To amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a criminal penalty for interfering with commerce by blocking public roads.

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a criminal penalty for interfering with commerce by blocking public roads.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Safe and Open Streets Act”.

SEC. 2. CRIME OF INTERFERENCE WITH COMMERCE BY BLOCKING PUBLIC ROADS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1951 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—
(1) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

“(b) INTERFERENCE WITH COMMERCE BY BLOCKING PUBLIC ROADS.—

“(1) OFFENSE.—It shall be unlawful to, in any way or degree, purposely obstruct, delay, or affect commerce or the movement of any article or commodity in commerce by blocking a public road or highway, or to attempt or conspire so to do.

“(2) PENALTY.—Any person who violates paragraph (1) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) SECTION HEADING.—The heading of section 1951 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “by threats or violence”.

(2) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections for chapter 95 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 1951 and inserting the following:

“1951. Interference with commerce.”.

(3) CROSS REFERENCES.—

(A) TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section 8332(o)(2)(B)(xx) of title 5, United States
(B) TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE.—

Part I of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

   (i) in section 1961(1), by striking “, robbery, or extortion”; and

   (ii) in section 2516(1)(c), by striking “by threats or violence”.

Code, is amended by striking “by threats of vio-

lence”.
