

# Calendar No. 1069

73d CONGRESS }  
2d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT  
{ NO. 1007

## PERMITTING COMPACTS BETWEEN STATES FOR SUPPRESSION OF CRIME

MAY 10 (calendar day, MAY 14), 1934. —Ordered to be printed

Mr. LOGAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 7353]

The Committee on the Judiciary, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 7353) granting the consent of Congress to any two or more States to enter into agreements or compacts for cooperative effort and mutual assistance in the prevention of crime, and for other purposes, report the same favorably to the Senate without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

The purpose and need of this legislation are set forth in the following excerpt from House Report No. 1137, which accompanied this bill in the House of Representatives:

This bill proposes to give the consent of Congress to any two or more States to enter into agreements or compacts for cooperative effort and mutual assistance in the prevention and punishment of crime, and to establish whatever joint agencies may seem desirable to them to make effective such agreements and compacts.

Legislation is necessary to accomplish the purpose sought by the bill because of the language of that part of article I, section 10, of the Constitution which provides:

"No State shall, without the consent of Congress \* \* \* enter into an agreement or compact with another State \* \* \*"

The rapidity with which persons may move from one State to another, those charged with crime and those who are necessary witnesses in criminal proceedings, and the fact that there are no barriers between the States obstructing this movement, makes it necessary that one of two things shall be done, either that the criminal jurisdiction of the Federal Government shall be greatly extended or that the States by mutual agreement shall aid each other in the detection and punishment of offenders against their respective criminal laws.

Since this is a matter of mutual importance and mutual interest, and subject to the control of the States, each of which is confronted with the same necessity, it seems absurd that the present handicap which they impose on each other should be continued. This bill seeks to remove the obstruction imposed by the Federal Constitution and allow the States cooperatively and by mutual agreement to work out their problems of law enforcement.

Clearly the Federal Government cannot assume this jurisdiction and take over this responsibility. Its organization makes it utterly unfitted for the purpose. The States have an adequate constabulary, the Federal Government a very limited constabulary which could be used for the purpose of enforcing any Federal laws governing new Federal offenses under the interstate commerce clause.

This proposed legislation was favorably reported by the Committee on the Judiciary in the Seventy-second Congress and passed the House by unanimous consent June 6, 1932, but was not acted upon in the Senate. The bill has the approval of the Attorney General.