

113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4245

To amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, and the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to improve access to information in the legislative and executive branches of the Government, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 13, 2014

Mr. QUIGLEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Rules, House Administration, the Judiciary, Ethics, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, and the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to improve access to information in the legislative and executive branches of the Government, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Transparency in Gov-  
3 ernment Act of 2014”.

4 **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

5       The table of contents is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

**TITLE I—IMPROVING ACCESS TO INFORMATION ABOUT  
MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES**

Sec. 101. Greater disclosure and electronic filing of personal financial informa-  
tion.

Sec. 102. Greater disclosure of travel reports.

Sec. 103. Greater disclosure of gift reports.

Sec. 104. Greater disclosure of earmarks.

Sec. 105. Online posting of disbursements from Members’ Representational Al-  
lowance.

Sec. 106. GAO study and report on effects of written requests by Members of  
Congress for funding of projects.

**TITLE II—ENHANCING PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE WORK OF  
CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES, LEGISLATION, AND VOTES**

Sec. 201. Increased transparency of committee work.

Sec. 202. Increased transparency of committee schedules through the Clerk.

Sec. 203. Increased transparency of recorded votes.

**TITLE III—ENHANCING PUBLIC ACCESS TO CONGRESSIONAL  
RESEARCH SERVICE**

Sec. 301. Short title; findings.

Sec. 302. Availability of certain Congressional Research Service information.

Sec. 303. Other methods of public access.

Sec. 304. Definitions.

Sec. 305. Effective date.

**TITLE IV—LOBBYING DISCLOSURE**

Sec. 401. Short title.

Sec. 402. Modifications to enforcement.

Sec. 403. Definition of lobbyist.

Sec. 404. Expedited online registration of lobbyists; expansion of registrants.

Sec. 405. Disclosure of political contributions.

Sec. 406. Identification numbers for lobbyists.

Sec. 407. Ethics training for lobbyists.

Sec. 408. Estimates based on tax reporting system.

Sec. 409. Effective date.

**TITLE V—TRANSPARENCY IN FEDERAL CONTRACTING**

- Sec. 501. Improving application programming interface and website data elements.
- Sec. 502. Improving data quality.
- Sec. 503. Requirements relating to reporting of award data.
- Sec. 504. Recipient performance transparency.
- Sec. 505. Improvement of Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System Database.
- Sec. 506. Federal contractor compliance.
- Sec. 507. Improving access to information disclosed on lobbying activities.

#### TITLE VI—EXECUTIVE BRANCH TRANSPARENCY

- Sec. 601. Requirement for disclosure of Federal sponsorship of all Federal advertising or other communications.
- Sec. 602. Improving access to influential executive branch official's visitor access records.
- Sec. 603. Improving access to budget justifications by the Office of Management and Budget.
- Sec. 604. Improving rulemaking disclosure for the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs.
- Sec. 605. Improving E-filing data collection and distribution for non-profits.
- Sec. 606. Improving ease of online access to registration information from agents of foreign principals.
- Sec. 607. Agency defined.

#### TITLE VII—STRENGTHENING THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

- Sec. 701. Digital access to completed responses to the Freedom of Information Act.
- Sec. 702. Explanation required for creation of exemption in the Freedom of Information Act.
- Sec. 703. FOIAonline for agencies.
- Sec. 704. Agency defined.

#### TITLE VIII—IMPROVING TRANSPARENCY WITHIN THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM

- Sec. 801. GAO study on video recording of Supreme Court proceedings.
- Sec. 802. Audio recording of Supreme Court proceedings.
- Sec. 803. Availability on the Internet of financial disclosure reports of judicial officers.
- Sec. 804. GAO audit of PACER.

#### TITLE IX—ENFORCEMENT

- Sec. 901. Audits by the Government Accountability Office.

1 **TITLE I—IMPROVING ACCESS TO**  
2 **INFORMATION ABOUT MEM-**  
3 **BERS OF CONGRESS AND**  
4 **CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES**

5 **SEC. 101. GREATER DISCLOSURE AND ELECTRONIC FILING**  
6 **OF PERSONAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION.**

7 (a) **ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REQUIRE-**  
8 **MENTS.**—(1) Section 102(a)(1)(B) of the Ethics in Gov-  
9 ernment Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 102(a)(1)(B)) is  
10 amended in clause (iv) by striking “\$15,000” and insert-  
11 ing “\$25,000” and by striking clauses (v) through (ix) and  
12 inserting the following new clauses:

13 “(v) greater than \$25,000 but not  
14 more than \$100,000, rounded to the near-  
15 est \$10,000,

16 “(vi) greater than \$100,000 but not  
17 more than \$1,000,000, rounded to the  
18 nearest \$100,000, or

19 “(vii) greater than \$1,000,000, round-  
20 ed to the nearest \$1,000,000.”.

21 (2) Section 102(d)(1) of such Act (5 U.S.C. App.  
22 102(d)(1)) is amended by striking “(3), (4), (5), and (8)”  
23 and inserting “(5) and (8)”.

24 (3) Section 102(d) of such Act (5 U.S.C. App.  
25 102(d)) is amended by redesignating paragraph (2) as

1 paragraph (3) and by inserting after paragraph (1) the  
2 following new paragraph:

3 “(3) The categories for reporting the amount or value  
4 of the items covered in paragraphs (3) or (4) of subsection  
5 (a) are as follows:

6 “(A) Not more than \$15,000.

7 “(B) Greater than \$15,000 but not more than  
8 \$25,000.

9 “(C) Greater than \$25,000 but not more than  
10 \$100,000, rounded to the nearest \$10,000.

11 “(D) Greater than \$100,000 but not more than  
12 \$1,000,000, rounded to the nearest \$100,000.

13 “(E) Greater than \$1,000,000, rounded to the  
14 nearest \$1,000,000.”.

15 (b) MORE FREQUENT DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL  
16 TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING LARGE SUMS OF MONEY.—

17 (1) Section 101 of such Act (5 U.S.C. App. 101) is amend-  
18 ed by adding at the end the following new subsection:

19 “(j) In addition to any other report required to be  
20 filed by a Member of Congress or officer or employee of  
21 the Congress, each such individual is required to file a  
22 quarterly report on April 30, July 30, October 30, and  
23 January 30 of each year covering the preceding calendar  
24 quarter if that individual (or the spouse or any dependent  
25 child of that individual) purchased, sold, or exchanged any

1 property described in subsection (a)(5) valued at not less  
2 than \$250,000 during that calendar quarter. For any such  
3 transaction of not less than \$250,000, such report shall  
4 contain all of the information required under subsection  
5 (a)(5).”.

6 (2)(A) Clause 1 of rule XXVI of the Rules of the  
7 House of Representatives is amended by inserting “(a)”  
8 after “1.” and by adding at the end the following new  
9 paragraphs:

10 “(b) If any report is filed with the Clerk for a  
11 calendar quarter pursuant to section 101(i) of the  
12 Ethics in Government Act of 1978, the Clerk shall  
13 compile all such reports sent to the Clerk by Mem-  
14 bers and have them printed as a House document,  
15 which shall be made available to the public, as soon  
16 as practicable.

17 “(c) Each individual required to file a report  
18 with the Clerk under title I under the Ethics in Gov-  
19 ernment Act of 1978 shall file and maintain such re-  
20 port in electronic form.”.

21 (B) Comparable language to be added by the Senate.

22 (c) AVAILABILITY ON THE INTERNET OF REPORTS  
23 FILED UNDER THIS TITLE WITH THE CLERK OF THE  
24 HOUSE OR THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE.—Section  
25 103 of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C.

1 App. 103) is amended by adding at the end the following  
2 new subsection:

3 “(m) The Clerk of the House of Representatives and  
4 the Secretary of the Senate shall each make available any  
5 report filed with them under this title (whether the report  
6 is filed in paper or electronic form) within 48 hours of  
7 the applicable submission deadline on the website of the  
8 Clerk or the Secretary, as applicable, in a searchable, sort-  
9 able, downloadable, machine-readable format.”.

10 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
11 this section shall apply to reports filed for calendar years  
12 or calendar quarters beginning after the date of enactment  
13 of this Act.

14 **SEC. 102. GREATER DISCLOSURE OF TRAVEL REPORTS.**

15 (a) FOREIGN TRAVEL.—Clause 8(b)(3) of rule X of  
16 the Rules of the House of Representatives is amended by  
17 adding at the end the following new sentence: “Within 48  
18 hours after any such report is filed with the chair of a  
19 committee, the chair shall post the report on the Internet  
20 site of the committee in a searchable, sortable,  
21 downloadable, machine-readable format.”.

22 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
23 subsection (a) shall apply to travel commencing after the  
24 date of enactment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 103. GREATER DISCLOSURE OF GIFT REPORTS.**

2 (a) REQUIRING CLERK OF THE HOUSE TO POST RE-  
3 PORTS ON INTERNET NOT LATER THAN 48 HOURS  
4 AFTER RECEIPT.—(1) Clause 5(b)(5) of rule XXV of the  
5 Rules of the House of Representatives is amended—

6 (A) by striking “shall make available” and  
7 inserting “shall post on the public Internet site  
8 of the Clerk and otherwise make available”; and

9 (B) by striking “as possible” and inserting  
10 the following: “as possible, but in no event later  
11 than 48 hours,”.

12 (2) Comparable language to be added by the Senate.

13 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
14 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to reports filed on  
15 or after the date of the adoption of this resolution.

16 **SEC. 104. GREATER DISCLOSURE OF EARMARKS.**

17 (a) ELECTRONIC DISCLOSURE BY MEMBERS.—(1)  
18 Rule XXIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives  
19 is amended by redesignating clause 18 as clause 19 and  
20 by inserting after clause 17 the following:

21 “18. A Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner  
22 who requests a congressional earmark, a limited tax ben-  
23 efit, or a limited tariff benefit shall, within 24 hours after  
24 making such request—

25 “(1) post on his or her public website for the  
26 remainder of the Congress the following—



1           “(A) the name and address of the intended  
2 recipient;

3           “(B) whether the intended recipient is a  
4 for-profit or not-for-profit entity;

5           “(C) the requested amount (only in the  
6 case of congressional earmarks); and

7           “(D) an explanation of the request, includ-  
8 ing the purpose, and why it is a valuable use  
9 of taxpayer funds;

10          “(2) electronically submit to the committee of  
11 subject-matter jurisdiction the webpage address  
12 where such information is posted;

13          “(3) identify each request as having been sub-  
14 mitted to the committee of subject-matter jurisdic-  
15 tion; and

16          “(4) display on the homepage of such website a  
17 hypertext link that contains the words ‘Earmarks’,  
18 ‘Appropriations Requests’, ‘Limited Tax Benefits’,  
19 or ‘Limited Tariff Benefits’ and that directs to such  
20 webpage address, and maintain that link for at least  
21 30 calendar days after the last such request is made  
22 during the Congress.”.

23          (2) The last sentence of clause 16 of rule XXIII of  
24 the Rules of the House of Representatives is amended by

1 striking “and clause 17” and inserting “, clause 17, and  
2 clause 18”.

3 (b) ELECTRONIC DISCLOSURE BY COMMITTEES.—  
4 Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives is  
5 amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

6 **“Earmark disclosure websites**

7 “(s)(1) Any committee that accepts any request of  
8 a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner for a con-  
9 gressional earmark, a limited tax benefit, or a limited tar-  
10 iff benefit shall maintain a public website with an earmark  
11 disclosure webpage that contains the following for each  
12 such request—

13 “(A) the bill name;

14 “(B) the name, State, and district of that indi-  
15 vidual;

16 “(C) the name and address of the intended re-  
17 cipient;

18 “(D) whether the intended recipient is a for-  
19 profit or not-for-profit entity;

20 “(E) the requested amount (only in the case of  
21 congressional earmarks);

22 “(F) a brief description; and

23 “(G) the applicable department or agency of the  
24 Government, and the account or program (if pro-  
25 vided to the committee in the request);

1 and is in a downloadable format that is searchable and  
2 sortable by such characteristics.

3 “(2) Any written statement received by a committee  
4 under clause 17(a) of rule XXIII shall be posted on the  
5 earmark disclosure webpage of the committee.

6 “(3) The earmark disclosure webpage of a committee  
7 shall list the names of any Member, Delegate, and Resi-  
8 dent Commissioner who requests a congressional earmark,  
9 a limited tax benefit, or a limited tariff benefit and link  
10 directly to their webpage addresses referred to in clause  
11 18(2) of rule XXIII.

12 “(4) The earmark disclosure webpage of a committee  
13 shall post the information required under subparagraphs  
14 (1) through (3) within one week of receipt, and shall main-  
15 tain that information on that webpage for the remainder  
16 of the Congress.

17 “(5) For purposes of this paragraph, the terms ‘con-  
18 gressional earmark’, ‘limited tax benefit’, and ‘limited tar-  
19 iff benefit’ shall have the meaning given them in clause  
20 9 of rule XXI.”

21 (c) POINT OF ORDER.—Clause 9 of rule XXI of the  
22 Rules of the House of Representatives is amended by re-  
23 designating paragraphs (e), (f), and (g) as paragraphs (f),  
24 (g), and (h), respectively, and by inserting after paragraph  
25 (d) the following:

1       “(e) It shall not be in order to consider any bill or  
2 joint resolution, or an amendment thereto or conference  
3 report thereon, that carries a congressional earmark, lim-  
4 ited tax benefit, or limited tariff benefit for which a Mem-  
5 ber, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner failed to comply  
6 with any applicable requirement of clause 18 of rule  
7 XXIII.”.

8       (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
9 this section shall apply to requests for congressional ear-  
10 marks, limited tax benefits, and limited tariff benefits  
11 made after the date this resolution is agreed to.

12       (e) CENTRALIZED DATABASE FOR EARMARKS, LIM-  
13 ITED TAX BENEFITS, AND LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS.—

14 (1) The Clerk of the House of Representatives, the Sec-  
15 retary of the Senate, and the chairs of the Committee on  
16 Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the  
17 Senate shall collaborate to create one centralized database  
18 where all requests for earmark, limited tax benefits, and  
19 limited tariff benefits are available on the Internet in a  
20 searchable, sortable, downloadable format to the public.  
21 The data available to the public for each earmark should  
22 include—

23               (A) an identification of the bill into which the  
24 earmark is to be inserted;

1 (B) the name, State, and district of the Mem-  
2 ber of Congress requesting the earmark;

3 (C) the name and address of the intended re-  
4 cipient;

5 (D) whether the intended recipient is a for-prof-  
6 it or not-for-profit entity;

7 (E) the requested amount (only in the case of  
8 congressional earmarks);

9 (F) a brief description of the earmark; and

10 (G) the applicable department or agency of the  
11 Government, and the account or program (if pro-  
12 vided to the committee in the request).

13 (2) The centralized database for earmarks referred  
14 to in paragraph (1) shall be implemented within six  
15 months after the date of enactment of this Act.

16 **SEC. 105. ONLINE POSTING OF DISBURSEMENTS FROM**  
17 **MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOW-**  
18 **ANCE.**

19 (a) REQUIRING POSTING.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to each session  
21 of a Congress (beginning with the second session of  
22 the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress)—

23 (A) the Chief Administrative Officer of the  
24 House of Representatives shall post on the offi-  
25 cial public Internet site of the House of Rep-

1           representatives a machine-readable statement  
2           showing each disbursement made from the  
3           Members' Representational Allowance during  
4           that session, and include as part of the state-  
5           ment hyperlinks to information on the amount  
6           of such disbursements which are attributable to  
7           each specific Member of the House of Rep-  
8           resentatives; and

9           (B) except as provided in paragraph (2),  
10          each Member of the House of Representatives  
11          shall include on the Member's official public  
12          Internet site a hyperlink to the information pro-  
13          vided on the House of Representatives site  
14          under subparagraph (A) with respect to the dis-  
15          bursements made by the Member.

16          (2) EXCEPTION FOR FORMER MEMBERS.—

17          Paragraph (1)(B) does not apply to any individual  
18          who is not a Member of the House of Representa-  
19          tives at the time the Chief Administrative Officer  
20          posts the statement described in paragraph (1)(A).

21          (b) SOURCE OF INFORMATION.—The information  
22          provided on the House of Representatives site under sub-  
23          section (a)(1) shall be based on the reports of disburse-  
24          ments for the operations of the House of Representatives  
25          which are submitted by the Chief Administrative Officer

1 under section 106 of the House of Representatives Admin-  
2 istrative Reform Technical Corrections Act (2 U.S.C.  
3 104b).

4 (c) DEADLINES.—

5 (1) CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.—The  
6 Chief Administrative Officer shall post the informa-  
7 tion required under subsection (a)(1) with respect to  
8 a session of Congress not later than 30 days after  
9 the publication of the final report of disbursements  
10 for the operations of the House of Representatives  
11 (as described in subsection (b)) for that session.

12 (2) MEMBERS.—Each Member of the House of  
13 Representatives shall meet the requirements of sub-  
14 section (a)(2) not later than 5 days after the Chief  
15 Administrative Officer posts the information re-  
16 quired under subsection (a)(1) with respect to a ses-  
17 sion of Congress.

18 (d) MEMBER DEFINED.—In this section, a “Member  
19 of the House of Representatives” includes a Delegate or  
20 Resident Commissioner to the Congress.

21 **SEC. 106. GAO STUDY AND REPORT ON EFFECTS OF WRIT-**  
22 **TEN REQUESTS BY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS**  
23 **FOR FUNDING OF PROJECTS.**

24 (a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General shall conduct  
25 a study of the effect of written requests to carry out and

1 provide funding for projects and activities which are sub-  
2 mitted to offices of the executive branch by Members of  
3 Congress on the decisions made by such offices regarding  
4 the funding of those projects and activities.

5 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date  
6 of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall  
7 submit to Congress a report on the study conducted under  
8 subsection (a).

9 **TITLE II—ENHANCING PUBLIC**  
10 **ACCESS TO THE WORK OF**  
11 **CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-**  
12 **TEES, LEGISLATION, AND**  
13 **VOTES**

14 **SEC. 201. INCREASED TRANSPARENCY OF COMMITTEE**  
15 **WORK.**

16 (a) IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—Clause  
17 1 of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives  
18 is amended by adding at the end the following new para-  
19 graph:

20 “(e)(1) Each committee shall post on its Internet  
21 website the public hearings and markup schedules of the  
22 committee and each of its subcommittees at the same time  
23 that information is made available to members of the com-  
24 mittee.



1       “(2) For each hearing and markup for which infor-  
2 mation is posted under subparagraph (1), the committee  
3 shall post on its Internet website within 45 days the fol-  
4 lowing: the topic, related legislation, testimony of wit-  
5 nesses, opening statements of the chair and ranking mi-  
6 nority member, transcripts, and audio and video record-  
7 ings.

8       “(3) Within 24 hours after a committee or sub-  
9 committee orders any bill or resolution to be reported, the  
10 committee or subcommittee, as applicable, shall post on  
11 its Internet website all amendments that were agreed to,  
12 except for technical and conforming changes authorized by  
13 the committee or subcommittee.”.

14       (b) IN THE SENATE.—Comparable language to be  
15 added by the Senate.

16 **SEC. 202. INCREASED TRANSPARENCY OF COMMITTEE**  
17 **SCHEDULES THROUGH THE CLERK.**

18       Clause 2 of rule II of the Rules of the House of Rep-  
19 resentatives is amended by adding at the end the following  
20 new paragraph:

21               “(1) The House Committees shall provide to the  
22 Clerk, in a structured data format, a complete list  
23 of all public hearing and markup schedules of com-  
24 mittees and subcommittees as soon as publically  
25 available; and the Clerk shall post this information

1 on its Web site, including links to committee  
2 websites.”.

3 **SEC. 203. INCREASED TRANSPARENCY OF RECORDED**  
4 **VOTES.**

5 (a) **ADDITIONAL DUTIES OF THE CLERK OF THE**  
6 **HOUSE AND THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE.**—The  
7 Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary  
8 of the Senate shall post on the public Internet site of the  
9 Office of the Clerk or of the Secretary, respectively, a  
10 record, organized by the name of each Member or Senator,  
11 in a structured data format, of the recorded votes of that  
12 Member or Senator, including the roll, date, issue, ques-  
13 tion, result, and title or description of the vote, and any  
14 cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office related  
15 to the vote.

16 (b) **WEB LINK.**—Each Member shall provide a link  
17 to the Clerk of the House of Representatives of a list of  
18 recorded votes from that Member’s website, and each Sen-  
19 ator shall provide a link to the Secretary of the Senate  
20 of a list of recorded votes from that Senator’s website.

21 (c) **DEFINITION.**—As used in this section, the term  
22 “Member” means a Representative in Congress, a delegate  
23 to Congress, or the Resident Commissioner from Puerto  
24 Rico.

1 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply to  
2 recorded votes occurring after the date of enactment of  
3 this Act.

4 **TITLE III—ENHANCING PUBLIC**  
5 **ACCESS TO CONGRESSIONAL**  
6 **RESEARCH SERVICE**

7 **SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS.**

8 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the  
9 “Public Access to Congressional Research Service Reports  
10 Resolution of 2014” or the “Congressional Research Serv-  
11 ice Electronic Accessibility Resolution of 2014”.

12 (b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

13 (1) The Congressional Research Service, a spe-  
14 cial reference unit within the Library of Congress,  
15 offers invaluable research and analysis to Members  
16 of Congress on all current and emerging issues of  
17 national policy.

18 (2) The Congressional Research Service staff of  
19 approximately 700 employees, including lawyers,  
20 economists, reference librarians, and social, natural,  
21 and physical scientists, are governed by require-  
22 ments for accuracy, objectivity, balance, and non-  
23 partisanship.

24 (3) The Congressional Research Service has a  
25 responsibility to ensure that Members of Congress

1 have available the best possible information and  
2 analysis on which to base the policy decisions the  
3 American people have elected them to make.

4 (4) It is often burdensome, difficult, and time-  
5 consuming for citizens to obtain access to objective  
6 and nonpartisan policy analysis on issues affecting  
7 their interests.

8 (5) It will enhance our democracy to provide  
9 citizens with access to unbiased and accurate CRS  
10 documents on legislation and other critical issues be-  
11 fore Congress.

12 (6) Allowing public access to CRS will empower  
13 citizens and enable Members of Congress to become  
14 even more effective “representatives” of the public’s  
15 concerns and goals.

16 **SEC. 302. AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN CONGRESSIONAL RE-**  
17 **SEARCH SERVICE INFORMATION.**

18 (a) ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF DATA-  
19 BASE OF INFORMATION.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Clerk of the House of  
21 Representatives, in consultation with the Director of  
22 the Congressional Research Service, shall establish  
23 and maintain a centralized, searchable, bulk  
24 downloadable, electronic database consisting of—

1 (A) all of the information described in  
2 paragraph (2) that is available to Members, of-  
3 ficers, employees, and offices of the House of  
4 Representatives through the Congressional Re-  
5 search Service website; and

6 (B) in accordance with subsection (b), an  
7 index of the information described in subpara-  
8 graph (A).

9 (2) INFORMATION DESCRIBED.—The informa-  
10 tion described in this paragraph is as follows:

11 (A) Congressional Research Service Issue  
12 Briefs.

13 (B) Congressional Research Service Re-  
14 ports.

15 (C) Congressional Research Service Au-  
16 thorization of Appropriations Products and Ap-  
17 propriations Products.

18 (D) Materials intended or available for  
19 general congressional distribution that are the  
20 same or substantially similar in content to CRS  
21 Reports, Issue Briefs, and Appropriations Prod-  
22 ucts.

23 (3) SPECIFIC INFORMATION FOR MATERIALS IN-  
24 CLUDED.—With respect to each issue brief, product,

1 or report included in the database under this sub-  
2 section, the Clerk shall include—

3 (A) the name and identification number;

4 (B) the dates of initial release and updates  
5 (if any); and

6 (C) the Congressional Research Service di-  
7 vision or divisions that were responsible for its  
8 production.

9 (4) UPDATES.—The Clerk, in consultation with  
10 the Director, shall ensure that the information in  
11 the database under this subsection is updated auto-  
12 matically and electronically to reflect the availability  
13 of new information and updates to existing informa-  
14 tion described in paragraph (2).

15 (5) INITIAL INFORMATION.—The initial estab-  
16 lishment of the database under this subsection shall  
17 include all of the contents described in paragraph  
18 (1) as of the date on which this resolution is agreed  
19 to.

20 (b) INDEX OF DATABASE INFORMATION.—In addi-  
21 tion to the database under subsection (a), the Clerk, in  
22 consultation with the Director, shall establish and main-  
23 tain contemporaneously a website containing a searchable,  
24 sortable index of all of the information in the database  
25 in both human-readable and machine-readable formats

1 (such as XML) that includes for each issue brief, product,  
2 or report in the database—

3 (1) the name and identification number;

4 (2) the dates of initial release and updates (if  
5 any); and

6 (3) the Congressional Research Service division  
7 or divisions that were responsible for its production.

8 (c) LIMITATIONS.—

9 (1) CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.—Subsections  
10 (a) and (b) do not apply to—

11 (A) any information that is confidential, as  
12 determined by—

13 (i) the Director, or

14 (ii) the head of a Federal department  
15 or agency that provided the information to  
16 the Congressional Research Service; or

17 (B) any document that—

18 (i) is the product of a confidential re-  
19 search request made by a Member, officer,  
20 employee, or office of the House of Rep-  
21 resentatives;

22 (ii) has not been distributed to any in-  
23 dividual or office other than the individual  
24 or office making the request; and

1 (iii) is not intended for distribution to  
2 any person other than the individual or of-  
3 fice making the request.

4 (2) REDACTION AND REVISION.—In carrying  
5 out this section, the Clerk, on the basis of informa-  
6 tion provided by the Director, may—

7 (A) remove from the information included  
8 in the database (including from the issue brief,  
9 product, or report itself) the name and contact  
10 information regarding an employee of the Con-  
11 gressional Research Service;

12 (B) remove from the information included  
13 in the database (including from the issue brief,  
14 product, or report itself) any material for which  
15 the Director determines that including the in-  
16 formation on the database may infringe the  
17 copyright of a work protected under title 17,  
18 United States Code; and

19 (C) make any changes in the information  
20 included in the database (including from the  
21 issue brief, product, or report itself) that the  
22 Director determines necessary to ensure that  
23 the information is accurate and current, except  
24 that if the Clerk makes any such change with  
25 respect to any material in the database, the



1 Clerk shall indicate in the database (with such  
2 notation as the Clerk considers appropriate)  
3 that more current information is available with  
4 respect to the material than the information  
5 provided in the database.

6 (3) METHOD OF REDACTION.—The Clerk shall  
7 carry out any redaction under paragraph (2)(C) in  
8 a manner which removes the least amount of mate-  
9 rial necessary to carry out the purposes of the redac-  
10 tion.

11 (4) ASSISTANCE FROM DIRECTOR FOR AUTO-  
12 MATIC REDACTION.—The Clerk shall consult with  
13 the Director to ensure the availability and implemen-  
14 tation of such technology as may be necessary to fa-  
15 cilitate the automatic redaction of information under  
16 this subsection.

17 (d) FURNISHING OF NECESSARY INFORMATION.—  
18 The Clerk shall consult with the Director to ensure that  
19 the Clerk is provided with all of the information necessary  
20 to carry out this section in such format as the Clerk con-  
21 siders appropriate.

22 **SEC. 303. OTHER METHODS OF PUBLIC ACCESS.**

23 (a) ACCESS THROUGH WEBSITES OF MEMBERS AND  
24 COMMITTEES.—Each official public website of a Member  
25 of the House of Representatives, a committee of the House

1 of Representatives, or a joint committee of the Congress  
2 shall permit members of the public to use the website to  
3 obtain the information contained in the database estab-  
4 lished under section 302, in the same manner and to the  
5 same extent as Members, officers, employees, and offices  
6 of the House of Representatives may obtain such informa-  
7 tion through the Congressional Research Service website.

8 (b) REGULATIONS.—Subsection (a) shall be carried  
9 out in accordance with regulations promulgated by the  
10 Committee on House Administration of the House of Rep-  
11 resentatives.

12 **SEC. 304. DEFINITIONS.**

13 In this title—

14 (1) the term “Clerk” means the Clerk of the  
15 House of Representatives;

16 (2) the term “Director” means the Director of  
17 the Congressional Research Service; and

18 (3) the term “Member of the House of Rep-  
19 resentatives” includes a Delegate or Resident Com-  
20 missioner to the Congress.

21 **SEC. 305. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

22 This title shall take effect upon the expiration of the  
23 6-month period which begins on the date of the enactment  
24 of this Act, without regard to whether the regulations de-

1 scribed in section 303(b) or any other regulations have  
2 been promulgated prior to the expiration of such period.

## 3 **TITLE IV—LOBBYING** 4 **DISCLOSURE**

### 5 **SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE.**

6 This title may be cited as the “Lobbyist Disclosure  
7 Enhancement Act”.

### 8 **SEC. 402. MODIFICATIONS TO ENFORCEMENT.**

9 (a) LOBBYING DISCLOSURE ACT TASK FORCE.—

10 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Attorney General  
11 shall establish the Lobbying Disclosure Act Enforce-  
12 ment Task Force (in this subsection referred to as  
13 the “Task Force”).

14 (2) FUNCTIONS.—The Task Force—

15 (A) shall have primary responsibility for  
16 investigating and prosecuting each case referred  
17 to the Attorney General under section 6(a)(8)  
18 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2  
19 U.S.C. 1605(a)(8));

20 (B) shall collect and disseminate informa-  
21 tion with respect to the enforcement of the Lob-  
22 bing Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1601 et  
23 seq.);

24 (C) shall audit, at a minimum on an an-  
25 nual basis, and as frequently as deemed nec-

1           essary by the Task Force, the extent of compli-  
2           ance or noncompliance with the requirements of  
3           the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 by lobby-  
4           ists, lobbying firms, and registrants under that  
5           Act through a random sampling of lobbying  
6           registrations and reports filed under that Act  
7           during each calendar year; and

8                   (D) shall establish, publicize, and operate a  
9           toll-free telephone number to serve as a hotline  
10          for members of the public to report noncompli-  
11          ance with lobbyist disclosure requirements  
12          under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995,  
13          and shall develop a mechanism to allow mem-  
14          bers of the public to report such noncompliance  
15          online.

16          (b) REFERRAL OF CASES TO THE ATTORNEY GEN-  
17          ERAL.—Section 6(a) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of  
18          1995 (2 U.S.C. 1605(a)) is amended—

19                  (1) in paragraph (8), by striking “United  
20          States Attorney for the District of Columbia” and  
21          inserting “Attorney General”; and

22                  (2) in paragraph (11), by striking “United  
23          States Attorney for the District of Columbia” and  
24          inserting “Attorney General”.

1 (c) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVED ENFORCE-  
2 MENT.—The Attorney General may make recommenda-  
3 tions to Congress with respect to—

4 (1) the enforcement of and compliance with the  
5 Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995; and

6 (2) the need for resources available for the en-  
7 hanced enforcement of the Lobbying Disclosure Act  
8 of 1995.

9 (d) INFORMATION IN ENFORCEMENT REPORTS.—  
10 Section 6(b)(1) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995  
11 (2 U.S.C. 1605(b)(1)) is amended by striking “by case”  
12 and all that follows through “public record” and inserting  
13 “by case and name of the individual lobbyists or lobbying  
14 firms involved, any sentences imposed”.

15 **SEC. 403. DEFINITION OF LOBBYIST.**

16 Section 3(10) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995  
17 (2 U.S.C. 1602(10)) is amended by striking “, other than  
18 an individual” and all that follows through “period”.

19 **SEC. 404. EXPEDITED ONLINE REGISTRATION OF LOBBY-**  
20 **ISTS; EXPANSION OF REGISTRANTS.**

21 Section 4(a) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995  
22 (2 U.S.C. 1603(a)) is amended—

23 (1) in paragraph (1)—

24 (A) by striking “45 days” and inserting  
25 “10 days”;

1 (B) by striking “, or on the first business  
2 day after such 45th day if such 45th day is not  
3 a business day,” and inserting “, or on the first  
4 business day occurring after such 10th day if  
5 such 10th day does not occur on a business  
6 day,”; and

7 (C) by inserting “online” after “shall reg-  
8 ister”; and

9 (2) in paragraph (2)—

10 (A) by striking “Any organization” and in-  
11 serting the following:

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-  
13 graph (B), any organization”; and

14 (B) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(B) THRESHOLD FOR CERTAIN ORGANI-  
16 ZATIONS.—In the case of an organization whose  
17 employees who are lobbyists engage in lobbying  
18 activities only on behalf of the organization, the  
19 organization is required to register under this  
20 subsection only if the lobbying activities of each  
21 such employee includes or is expected to include  
22 more than one lobbying contact.”.

23 **SEC. 405. DISCLOSURE OF POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS.**

24 Section 5(d)(1) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of  
25 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1604(d)(1)) is amended—

1           (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),  
2           by striking “30 days after” and all that follows  
3           through “30th day is not” and inserting “20 days  
4           after the end of the quarterly period beginning on  
5           the first day of January, April, July, and October of  
6           each year, or on the first business day after such  
7           20th day if such 20th day is not”; and

8           (2) by striking “semiannual period” each place  
9           it appears and inserting “quarterly period”.

10 **SEC. 406. IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS FOR LOBBYISTS.**

11           Section 6(a)(3) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of  
12 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1605(a)(3)) is amended—

13           (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-  
14           graph (A);

15           (2) by adding “and” after the semicolon the  
16           end of subparagraph (B); and

17           (3) by adding after subparagraph (B) the fol-  
18           lowing:

19                   “(C) a system that assigns an identifica-  
20                   tion number for each lobbyist for whom a reg-  
21                   istration or report is filed under this Act;”.

22 **SEC. 407. ETHICS TRAINING FOR LOBBYISTS.**

23           (a) **REQUIRED ETHICS TRAINING.**—Any individual  
24 who is a lobbyist registered or required to register under

1 section 4 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2  
2 U.S.C. 1603) shall—

3 (1) complete ethics training described in sub-  
4 section (b)—

5 (A) not later than 6 months after the indi-  
6 vidual is first employed or retained for services  
7 that include one or more lobbying contacts; and

8 (B) at least once in each 5-year period  
9 during which the individual is registered or re-  
10 quired to register under section 4; and

11 (2) submit to the Clerk of the House of Rep-  
12 resentatives and the Secretary of the Senate certifi-  
13 cation of the training completed under paragraph  
14 (1).

15 (b) QUALIFIED TRAINING.—The Ethics Committee  
16 of the House of Representatives and the Select Committee  
17 on Ethics of the Senate shall jointly—

18 (1) determine the curriculum and certification  
19 requirements for the ethics training for individuals  
20 described in subsection (a);

21 (2) approve those educational institutions, pro-  
22 fessional associations, or other persons who are  
23 qualified to provide such ethics training;

24 (3) determine the maximum fee that may be  
25 charged for the ethics training; and



1           (4) provide oversight of the ethics training pro-  
2           gram established under this section in order to de-  
3           termine the quality of instruction in, and the admin-  
4           istration of, the training program.

5           (c) RESPONSIBILITIES OF CLERK AND SEC-  
6           RETARY.—The Clerk of the House of Representatives and  
7           the Secretary of the Senate shall—

8           (1) collect and review for completion and accu-  
9           racy the certifications of ethics training submitted  
10          under subsection (a)(2); and

11          (2) post on the websites of the Clerk and the  
12          Secretary, with respect to each individual required to  
13          complete ethics training under this section—

14                (A) whether the individual has complied  
15                with such requirement; and

16                (B) the certifications submitted by the in-  
17                dividual under subsection (a)(2).

18   **SEC. 408. ESTIMATES BASED ON TAX REPORTING SYSTEM.**

19           Section 15 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995  
20           (2 U.S.C. 1610) is repealed.

21   **SEC. 409. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

22           (a) SECTION 402.—Section 402 and the amendments  
23           made by that section take effect upon the expiration of  
24           the 90-day period beginning on the date of the enactment  
25           of this Act.

1 (b) SECTIONS 403, 404, AND 405.—The amendments  
2 made by sections 403, 404, and 405 shall take effect on  
3 the first day of the first quarterly period described in sec-  
4 tion 5(a) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2  
5 U.S.C. 1604(a)) that begins after the end of the 90-day  
6 period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

7 (c) SECTION 406.—The amendments made by section  
8 406 shall apply to any registration or report that is filed  
9 under section 4 or 5 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of  
10 1995—

11 (1) on or after the 90th day after the date of  
12 the enactment of this Act; or

13 (2) before such 90th day, if such registration or  
14 report is, as of such 90th day, being retained under  
15 section 6(a)(5) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of  
16 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1605(a)(5)).

17 (d) SECTION 407.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 407 shall take effect  
19 upon the expiration of the 1-year period beginning  
20 on the date of the enactment of this Act.

21 (2) CURRENT LOBBYISTS.—In the case of indi-  
22 viduals who are registered under section 4 of the  
23 Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1603) as  
24 of the effective date under paragraph (1), the ethics  
25 training required under section 407(a)(1) shall be

1 completed not later than the end of the 6-month pe-  
2 riod beginning on the effective date under paragraph  
3 (1) of this subsection, in lieu of the date specified  
4 in section 407(a)(1).

## 5 **TITLE V—TRANSPARENCY IN** 6 **FEDERAL CONTRACTING**

### 7 **SEC. 501. IMPROVING APPLICATION PROGRAMMING INTER-** 8 **FACE AND WEBSITE DATA ELEMENTS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2 of the Federal Funding  
10 Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Public Law  
11 109–282; 31 U.S.C. 6101 note) is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (a)—

13 (A) in paragraph (2)(A)(ii), by striking  
14 “and delivery orders” and inserting “lease  
15 agreements and assignments, and delivery or-  
16 ders”;

17 (B) in paragraph (3)—

18 (i) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
19 “and” after the semicolon;

20 (ii) in subparagraph (D), by striking  
21 the period and inserting “; and”; and

22 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
23 lowing new subparagraph:

24 “(E) programmatically search and access  
25 all data in a serialized machine readable format

1 (such as XML) via a web-services application  
2 programming interface.”; and

3 (C) by inserting after paragraph (3) the  
4 following new paragraph:

5 “(4) CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING  
6 ITEM.—The term ‘congressionally directed spending  
7 item’ means a provision or report language included  
8 primarily at the request of a Member of Congress  
9 providing, authorizing, or recommending a specific  
10 amount of discretionary budget authority, credit au-  
11 thority, or other spending authority for a contract,  
12 loan, loan guarantee, grant, loan authority, or other  
13 expenditure with or to an entity, or targeted to a  
14 specific State, locality, or congressional district,  
15 other than through a statutory or administrative for-  
16 mula-driven or competitive award process.”; and

17 (2) in subsection (b)(1)—

18 (A) in subparagraph (F), by striking the  
19 period at the end and inserting semicolon;

20 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (G) as  
21 subparagraph (J); and

22 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (F)  
23 the following new subparagraphs:

1           “(G) to the extent possible, the Federal  
2 agency, including the bureau, office, or subdivi-  
3 sion, that authorized the Federal award;

4           “(H) after January 1, 2015, for all con-  
5 tracts, subcontracts, purchase orders, task or-  
6 ders, lease agreements and assignments, and  
7 delivery orders—

8           “(i) information about the extent of  
9 competition in making the award, includ-  
10 ing the number of bids or proposals deter-  
11 mined to be responsive during the competi-  
12 tive process, and if the award was not com-  
13 peted, the legal authority and specific ra-  
14 tionale for making the award without full  
15 and open competition;

16           “(ii) the full amount of money that is  
17 awarded under a contract or, in the case of  
18 lease agreements or assignments, the  
19 amount paid to the Government, and the  
20 full amount of any options to expand or  
21 extend under a contract;

22           “(iii) the amount of the profit incen-  
23 tive, such as award fees;

24           “(iv) the type of contract, such as  
25 fixed price, cost plus pricing, labor hour

1 contracts, and time and materials con-  
2 tracts;

3 “(v) a permanent link to the original  
4 solicitation or notice and the solicitation  
5 ID;

6 “(vi) an indication if the contract is  
7 the result of legislative mandates, set-  
8 asides, preference program requirements,  
9 or other criteria, and whether the contract  
10 is multi-year, consolidated, or performance  
11 based; and

12 “(vii) an indication if the contract is  
13 a congressionally directed spending item;

14 “(I) after January 1, 2015, for all grants,  
15 subgrants, loans, awards, cooperative agree-  
16 ments, and other forms of financial assistance,  
17 an indication if the funding is a congressionally  
18 directed spending item; and”.

19 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as otherwise pro-  
20 vided, the amendments made by subsection (a) shall be  
21 implemented not later than 6 months after the date of  
22 the enactment of this Act.

23 **SEC. 502. IMPROVING DATA QUALITY.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Funding Account-  
25 ability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–

1 282; 31 U.S.C. 6101 note), as amended by section 501,  
2 is further amended by adding at the end the following:

3 **“SEC. 5. IMPROVING DATA QUALITY.**

4       “(a) INSPECTOR GENERAL DATA AUDIT.—Each In-  
5 spector General shall annually audit for the previous fiscal  
6 year the data used on the website created by this Act for  
7 the relevant Federal agency of the Inspector General, in  
8 compliance with generally accepted Government auditing  
9 standards, and submit a report on such audit to the Direc-  
10 tor of the Office of Management and Budget that includes  
11 at least the following:

12           “(1) A review of data used for the website to  
13 verify accuracy of the data and assess the process  
14 used for improving data quality.

15           “(2) A review of a statistically representative  
16 sample of Federal awards to determine whether Fed-  
17 eral agencies have appropriate measures in place to  
18 review data submissions under this Act for accuracy  
19 and completeness.

20           “(3) An identification and report on new stand-  
21 ards that Inspector General recommends for imple-  
22 mentation by agencies to improve data quality.

23       “(b) OMB REPORT.—Not later than April 1 of each  
24 year, the Director of the Office of Management and Budg-  
25 et shall make each report submitted under subsection (a)

1 for the previous fiscal year available to the public, includ-  
2 ing a review of the findings of the audit and recommenda-  
3 tions to improve data quality, through the website created  
4 by this Act.”.

5 **SEC. 503. REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO REPORTING OF**  
6 **AWARD DATA.**

7 (a) REVISION OF GUIDANCE.—The Director of the  
8 Office of Management and Budget shall revise the Office’s  
9 guidance to Federal agencies on reporting Federal awards  
10 to clarify—

11 (1) the requirement that award titles describe  
12 the award’s purpose; and

13 (2) requirements for validating and docu-  
14 menting agency award data submitted by Federal  
15 agencies.

16 (b) INCLUSION OF CITY INFORMATION.—The Direc-  
17 tor of the Office of Management and Budget shall include  
18 information on the city where work is performed in the  
19 Office’s public reporting of the completeness of agency  
20 data submissions.

21 **SEC. 504. RECIPIENT PERFORMANCE TRANSPARENCY.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Funding Account-  
23 ability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–  
24 282; 31 U.S.C. 6101 note), as amended by sections 501



1 and 502, is further amended by adding at the end the  
2 following:

3 **“SEC. 6. RECIPIENT PERFORMANCE TRANSPARENCY AND**  
4 **PAST PERFORMANCE.**

5 “The Director of the Office of Management and  
6 Budget shall ensure that the unique identifier required in  
7 section 2(b)(1)(E) that is used to link information about  
8 the entity receiving the award on the searchable website  
9 is also used to link information about that entity on the  
10 Federal Awardee Performance Integrity Information Sys-  
11 tem.”.

12 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
13 subsection (a) shall be implemented not later than June  
14 30, 2014.

15 **SEC. 505. IMPROVEMENT OF FEDERAL AWARDEE PER-**  
16 **FORMANCE AND INTEGRITY INFORMATION**  
17 **SYSTEM DATABASE.**

18 (a) REQUIREMENT TO INCLUDE IN DATABASE 10  
19 YEARS OF INFORMATION ON CERTAIN PERSONS AWARD-  
20 ED FEDERAL CONTRACTS OR GRANTS.—Section 872 of  
21 the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act  
22 for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110–417; 122 Stat.  
23 4555) is amended in subsection (c) by striking “5-year”  
24 and inserting “10-year”.

1 (b) REQUIREMENT TO INCLUDE INFORMATION IN  
2 DATABASE REGARDING CERTAIN JUDGMENTS AND SET-  
3 TLEMENTS.—Section 872 of such Act is further amended  
4 in subsection (c)(1) by adding at the end the following  
5 new subparagraphs:

6 “(E) In an administrative proceeding, any  
7 administrative judgment that does not contain  
8 an explicit finding or acknowledgment of fault.

9 “(F) In a civil proceeding, any settlement  
10 that does not contain an explicit finding or ac-  
11 knowledgment of fault.”.

12 **SEC. 506. FEDERAL CONTRACTOR COMPLIANCE.**

13 (a) SELF-REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Subsection  
14 (f) of section 2313 of title 41, United States Code, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16 “(f) SELF-REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—

17 “(1) CONTRACTS IN EXCESS OF SIMPLIFIED AC-  
18 QUISSION THRESHOLD.—No funds appropriated or  
19 otherwise made available by any Act may be used for  
20 any Federal contract for the procurement of prop-  
21 erty or services in excess of the simplified acquisition  
22 threshold unless the contractor has first made the  
23 certifications set forth in section 52.209–5 of the  
24 Federal Acquisition Regulation.

1           “(2) CONTRACTS IN EXCESS OF \$500,000.—No  
2 funds appropriated or otherwise made available by  
3 any Act may be used for any Federal contract for  
4 the procurement of property or services in excess of  
5 \$500,000 unless the contractor—

6           “(A) certifies that the contractor has sub-  
7 mitted to the Administrator the information re-  
8 quired under subsection (c) and that such infor-  
9 mation is current as of the date of such certifi-  
10 cation; or

11           “(B) certifies that the contractor has cu-  
12 mulative active Federal contracts and grants  
13 with a total value of less than \$10,000,000.”.

14           (b) PERIODIC INSPECTION OR REVIEW OF CONTRACT  
15 FILES.—Section 2313(e)(2) of such title is amended by  
16 adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

17           “(C) PERIODIC INSPECTION OR REVIEW.—  
18 The Inspector General of each Federal agency  
19 shall periodically—

20           “(i) conduct an inspection or review of  
21 the contract files required under subpara-  
22 graph (B) to determine if the agency is  
23 providing appropriate consideration of the  
24 information included in the database cre-  
25 ated pursuant to subsection (c); and

1           “(ii) submit a report containing the  
2           results of the inspection or review con-  
3           ducted under clause (i) to the Committee  
4           on Homeland Security and Governmental  
5           Affairs of the Senate and the Committee  
6           on Oversight and Government Reform of  
7           the House of Representatives.”.

8           (c) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Comptroller General of  
9           the United States shall annually submit a report to the  
10          appropriate congressional committees describing the ex-  
11          tent to which suspended or debarred contractors on the  
12          Excluded Parties List System—

13                 (1) are identified as having received Federal  
14                 contracts on USAspending.gov; or

15                 (2) were granted waivers from Federal agencies  
16                 from suspension or debarment for purposes of enter-  
17                 ing into Federal contracts.

18          **SEC. 507. IMPROVING ACCESS TO INFORMATION DIS-**  
19                                 **CLOSED ON LOBBYING ACTIVITIES.**

20           (a) INFORMATION FILED WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR  
21          OF GENERAL SERVICES.—Section 1352(b) of title 31,  
22          United States Code, is amended—

23                 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “file with that  
24                 agency” and inserting “file electronically with the  
25                 Administrator of General Services”; and

1           (2) by adding at the end the following new  
2 paragraph:

3           “(7) DATABASE REQUIRED.—The Adminis-  
4 trator of General Services shall establish and main-  
5 tain an online database that is made available to the  
6 relevant agency and accessible by the public that  
7 contains information disclosed pursuant to this sub-  
8 section that is searchable, sortable, machine read-  
9 able, and downloadable.”.

10          (b) DEADLINE FOR DATABASE.—Not later than 180  
11 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Ad-  
12 ministrator of General Services shall establish the data-  
13 base required by paragraph (7) of section 1352(b) of title  
14 31, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

## 15       **TITLE VI—EXECUTIVE BRANCH** 16                               **TRANSPARENCY**

### 17       **SEC. 601. REQUIREMENT FOR DISCLOSURE OF FEDERAL** 18                               **SPONSORSHIP OF ALL FEDERAL ADVER-** 19                               **TISING OR OTHER COMMUNICATIONS.**

20          (a) REQUIREMENT.—Except as provided for in sub-  
21 section (b), each advertisement or other communication  
22 paid for by an agency, either directly or through a contract  
23 awarded by the agency, shall include a prominent notice  
24 informing the target audience that the advertisement or  
25 other communication is paid for by that agency.

1 (b) EXCEPTIONS.—The requirement in subsection (a)  
 2 shall not apply to an advertisement or other communica-  
 3 tion—

4 (1) that is 200 characters or less; or

5 (2) that is distributed through a short message  
 6 service.

7 (c) ADVERTISEMENT OR OTHER COMMUNICATIONS  
 8 DEFINED.—In this section, the term “advertisement or  
 9 other communication” includes—

10 (1) an advertisement disseminated in any form,  
 11 including print or by any electronic means; and

12 (2) a communication by an individual in any  
 13 form, including speech, print, or by any electronic  
 14 means.

15 **SEC. 602. IMPROVING ACCESS TO INFLUENTIAL EXECUTIVE**  
 16 **BRANCH OFFICIAL’S VISITOR ACCESS**  
 17 **RECORDS.**

18 (a) DISCLOSURE OF WHITE HOUSE VISITOR ACCESS  
 19 RECORDS.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the  
 20 enactment of this Act, and monthly thereafter, the Presi-  
 21 dent shall disclose to the public all White House visitor  
 22 access records for the previous month that are redacted  
 23 in accordance with subsection (c).

24 (b) DISCLOSURE OF AGENCY VISITOR ACCESS  
 25 RECORDS.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the

1 enactment of this Act, and monthly thereafter, the head  
2 of each agency shall disclose to the public all visitor access  
3 records for the previous month for such agency head that  
4 are redacted in accordance with subsection (c).

5 (c) INFORMATION NOT DISCLOSED.—The President  
6 under subsection (a), and the head of the relevant agency  
7 under subsection (b), as the case may be, may determine  
8 to not disclose the following information pursuant to this  
9 section:

10 (1) Any information—

11 (A) that implicates personal privacy or law  
12 enforcement concerns (such as date of birth, so-  
13 cial security number, and contact phone num-  
14 ber);

15 (B) that implicates the personal safety of  
16 White House staff (including daily arrival and  
17 departure); or

18 (C) whose release would so threaten na-  
19 tional security interests that it outweighs a  
20 strong presumption in favor of the public's in-  
21 terest in disclosure.

22 (2) For a non-renewable period of up to a year,  
23 any information related to purely personal guests of  
24 the first and second families), but only if the execu-  
25 tive branch's interest in protecting an unfettered

1 consultation conducted in secret strongly outweighs  
2 the public's interest in an accountable Government  
3 free of corruption and political influence.

4 (3) Any information related to a small group of  
5 particularly sensitive meetings (such as visits of po-  
6 tential Supreme Court nominees).

7 **SEC. 603. IMPROVING ACCESS TO BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS**

8 **BY THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDG-**  
9 **ET.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning with the budget for fis-  
11 cal year 2016, not later than 24 hours after the date on  
12 which the President submits the budget under section  
13 1105 of title 31, United States Code, the Director of the  
14 Office of Management and Budget shall make all budget  
15 justifications available online in a searchable, sortable,  
16 machine readable, and downloadable format and any elec-  
17 tronic version of the budget shall provide a link to each  
18 budget justification by the Office of Management and  
19 Budget.

20 (b) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term  
21 “budget justifications” refers to the documents an agency  
22 submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the  
23 House of Representatives and Senate in support of its  
24 budget request. The Office of Management and Budget  
25 prescribes justification materials, which typically explain



1 changes between the current appropriations and the  
2 amounts requested for the next fiscal year and may be  
3 referred to in the budget submission of the President  
4 under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code.

5 **SEC. 604. IMPROVING RULEMAKING DISCLOSURE FOR THE**  
6 **OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND REGULATORY**  
7 **AFFAIRS.**

8 (a) INCLUSION IN THE RULEMAKING DOCKET OF  
9 DOCUMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS RELATED TO THE  
10 IMPLEMENTATION OF CENTRALIZED REGULATORY RE-  
11 VIEW.—As soon as practicable, and not later than 15 days  
12 after the conclusion of centralized regulatory review for  
13 a draft proposed or draft final rule, the Administrator of  
14 the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs shall in-  
15 clude in the rulemaking docket the following:

16 (1) A copy of the draft proposed or draft final  
17 rule and supporting analyses submitted to the Office  
18 of Information and Regulatory Affairs for review.

19 (2) A copy of the draft proposed or draft final  
20 rule that incorporates substantive changes, if any,  
21 made to the rule as part of implementing centralized  
22 regulatory review.

23 (3) A document describing in a complete, clear,  
24 and simple manner all substantive changes made by  
25 the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs to

1 the draft proposed or draft final rule submitted by  
2 the agency to Office for review.

3 (4) A copy of all documents and written com-  
4 munications (including all electronic mail and elec-  
5 tronic mail file attachments), and a summary of all  
6 oral communications (including phone calls, phone  
7 conferences, and meetings), exchanged as part of the  
8 implementation of the centralized regulatory review  
9 between or among any of the following:

10 (A) The agency responsible for the rule.

11 (B) The Office of Information and Regu-  
12 latory Affairs.

13 (C) Any other office or entity within the  
14 Executive Office of the President.

15 (D) An agency that is not the agency re-  
16 sponsible for the rule.

17 (E) An individual who is not employed  
18 by—

19 (i) the executive branch of the Federal  
20 Government; or

21 (ii) an agency that is not the agency  
22 responsible for the rule.

23 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

24 (1) CENTRALIZED REGULATORY REVIEW.—The  
25 term “centralized regulatory review” means the in-



1 Code is amended by adding at the end the following: “Any  
2 annual return required to be filed electronically under sec-  
3 tion 6033(n) shall be made available by the Secretary to  
4 the public in a database that is searchable, sortable, ma-  
5 chine readable, and downloadable.”.

6 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
7 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after  
8 the date of the enactment of this Act.

9 **SEC. 606. IMPROVING EASE OF ONLINE ACCESS TO REG-**  
10 **ISTRATION INFORMATION FROM AGENTS OF**  
11 **FOREIGN PRINCIPALS.**

12 (a) IMPROVING ONLINE ACCESS.—Section 6(d)(1) of  
13 the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 (22 U.S.C.  
14 616(d)(1)) is amended by striking “in a searchable, sort-  
15 able, and downloadable manner” and inserting “in a for-  
16 mat which is directly searchable, sortable, downloadable,  
17 and machine-readable”.

18 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
19 subsection (a) shall take effect upon the expiration of the  
20 30-day period which begins on the date of the enactment  
21 of this Act.

22 **SEC. 607. AGENCY DEFINED.**

23 In this title, the term “agency” has the meaning  
24 given that term under section 551 of title 5, United States  
25 Code.

1 **TITLE VII—STRENGTHENING**  
2 **THE FREEDOM OF INFORMA-**  
3 **TION ACT**

4 **SEC. 701. DIGITAL ACCESS TO COMPLETED RESPONSES TO**  
5 **THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.**

6 (a) REQUIREMENT.—

7 (1) DATABASE OF COMPLETED FOIA RE-  
8 QUESTS.—Each agency shall make available all ma-  
9 terials contained in the agency’s completed response  
10 to a request under section 552 of title 5, United  
11 States Code (in this section referred to as a “FOIA  
12 request”) in a structured database or in a search-  
13 able, sortable, downloadable, machine-readable data-  
14 base within 2 months after the date the FOIA re-  
15 quest was completed.

16 (2) ELECTRONIC FORMAT.—All information is  
17 presumed to be available in an electronic format as  
18 described in paragraph (1) unless the agency dem-  
19 onstrates that excessive cost would place an undue  
20 burden on the agency.

21 (b) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—All information included  
22 in the agency’s completed response to a FOIA request  
23 shall be made available to the public electronically and  
24 without cost through each agency’s website.

1 **SEC. 702. EXPLANATION REQUIRED FOR CREATION OF EX-**  
2 **EMPTION IN THE FREEDOM OF INFORMA-**  
3 **TION ACT.**

4 Section 552(b)(3)(B) of title 5, United States Code,  
5 is amended by inserting “with an explanation for the ex-  
6 emption” after “specifically cites to this paragraph”.

7 **SEC. 703. FOIAONLINE FOR AGENCIES.**

8 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-  
9 ment of this Act, the head of each agency shall use  
10 FOIAonline to log, track, and publish all requests received  
11 under section 552 of title 5, United States Code.

12 **SEC. 704. AGENCY DEFINED.**

13 In this title, the term “agency” has the meaning  
14 given that term under section 551 of title 5, United States  
15 Code.

16 **TITLE VIII—IMPROVING TRANS-**  
17 **PARENCY WITHIN THE JUDI-**  
18 **CIAL SYSTEM**

19 **SEC. 801. GAO STUDY ON VIDEO RECORDING OF SUPREME**  
20 **COURT PROCEEDINGS.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the  
22 United States, in consultation with the Judicial Con-  
23 ference of the United States, shall conduct a study on the  
24 effect on the Supreme Court of the United States of video  
25 recording oral arguments before the Supreme Court, and  
26 making those video recordings publicly available on the

1 Internet website of the Supreme Court at the same time  
2 that they are recorded, including the effect on costs, and  
3 on the atmosphere of such arguments.

4 (b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date  
5 of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of  
6 the United States shall submit to Congress the findings  
7 of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a).

8 **SEC. 802. AUDIO RECORDING OF SUPREME COURT PRO-**  
9 **CEEDINGS.**

10 The Chief Justice of the United States shall ensure  
11 that the audio of an oral argument before the Supreme  
12 Court of the United States is recorded and is made pub-  
13 licly available on the Internet website of the Supreme  
14 Court at the same time that it is recorded.

15 **SEC. 803. AVAILABILITY ON THE INTERNET OF FINANCIAL**  
16 **DISCLOSURE REPORTS OF JUDICIAL OFFI-**  
17 **CERS.**

18 Section 103 of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978  
19 (5 U.S.C. App. 103), as amended by this Act, is further  
20 amended by inserting at the end the following:

21 “(n) The Judicial Conference shall make available  
22 any report filed with it under this title by a judicial officer  
23 within 48 hours of the applicable submission deadline on  
24 the website of the Judicial Conference in a searchable,  
25 sortable, downloadable, machine-readable format.”.

1 **SEC. 804. GAO AUDIT OF PACER.**

2 Not later than one year after the date of the enact-  
3 ment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United  
4 States shall conduct an audit of the public access to court  
5 electronic records system maintained by the Administra-  
6 tive Office of the United States Courts, and shall submit  
7 to Congress, the Administrative Office of the United  
8 States Courts, and any other appropriate Federal agency  
9 or office, a report that contains the results of the audit,  
10 along with any recommendations for improving the public  
11 access to court electronic records system.

12 **TITLE IX—ENFORCEMENT**

13 **SEC. 901. AUDITS BY THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY**  
14 **OFFICE.**

15 (a) **AUDIT REQUIREMENT.**—The Comptroller Gen-  
16 eral shall conduct annual audits of the implementation of  
17 the provisions in this Act, and shall submit annually to  
18 the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of  
19 the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
20 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Sen-  
21 ate a report on the results of the audits.

22 (b) **MATTERS COVERED BY AUDITS.**—Audits con-  
23 ducted under this section shall address whether the con-  
24 gressional and executive branch data that is required to  
25 be provided to the public through the Internet is each of  
26 the following:



1           (1) COMPLETE.—Made available, except for  
2 data that is subject to privacy, security, or privilege  
3 exemptions.

4           (2) PRIMARY.—Collected at the source, with the  
5 highest possible level of granularity, not in aggregate  
6 or modified forms.

7           (3) TIMELY.—Made available as quickly as nec-  
8 essary to preserve the value of the data.

9           (4) ACCESSIBLE.—Available to the widest range  
10 of users for the widest range of purposes.

11          (5) MACHINE PROCESSABLE.—Reasonably  
12 structured to allow automated processing.

13          (6) NON-DISCRIMINATORY.—Available to any-  
14 one, with no registration requirement.

15          (7) NON-PROPRIETARY.—Available in a format  
16 over which no entity has exclusive control.

17          (8) LICENSE-FREE.—Not subject to any copy-  
18 right, patent, trademark, or trade secret regulation  
19 (with reasonable privacy, security, and privilege re-  
20 strictions).

21          (c) CURRENT STANDARDS.—Audits conducted under  
22 this section shall also address whether the data provided  
23 to the public under this Act is produced and maintained  
24 using current standards for data publication.

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