

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3868

To establish a bug bounty pilot program within the Department of the Treasury, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2017

Mr. BUDD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on 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 establish a bug bounty pilot program within the Department of the Treasury, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Treasury Innovation  
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY BUG BOUNTY**

7 **PILOT PROGRAM.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1           (1) BUG BOUNTY PILOT PROGRAM.—The term  
2           “bug bounty pilot program” means a program under  
3           which an approved computer security specialist or  
4           security researcher is temporarily authorized to iden-  
5           tify and report vulnerabilities within the information  
6           system of the Department in exchange for cash pay-  
7           ment.

8           (2) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”  
9           means the Department of the Treasury.

10          (3) INFORMATION SYSTEM.—The term “infor-  
11          mation system” has the meaning given the term in  
12          section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

13          (4) PILOT PROGRAM.—The term “pilot pro-  
14          gram” means the bug bounty pilot program required  
15          to be established under subsection (b)(1).

16          (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
17          the Secretary of the Treasury.

18          (b) ESTABLISHMENT OF PILOT PROGRAM.—

19               (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
20               after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
21               retary shall establish a bug bounty pilot program to  
22               minimize vulnerabilities to the information systems  
23               of the Department.

24               (2) REQUIREMENTS.—In establishing the pilot  
25               program, the Secretary shall—

1 (A) provide monetary compensations for  
2 reports of previously unidentified security  
3 vulnerabilities within the websites, applications,  
4 and other information systems of the Depart-  
5 ment that are accessible to the public;

6 (B) develop an expeditious process by  
7 which computer security researchers can reg-  
8 ister for the pilot program, submit to a back-  
9 ground check as determined by the Depart-  
10 ment, and receive a determination as to ap-  
11 proval for participation in the pilot program;

12 (C) designate mission-critical operations  
13 within the Department that should be excluded  
14 from the pilot program;

15 (D) consult with the Attorney General on  
16 how to ensure that computer security specialists  
17 and security researchers who participate in the  
18 pilot program are protected from prosecution  
19 under section 1030 of title 18, United States  
20 Code, and similar laws for specific activities au-  
21 thorized under the pilot program;

22 (E) consult with the relevant offices at the  
23 Department of Defense that were responsible  
24 for launching the 2016 “Hack the Pentagon”

1 pilot program and subsequent similar programs  
2 at the Department of Defense;

3 (F) award competitive contracts as nec-  
4 essary to manage the pilot program and for  
5 executing the remediation of vulnerabilities  
6 identified as a consequence of the pilot pro-  
7 gram; and

8 (G) engage interested persons, to include  
9 commercial sector representatives, about the  
10 structure of the pilot program as constructive  
11 and to the extent practicable.

12 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date  
13 on which the pilot program is completed, the Secretary  
14 shall submit to the Committee on Financial Services of  
15 the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
16 Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate a re-  
17 port on the pilot program, which shall include—

18 (1) the number of computer security research-  
19 ers who registered, were approved, submitted secu-  
20 rity vulnerabilities, and received monetary compensa-  
21 tion;

22 (2) the number and severity of previously un-  
23 identified vulnerabilities reported as part of the pilot  
24 program;

1           (3) the number of previously unidentified secu-  
2           rity vulnerabilities remediated as a result of the pilot  
3           program;

4           (4) the average length of time between the re-  
5           porting of security vulnerabilities and remediation of  
6           the vulnerabilities;

7           (5) the average amount of money paid per  
8           unique vulnerability submitted and the total amount  
9           of money paid to security researchers under the pilot  
10          program; and

11          (6) the lessons learned from the pilot program.

12          (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
13          authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the  
14          Treasury \$100,000 for fiscal year 2019 to carry out this  
15          Act.

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