

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 115

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide additional aggravating factors for the imposition of the death penalty based on the status of the victim.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2017

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

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## A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide additional aggravating factors for the imposition of the death penalty based on the status of the victim.

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 “Thin Blue Line Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. AGGRAVATING FACTORS FOR DEATH PENALTY.**

6 Section 3592(c) of title 18, United States Code, is  
7 amended by inserting after paragraph (16) the following:

8 “(17) KILLING OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFI-  
9 CER.—

1           “(A) The defendant killed or attempted to  
2 kill, in the circumstance described in subpara-  
3 graph (B), a person who is authorized by law—

4                   “(i) to engage in or supervise the pre-  
5 vention, detention, investigation, or pros-  
6 ecution, or the incarceration of any person  
7 for any criminal violation of law;

8                   “(ii) to apprehend, arrest, or pros-  
9 ecute an individual for any criminal viola-  
10 tion of law; or

11                   “(iii) to be a firefighter or other first  
12 responder.

13           “(B) The circumstance referred to in sub-  
14 paragraph (A) is that the person was killed—

15                   “(i) while he or she was engaged in  
16 the performance of his or her official du-  
17 ties;

18                   “(ii) because of the performance of his  
19 or her official duties; or

20                   “(iii) because of his or her status as  
21 a public official or employee.”.

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