

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5500

To require the Attorney General to establish an office in the Department of Justice to monitor acts of international terrorism alleged to have been committed by Palestinian individuals or individuals acting on behalf of Palestinian organizations and to carry out certain other related activities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 19, 2000

Mr. ANDREWS (for himself, Mr. WEINER, and Mr. BENTSEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To require the Attorney General to establish an office in the Department of Justice to monitor acts of international terrorism alleged to have been committed by Palestinian individuals or individuals acting on behalf of Palestinian organizations and to carry out certain other related activities.

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 American
5 Victims of Terrorism Act of 2000”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Since 1948, many United States citizens
4 have been injured or killed in terrorist attacks com-
5 mitted by Palestinian individuals and organizations
6 in and outside of the Middle East.

7 (2) Under United States law, individuals who
8 commit acts of international terrorism outside of the
9 United States against nationals of the United States
10 may be prosecuted for such acts in the United
11 States.

12 (3) The United States has taken a special inter-
13 est and active role in resolving the Israeli-Pales-
14 tinian conflict, including numerous diplomatic efforts
15 to facilitate a resolution of the conflict and the pro-
16 vision of financial assistance to Palestinian organiza-
17 tions.

18 (4) However, despite these diplomatic efforts
19 and financial assistance, little has been done to ap-
20 prehend, indict, prosecute, and convict Palestinian
21 individuals who have committed terrorist attacks
22 against nationals of the United States.

1 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE IN THE DEPARTMENT**
2 **OF JUSTICE TO MONITOR TERRORIST ACTS**
3 **BY PALESTINIAN INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANI-**
4 **ZATIONS AND CARRY OUT RELATED ACTIVI-**
5 **TIES.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall estab-
7 lish within the Department of Justice an office to carry
8 out the following activities:

9 (1) Monitor acts of international terrorism al-
10 leged to have been committed by Palestinian individ-
11 uals or individuals acting on behalf of Palestinian
12 organizations.

13 (2) Collect information against individuals al-
14 leged to have committed acts of international ter-
15 rorism described in paragraph (1).

16 (3) Offer rewards for information on individuals
17 alleged to have committed acts of international ter-
18 rorism described in paragraph (1), including the dis-
19 semination of information relating to such rewards
20 in the Arabic-language media.

21 (4) Negotiate with the Palestinian Authority or
22 related entities to obtain financial compensation for
23 nationals of the United States, or their families, in-
24 jured or killed by acts of terrorism described in
25 paragraph (1).

1 (5) In conjunction with other appropriate Fed-
2 eral departments and agencies, establish and imple-
3 ment alternative methods to apprehend, indict, pros-
4 ecute, and convict individuals who commit acts of
5 terrorism described in paragraph (1).

6 (6) Contact the families of victims of acts of
7 terrorism described in paragraph (1) and provide
8 updates on the progress to apprehend, indict, pros-
9 ecute, and convict the individuals who commit such
10 acts.

11 (7) In order to effectively carry out paragraphs
12 (1) through (6), provide for the permanent sta-
13 tioning of an appropriate number of United States
14 officials in Israel, in territory administered by Israel,
15 in territory administered by the Palestinian Author-
16 ity, and elsewhere, to the extent practicable.

17 (b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “inter-
18 national terrorism” has the meaning given such term in
19 section 2331(1) of title 18, United States Code.

20 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-
22 priated for fiscal year 2001 and each subsequent fiscal
23 year such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

1 (b) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated pursuant
2 to the authorization of appropriations under subsection (a)
3 are authorized to remain available until expended.

○