.

19 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
20 tions for chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, is  
21 amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“1037. Fraudulent information in registering domain name.”.

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