

[PUBLIC—No. 231—73D CONGRESS]

[S. 2249]

AN ACT

Applying the powers of the Federal Government, under the commerce clause of the Constitution, to extortion by means of telephone, telegraph, radio, oral message, or otherwise.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That whoever, with intent to extort from any person, firm, association, or corporation any money or other thing of value, shall transmit in interstate commerce, by any means whatsoever, any threat (1) to injure the person, property, or reputation of any person, or the reputation of a deceased person, or (2) to kidnap any person, or (3) to accuse any person of a crime, or (4) containing any demand or request for a ransom or reward for the release of any kidnaped person, shall upon conviction be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than twenty years, or both: *Provided*, That the term "interstate commerce" shall include communication from one State, Territory, or the District of Columbia, to another State, Territory, or the District of Columbia: *Provided further*, That nothing herein shall amend or repeal section 338a, title 18, United States Code (47 Stat. 649).

Approved, May 18, 1934.