

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MARCH 10, 1864.

Mr. SUMNER, from the Select Committee on Slavery and Freedmen, reported the following bill; which was read and passed to a second reading.

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**A BILL**

To aid the proclamation of emancipation issued by the President on the first day of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the proclamation of emancipation issued by the Presi-  
4       dent of the United States on the first day of January, eigh-  
5       teen hundred and sixty-three, so far as the same declares  
6       that the slaves in certain designated States and parts of  
7       States thenceforward should be free, is hereby adopted and  
8       enacted as a statute of the United States, and as a rule and  
9       article for the government of the military and naval forces  
10      thereof.

38<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS, }  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION. } **S. 159.**

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