

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4174

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## AN ACT

To amend titles 5 and 44, United States Code, to require Federal evaluation activities, improve Federal data management, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
3 “Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of  
4 2017”.

5 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
6 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—FEDERAL EVIDENCE-BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Sec. 101. Federal evidence-building activities.

TITLE II—OPEN GOVERNMENT DATA ACT

Sec. 201. Short title.

Sec. 202. OPEN Government Data.

TITLE III—CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PROTECTION AND  
STATISTICAL EFFICIENCY

Sec. 301. Short title.

Sec. 302. Confidential information protection and statistical efficiency.

Sec. 303. Increasing access to data for evidence.

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 401. Rule of construction.

Sec. 402. Effective date.

7 **TITLE I—FEDERAL EVIDENCE-**  
8 **BUILDING ACTIVITIES**

9 **SEC. 101. FEDERAL EVIDENCE-BUILDING ACTIVITIES.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of part I of title 5,  
11 United States Code, is amended—

12 (1) before section 301, by inserting the fol-  
13 lowing:

14 “SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS”;

15 and

16 (2) by adding at the end the following:

1 “SUBCHAPTER II—FEDERAL EVIDENCE-  
2 BUILDING ACTIVITIES

3 **“§ 311. Definitions**

4 “In this subchapter:

5 “(1) AGENCY.—The term ‘agency’ means an  
6 agency referred to under section 901(b) of title 31.

7 “(2) DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Director’ means  
8 the Director of the Office of Management and Budg-  
9 et.

10 “(3) EVALUATION.—The term ‘evaluation’  
11 means an assessment using systematic data collec-  
12 tion and analysis of one or more programs, policies,  
13 and organizations intended to assess their effective-  
14 ness and efficiency.

15 “(4) EVIDENCE.—The term ‘evidence’ has the  
16 meaning given that term in section 3561 of title 44.

17 “(5) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of  
18 the several States, the District of Columbia, each  
19 territory or possession of the United States, and  
20 each federally recognized Indian Tribe.

21 “(6) STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES; STATISTICAL  
22 AGENCY OR UNIT; STATISTICAL PURPOSE.—The  
23 terms ‘statistical activities’, ‘statistical agency or  
24 unit’, and ‘statistical purpose’ have the meanings  
25 given those terms in section 3561 of title 44.

1 **“§ 312. Agency evidence-building plan**

2       “(a) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than the first Mon-  
3 day in February of each year, the head of each agency  
4 shall submit to the Director and Congress a systematic  
5 plan for identifying and addressing policy questions rel-  
6 evant to the programs, policies, and regulations of the  
7 agency. Such plan shall be made available on the public  
8 website of the agency and shall cover at least a 4-year  
9 period beginning with the first fiscal year following the  
10 fiscal year in which the plan is submitted and published  
11 and contain the following:

12               “(1) A list of policy-relevant questions for  
13 which the agency intends to develop evidence to sup-  
14 port policymaking.

15               “(2) A list of data the agency intends to collect,  
16 use, or acquire to facilitate the use of evidence in  
17 policymaking.

18               “(3) A list of methods and analytical ap-  
19 proaches that may be used to develop evidence to  
20 support policymaking.

21               “(4) A list of any challenges to developing evi-  
22 dence to support policymaking, including any statu-  
23 tory or other restrictions to accessing relevant data.

24               “(5) A description of the steps the agency will  
25 take to accomplish paragraphs (1) and (2).

1 “(6) Any other information as required by guid-  
2 ance issued by the Director.

3 “(b) CONSULTATION.—In developing the plan re-  
4 quired under subsection (a), the head of an agency shall  
5 consult with the following:

6 “(1) The public.

7 “(2) Any evaluation or analysis unit and per-  
8 sonnel of the agency.

9 “(3) Agency officials responsible for imple-  
10 menting privacy policy.

11 “(4) The Chief Data Officer of the agency.

12 “(5) The officials of the agency designated  
13 under section 315.

14 “(6) The Performance Improvement Officer of  
15 the agency.

16 “(7) Program administrators of the agency.

17 “(8) The committees of the House of Rep-  
18 resentatives and Senate with oversight jurisdiction  
19 over the agency.

20 “(9) Any other individual or entity as deter-  
21 mined by the Director.

22 **“§ 313. Governmentwide evidence-building coordina-**  
23 **tion**

24 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall consolidate  
25 the plans submitted under section 312 in a unified evi-

1 dence-building plan. The Director shall notify agency  
2 heads of potentially overlapping or unnecessarily duplica-  
3 tive data acquisition plans and facilitate interagency evi-  
4 dence gathering and sharing. The head of an agency may  
5 incorporate the results of any interagency coordination by  
6 updating the plan required under section 312. The Direc-  
7 tor shall incorporate any such agency update in the unified  
8 evidence-building plan.

9 “(b) CONSULTATION.—In developing the unified evi-  
10 dence-building plan required under subsection (a), the Di-  
11 rector shall consult with the following:

12 “(1) The public.

13 “(2) The Interagency Council on Statistical  
14 Policy established under section 3504(e)(8) of title  
15 44.

16 “(3) Any other relevant interagency council.

17 “(4) The head of each agency.

18 “(5) Any other individual or entity as deter-  
19 mined by the Director.

#### 20 **“§ 314. Chief Evaluation Officers**

21 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The head of each agency  
22 shall appoint or designate an employee of the agency as  
23 the Chief Evaluation Officer of the agency.

24 “(b) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Chief Evaluation Offi-  
25 cer of an agency shall be appointed or designated without

1 regard to political affiliation and based on demonstrated  
2 expertise in evaluation methodology and practices and ap-  
3 propriate expertise to the disciplines of the agency.

4 “(c) LIMITATIONS.—The Chief Evaluation Officer of  
5 an agency may not simultaneously serve as any of the fol-  
6 lowing:

7 “(1) The Chief Financial Officer of any agency.

8 “(2) The Chief Information Officer of any  
9 agency.

10 “(3) The Chief Human Capital Officer of any  
11 agency.

12 “(4) The Chief Acquisition Officer of any agen-  
13 cy.

14 “(5) The Inspector General of any agency.

15 “(d) COORDINATION.—The Chief Evaluation Officer  
16 of an agency shall, to the extent practicable, coordinate  
17 activities with agency officials, including the following:

18 “(1) Agency officials responsible for imple-  
19 menting privacy policy regarding privacy and con-  
20 fidentiality issues.

21 “(2) The Chief Data Officer of the agency.

22 “(3) Agency officials designated under section  
23 315.

1           “(4) Any evaluation or analysis unit and per-  
 2           sonnel of the agency on the needs for evaluation and  
 3           analysis.

4           “(5) The Performance Improvement Officer of  
 5           the agency.

6           “(6) Program administrators of the agency.

7           “(7) The Chief Evaluation Officers of other  
 8           agencies.

9           “(e) FUNCTIONS.—The Chief Evaluation Officer of  
 10          each agency shall—

11           “(1) continually assess the coverage, quality,  
 12           methods, consistency, effectiveness, independence,  
 13           and balance of the portfolio of evaluations, policy re-  
 14           search, and ongoing evaluation activities of the agen-  
 15           cy;

16           “(2) assess agency capacity to support the de-  
 17           velopment and use of evaluation;

18           “(3) establish and implement an agency evalua-  
 19           tion policy; and

20           “(4) coordinate, develop, and implement the  
 21           plan required under section 312.

22          **“§ 315. Statistical expertise**

23           “(a) IN GENERAL.—The head of each agency shall  
 24           designate the head of any statistical agency or unit within  
 25           the agency, or in the case of an agency that does not have



1 a statistical agency or unit, any senior agency official with  
2 appropriate expertise, as a statistical official to advise on  
3 statistical policy, techniques, and procedures. Agency offi-  
4 cials engaged in statistical activities may consult with any  
5 such statistical official as necessary.

6 “(b) MEMBERSHIP ON INTERAGENCY COUNCIL FOR  
7 STATISTICAL POLICY.—Each statistical official designated  
8 under subsection (a) shall serve as a member of the Inter-  
9 agency Council for Statistical Policy established under sec-  
10 tion 3504(e)(8) of title 44.

11 **“§ 316. Advisory Committee on Data for Evidence**  
12 **Building**

13 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director, or the head of  
14 an agency designated by the Director, shall establish an  
15 Advisory Committee on Data for Evidence Building (in  
16 this section referred to as the ‘Advisory Committee’) to  
17 review, analyze, and make recommendations on how to ex-  
18 pand access to and use of Federal data for evidence build-  
19 ing.

20 “(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The members of the Advisory  
21 Committee shall consist of the Chief Statistician of the  
22 United States, who shall serve as the Chair of the Advi-  
23 sory Committee, and other members appointed by the Di-  
24 rector as follows:

1           “(1) One member who is an agency Chief Infor-  
2           mation Officer.

3           “(2) One member who is an agency Chief Pri-  
4           vacy Officer.

5           “(3) One member who is an agency Chief Per-  
6           formance Officer.

7           “(4) Three members who are agency Chief  
8           Data Officers.

9           “(5) Three members who are agency Chief  
10          Evaluation Officers.

11          “(6) Three members who are members of the  
12          Interagency Council for Statistical Policy established  
13          under section 3504(e)(8) of title 44.

14          “(7) At least 10 members who are representa-  
15          tives of State and local governments and nongovern-  
16          mental stakeholders with expertise in government  
17          data policy, privacy, technology, transparency policy,  
18          evaluation and research methodologies, and other  
19          relevant subjects, of whom—

20               “(A) at least one shall have expertise in  
21               transparency policy;

22               “(B) at least one shall have expertise in  
23               privacy policy;

24               “(C) at least one shall have expertise in  
25               statistical data use;

1           “(D) at least one shall have expertise in in-  
2           formation management;

3           “(E) at least one shall have expertise in in-  
4           formation technology; and

5           “(F) at least one shall be from the re-  
6           search and evaluation community.

7           “(c) TERM OF SERVICE.—

8           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each member of the Advi-  
9           sory Committee (other than the Chair) shall serve  
10          for a term of 2 years.

11          “(2) VACANCY.—Any member appointed to fill  
12          a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the  
13          term for which the member’s predecessor was ap-  
14          pointed shall be appointed only for the remainder of  
15          that term. A vacancy in the Commission shall be  
16          filled in the manner in which the original appoint-  
17          ment was made.

18          “(d) COMPENSATION.—Members of the Advisory  
19          Committee shall serve without compensation.

20          “(e) DUTIES.—

21          “(1) FIRST YEAR.—During the first year of the  
22          Advisory Committee, the Advisory Committee  
23          shall—

1           “(A) assist the Director in carrying out the  
2           duties of the Director under part D of sub-  
3           chapter III of chapter 35 of title 44; and

4           “(B) evaluate and provide recommenda-  
5           tions to the Director on the establishment of a  
6           shared service to facilitate data sharing, enable  
7           data linkage, and develop privacy enhancing  
8           techniques, including—

9                   “(i) the specific capabilities, needs,  
10                  and necessary assets of such service, and  
11                  the extent to which assets should be trans-  
12                  ferred from existing agencies;

13                  “(ii) any prospective location for such  
14                  service;

15                  “(iii) best practices for transparency  
16                  and interagency coordination;

17                  “(iv) best practices for monitoring  
18                  and auditing of privacy, data linkage, and  
19                  confidentiality of data accessed through  
20                  such service; and

21                  “(v) necessary administrative and fi-  
22                  nancial authorities to support the activities  
23                  of such service.

1           “(2) SECOND YEAR.—During the second and  
2           any subsequent year of the Advisory Committee, the  
3           Advisory Committee shall—

4                   “(A) if determined necessary by the Direc-  
5           tor, carry out the duties described in paragraph  
6           (1); and

7                   “(B) review the coordination of data shar-  
8           ing or availability for evidence building across  
9           all agencies.

10          “(f) REPORTS.—For each year of the existence of the  
11       Advisory Committee, the Advisory Committee shall submit  
12       to the Director and make publicly available an annual re-  
13       port on the activities and findings of the Advisory Com-  
14       mittee.”.

15          (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—  
16       The table of sections for chapter 3 of part I of title 5,  
17       United States Code, is amended—

18                   (1) by inserting before the item relating to sec-  
19       tion 301 the following:

                                  “SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS”;

20                   and

21                   (2) by adding at the end the following:

                                  “SUBCHAPTER II—FEDERAL EVIDENCE-BUILDING ACTIVITIES

          “311. Definitions.

          “312. Agency evidence-building plan.

          “313. Governmentwide evidence-building coordination.

          “314. Chief Evaluation Officers.

          “315. Statistical expertise.

          “316. Advisory Committee on Data for Evidence Building.”.

1       (c) AGENCY STRATEGIC PLANS.—Section 306 of title  
2 5, United States Code, is amended—

3           (1) in subsection (a)—

4               (A) in paragraph (7), by striking “; and”  
5               at the end and inserting a semicolon;

6               (B) in paragraph (8), by—

7                   (i) striking the period at the end; and

8                   (ii) inserting after “to be conducted”  
9               the following: “, and citations to relevant  
10              provisions of the plan required under sec-  
11              tion 312; and”; and

12              (C) by adding at the end the following:

13              “(9) an assessment of the coverage, quality,  
14              methods, effectiveness, and independence of the sta-  
15              tistics, evaluation, research, and analysis efforts of  
16              the agency, including—

17                   “(A) a list of the activities and operations  
18                   of the agency that are currently being evaluated  
19                   and analyzed;

20                   “(B) the extent to which the evaluations,  
21                   research, and analysis efforts and related activi-  
22                   ties of the agency support the needs of various  
23                   divisions within the agency;

24                   “(C) the extent to which the evaluation re-  
25                   search and analysis efforts and related activities

1 of the agency address an appropriate balance  
2 between needs related to organizational learn-  
3 ing, ongoing program management, perform-  
4 ance management, strategic management, inter-  
5 agency and private sector coordination, internal  
6 and external oversight, and accountability;

7 “(D) the extent to which the agency uses  
8 methods and combinations of methods that are  
9 appropriate to agency divisions and the cor-  
10 responding research questions being addressed,  
11 including an appropriate combination of forma-  
12 tive and summative evaluation research and  
13 analysis approaches;

14 “(E) the extent to which evaluation and re-  
15 search capacity is present within the agency to  
16 include personnel and agency processes for  
17 planning and implementing evaluation activities,  
18 disseminating best practices and findings, and  
19 incorporating employee views and feedback; and

20 “(F) the extent to which the agency has  
21 the capacity to assist agency staff and program  
22 offices to develop the capacity to use evaluation  
23 research and analysis approaches and data in  
24 the day-to-day operations.”;

1           (2) by redesignating subsection (f) as sub-  
2       section (g); and

3           (3) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-  
4       lowing new subsection:

5       “(f) Not later than 2 years after the date on which  
6       each strategic plan required under subsection (a) is pub-  
7       lished, the Comptroller General of the United States shall  
8       submit to Congress a report that—

9           “(1) summarizes agency findings and highlights  
10      trends in the assessment conducted pursuant to sub-  
11      section (a)(9); and

12           “(2) if appropriate, recommends actions to fur-  
13      ther improve agency capacity to use evaluation tech-  
14      niques and data to support evaluation efforts.”.

## 15       **TITLE II—OPEN GOVERNMENT** 16                               **DATA ACT**

### 17       **SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.**

18       This title may be cited as the “‘Open, Public, Elec-  
19       tronic, and Necessary Government Data Act’” or the  
20       “OPEN Government Data Act”.

### 21       **SEC. 202. OPEN GOVERNMENT DATA.**

22       (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 3502 of title 44, United  
23       States Code, is amended—

24           (1) in paragraph (13), by striking “; and” at  
25       the end and inserting a semicolon;



1           (2) in paragraph (14), by striking the period at  
2           the end and inserting a semicolon; and

3           (3) by adding at the end the following new  
4           paragraphs:

5           “(15) the term ‘data’ means recorded informa-  
6           tion, regardless of form or the media on which the  
7           data is recorded;

8           “(16) the term ‘data asset’ means a collection  
9           of data elements or data sets that may be grouped  
10          together;

11          “(17) the term ‘machine-readable’, when used  
12          with respect to data, means data in a format that  
13          can be easily processed by a computer without  
14          human intervention while ensuring no semantic  
15          meaning is lost;

16          “(18) the term ‘metadata’ means structural or  
17          descriptive information about data such as content,  
18          format, source, rights, accuracy, provenance, fre-  
19          quency, periodicity, granularity, publisher or respon-  
20          sible party, contact information, method of collec-  
21          tion, and other descriptions;

22          “(19) the term ‘open Government data asset’  
23          means a public data asset that is—

24                 “(A) machine-readable;

1           “(B) available (or could be made available)  
2           in an open format;

3           “(C) not encumbered by restrictions that  
4           would impede the use or reuse of such asset;  
5           and

6           “(D) based on an underlying open stand-  
7           ard that is maintained by a standards organiza-  
8           tion;

9           “(20) the term ‘open license’ means a legal  
10          guarantee that a data asset is made available—

11           “(A) at no cost to the public; and

12           “(B) with no restrictions on copying, pub-  
13          lishing, distributing, transmitting, citing, or  
14          adapting such asset;

15           “(21) the term ‘public data asset’ means a data  
16          asset maintained by the Federal Government that  
17          has been, or may be, released to the public, includ-  
18          ing any data asset subject to disclosure under sec-  
19          tion 552 of title 5; and

20           “(22) the term ‘statistical laws’ means sub-  
21          chapter III of this chapter and other laws pertaining  
22          to the protection of information collected for statis-  
23          tical purposes as designated by the Director.”.

1       (b) GUIDANCE TO MAKE DATA OPEN BY DE-  
2 FAULT.—Section 3504(b) of title 44, United States Code,  
3 is amended—

4           (1) in paragraph (4), by striking “; and” and  
5 inserting a semicolon;

6           (2) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at  
7 the end and inserting “; and”; and

8           (3) by adding at the end the following new  
9 paragraph:

10           “(6) issue guidance for agencies to implement  
11 section 3506(b)(6) in a manner that takes into ac-  
12 count—

13               “(A) risks and restrictions related to the  
14 disclosure of personally identifiable information,  
15 including the risk that an individual data asset  
16 in isolation does not pose a privacy or confiden-  
17 tiality risk but when combined with other avail-  
18 able information may pose such a risk;

19               “(B) security considerations, including the  
20 risk that information in an individual data asset  
21 in isolation does not pose a security risk but  
22 when combined with other available information  
23 may pose such a risk;

24               “(C) the cost and benefits to the public of  
25 converting a data asset into a machine-readable

1 format that is accessible and useful to the pub-  
2 lic;

3 “(D) whether the application of the re-  
4 quirements described in such section to a data  
5 asset could result in legal liability;

6 “(E) whether a data asset—

7 “(i) is protected by intellectual prop-  
8 erty rights, including rights under titles 17  
9 and 35;

10 “(ii) contains confidential business in-  
11 formation, that could be withheld under  
12 section 552(b)(4) of title 5; or

13 “(iii) is otherwise restricted by con-  
14 tract or other binding, written agreement;

15 “(F) the requirement that a data asset be  
16 disclosed, if it would otherwise be made avail-  
17 able under section 552 of title 5 (commonly  
18 known as the ‘Freedom of Information Act’);  
19 and

20 “(G) any other considerations that the Di-  
21 rector determines to be relevant.”.

22 (c) FEDERAL AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES TO MAKE  
23 DATA OPEN BY DEFAULT.—

24 (1) AMENDMENTS.—Section 3506 of title 44,  
25 United States Code, is amended—

1 (A) in subsection (b)—

2 (i) by amending paragraph (2) to read  
3 as follows:

4 “(2) in accordance with guidance by the Direc-  
5 tor, develop and maintain a strategic information re-  
6 sources management plan that, to the extent prac-  
7 ticable—

8 “(A) describes how information resources  
9 management activities help accomplish agency  
10 missions;

11 “(B) includes an open data plan that—

12 “(i) requires the agency to develop  
13 processes and procedures that—

14 “(I) require data collection mech-  
15 anisms created on or after the date of  
16 the enactment of the OPEN Govern-  
17 ment Data Act to be available in an  
18 open format; and

19 “(II) facilitate collaboration with  
20 non-Government entities (including  
21 businesses), researchers, and the pub-  
22 lic for the purpose of understanding  
23 how data users value and use govern-  
24 ment data;

1 “(ii) identifies and implements meth-  
2 ods for collecting and analyzing digital in-  
3 formation on data asset usage by users  
4 within and outside of the agency, including  
5 designating a point of contact within the  
6 agency to assist the public and to respond  
7 to quality issues, usability issues, rec-  
8 ommendations for improvements, and com-  
9 plaints about adherence to open data re-  
10 quirements within a reasonable period of  
11 time;

12 “(iii) develops and implements a proc-  
13 ess to evaluate and improve the timeliness,  
14 completeness, consistency, accuracy, use-  
15 fulness, and availability of open Govern-  
16 ment data assets;

17 “(iv) includes requirements for meet-  
18 ing the goals of the agency open data plan,  
19 including the acquisition of technology,  
20 provision of training for employees, and  
21 the implementation of procurement stand-  
22 ards, in accordance with existing law, regu-  
23 lation, and policy, that allow for the acqui-  
24 sition of innovative solutions from public  
25 and private sectors; and

1 “(v) requires the agency to comply  
2 with requirements under section 3511, in-  
3 cluding any standards established by the  
4 Director under such section, when dis-  
5 closing a data asset pursuant to such sec-  
6 tion; and

7 “(C) is updated annually and made pub-  
8 licly available on the website of the agency not  
9 later than 5 days after each such update;”;

10 (ii) in paragraph (4), by striking “;  
11 and” and inserting a semicolon;

12 (iii) in paragraph (5), by striking the  
13 period at the end and inserting “; and”;  
14 and

15 (iv) by adding at the end the following  
16 new paragraph:

17 “(6) in accordance with guidance by the Direc-  
18 tor—

19 “(A) make each data asset of the agency  
20 available in an open format; and

21 “(B) make each public data asset of the  
22 agency available—

23 “(i) as an open Government data  
24 asset; and

25 “(ii) under an open license.”; and

1 (B) in subsection (d)—

2 (i) in paragraph (3), by striking  
3 “and” at the end;

4 (ii) in paragraph (4), by striking the  
5 period at the end and inserting a semi-  
6 colon; and

7 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
8 lowing new paragraphs:

9 “(5) ensure that any public data asset of the  
10 agency is machine-readable; and

11 “(6) engage the public in using public data as-  
12 sets of the agency and encourage collaboration by—

13 “(A) publishing on the website of the agen-  
14 cy, on a regular basis (not less than annually),  
15 information on the usage of such assets by non-  
16 Government users;

17 “(B) providing the public with the oppor-  
18 tunity to request specific data assets to be  
19 prioritized for disclosure and to provide sugges-  
20 tions for the development of agency criteria  
21 with respect to prioritizing data assets for dis-  
22 closure;

23 “(C) assisting the public in expanding the  
24 use of public data assets; and



1           “(D) hosting challenges, competitions,  
2           events, or other initiatives designed to create  
3           additional value from public data assets of the  
4           agency.”.

5           (2) USE OF OPEN DATA ASSETS.—Not later  
6           than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this  
7           Act, the head of each agency shall ensure that any  
8           activity by the agency meets the requirements of sec-  
9           tion 3506 of title 44, United States Code, as amend-  
10          ed by this subsection.

11          (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made  
12          by this subsection shall take effect on the date that  
13          is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

14          (d) DATA INVENTORY AND FEDERAL DATA CATA-  
15          LOGUE.—

16          (1) AMENDMENT.—Section 3511 of title 44,  
17          United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

18          **“§ 3511. Data inventory and Federal data catalogue**

19          “(a) COMPREHENSIVE DATA INVENTORY.—

20                 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In consultation with the  
21                 Director and in accordance with the guidance estab-  
22                 lished under paragraph (2), the head of each agency  
23                 shall, to the maximum extent practicable, develop  
24                 and maintain a comprehensive data inventory that  
25                 accounts for all data assets created by, collected by,

1 under the control or direction of, or maintained by  
2 the agency. The head of each agency shall ensure  
3 that such inventory provides a clear and comprehen-  
4 sive understanding of the data assets in the posses-  
5 sion of the agency.

6 “(2) GUIDANCE.—The Director shall establish  
7 guidance for agencies to develop and maintain com-  
8 prehensive data inventories under paragraph (1).  
9 Such guidance shall include the following:

10 “(A) A requirement for the head of an  
11 agency to include in the comprehensive data in-  
12 ventory metadata on each data asset of the  
13 agency, including the following:

14 “(i) A description of the data asset,  
15 including all variable names and defini-  
16 tions.

17 “(ii) The name or title of the data  
18 asset.

19 “(iii) An indication of whether the  
20 agency—

21 “(I) has determined if the data  
22 asset is—

23 “(aa) an open Government  
24 data asset;

1 “(bb) subject to disclosure  
2 under section 552 of title 5;

3 “(cc) a public data asset eli-  
4 gible for disclosure under sub-  
5 section (b); or

6 “(dd) a data asset not sub-  
7 ject to open format or open li-  
8 cense requirements due to exist-  
9 ing limitations or restrictions on  
10 government distribution of the  
11 asset; or

12 “(II) as of the date of such indi-  
13 cation, has not made such determina-  
14 tion.

15 “(iv) Any determination made under  
16 section 3582, if available.

17 “(v) A description of the method by  
18 which the public may access or request ac-  
19 cess to the data asset.

20 “(vi) The date on which the data  
21 asset was most recently updated.

22 “(vii) Each agency responsible for  
23 maintaining the data asset.

24 “(viii) The owner of the data asset.

1                   “(ix) To the extent practicable, any  
2                   restriction on the use of the data asset.

3                   “(x) The location of the data asset.

4                   “(xi) Any other metadata necessary to  
5                   make the comprehensive data inventory  
6                   useful to the agency and the public, or oth-  
7                   erwise determined useful by the Director.

8                   “(B) A requirement for the head of an  
9                   agency to exclude from the comprehensive data  
10                  inventory any data asset contained on a na-  
11                  tional security system, as defined in section  
12                  11103 of title 40.

13                  “(C) Criteria for the head of an agency to  
14                  use in determining which information, if any, in  
15                  the comprehensive data inventory may not be  
16                  made publicly available, which shall include, at  
17                  a minimum, a requirement to ensure all infor-  
18                  mation in the inventory that would be subject  
19                  to disclosure under section 552 of title 5 is  
20                  made publicly available.

21                  “(D) A requirement for the head of each  
22                  agency, in accordance with a procedure estab-  
23                  lished by the Director, to submit for inclusion  
24                  in the Federal data catalogue maintained under  
25                  subsection (c) the data inventory developed pur-

1           suant to subparagraph (C), including any real-  
2           time updates to such inventory, and data assets  
3           made available in accordance with subpara-  
4           graph (E) or any electronic hyperlink providing  
5           access to such data assets.

6           “(E) Criteria for the head of an agency to  
7           use in determining whether a particular data  
8           asset should not be made publicly available in  
9           a manner that takes into account—

10           “(i) risks and restrictions related to  
11           the disclosure of personally identifiable in-  
12           formation, including the risk that an indi-  
13           vidual data asset in isolation does not pose  
14           a privacy or confidentiality risk but when  
15           combined with other available information  
16           may pose such a risk;

17           “(ii) security considerations, including  
18           the risk that information in an individual  
19           data asset in isolation does not pose a se-  
20           curity risk but when combined with other  
21           available information may pose such a risk;

22           “(iii) the cost and benefits to the pub-  
23           lic of converting the data into a manner  
24           that could be understood and used by the  
25           public;

1 “(iv) whether the public dissemination  
2 of the data asset could result in legal li-  
3 ability;

4 “(v) whether the data asset—

5 “(I) is protected by intellectual  
6 property rights, including rights under  
7 titles 17 and 35;

8 “(II) contains confidential busi-  
9 ness information, that could be with-  
10 held under section 552(b)(4) of title  
11 5; or

12 “(III) is restricted by contract or  
13 other binding, written agreement;

14 “(vi) whether the holder of a right to  
15 such data asset has been consulted;

16 “(vii) the expectation that all data as-  
17 sets that would otherwise be made avail-  
18 able under section 552 of title 5 be dis-  
19 closed; and

20 “(viii) any other considerations that  
21 the Director determines to be relevant.

22 “(3) REGULAR UPDATES REQUIRED.—With re-  
23 spect to each data asset created or identified by an  
24 agency, the head of the agency shall update the com-  
25 prehensive data inventory of the agency not later

1       than 90 days after the date of such creation or iden-  
2       tification.

3       “(b) PUBLIC DATA ASSETS.—The head of each agen-  
4       cy shall submit public data assets, or links to public data  
5       assets available online, as open Government data assets  
6       for inclusion in the Federal data catalogue maintained  
7       under subsection (c), in accordance with the guidance es-  
8       tablished under subsection (a)(2).

9       “(c) FEDERAL DATA CATALOGUE.—

10       “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of Gen-  
11       eral Services shall maintain a single public interface  
12       online as a point of entry dedicated to sharing agen-  
13       cy data assets with the public, which shall be known  
14       as the ‘Federal data catalogue’. The Administrator  
15       and the Director shall ensure that agencies can sub-  
16       mit public data assets, or links to public data assets,  
17       for publication and public availability on the inter-  
18       face.

19       “(2) REPOSITORY.—The Director shall collabo-  
20       rate with the Office of Government Information  
21       Services and the Administrator of General Services  
22       to develop and maintain an online repository of  
23       tools, best practices, and schema standards to facili-  
24       tate the adoption of open data practices across the  
25       Federal Government, which shall—

1           “(A) include any definitions, regulations,  
2           policies, checklists, and case studies related to  
3           open data policy;

4           “(B) facilitate collaboration and the adop-  
5           tion of best practices across the Federal Gov-  
6           ernment relating to the adoption of open data  
7           practices; and

8           “(C) be made available on the Federal  
9           data catalogue maintained under paragraph (1).

10          “(3) ACCESS TO OTHER DATA ASSETS.—The  
11          Director shall ensure the Federal data catalogue  
12          maintained under paragraph (1) provides informa-  
13          tion on how the public can access a data asset in-  
14          cluded in a comprehensive data inventory under sub-  
15          section (a) that is not yet available on the Federal  
16          data catalogue, including information regarding the  
17          application process established under section 3583 of  
18          title 44.

19          “(d) DELEGATION.—The Director shall delegate to  
20          the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regu-  
21          latory Affairs and the Administrator of the Office of Elec-  
22          tronic Government the authority to jointly issue guidance  
23          required under this section.

24          “(e) USE OF EXISTING RESOURCES.—To the extent  
25          practicable, the head of each agency shall use existing pro-



cedures and systems to carry out agency requirements under this section.”.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The item relating to section 3511 of the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“3511. Data inventory and Federal data catalogue.”.

(B) CROSS-REFERENCE.—Section 3504(b)(2)(A) of title 44, United States Code, is amended by striking “the use of the Government Information Locator Service” and inserting “the use of comprehensive data inventories and the Federal data catalogue under section 3511”.

(e) CHIEF DATA OFFICERS.—

(1) AMENDMENT.—Section 3520 of title 44, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

**“§ 3520. Chief Data Officers**

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The head of each agency shall designate a career appointee (as defined in section 3132 of title 5) in the agency as the Chief Data Officer of the agency.

“(b) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Chief Data Officer of an agency shall be designated on the basis of dem-

1 onstrated training and experience in data management,  
2 collection, analysis, protection, use, and dissemination, in-  
3 cluding with respect to any statistical and related tech-  
4 niques to protect and de-identify confidential data.

5 “(c) FUNCTIONS.—The Chief Data Officer of an  
6 agency shall—

7 “(1) be responsible for lifecycle data manage-  
8 ment;

9 “(2) coordinate with any official in the agency  
10 responsible for using, protecting, disseminating, and  
11 generating data to ensure that the data needs of the  
12 agency are met;

13 “(3) manage data assets of the agency, includ-  
14 ing the standardization of data format, sharing of  
15 data assets, and publication of data assets in accord-  
16 ance with applicable law;

17 “(4) in carrying out the requirement under  
18 paragraphs (3) and (5), consult with any statistical  
19 official of the agency (as designated under section  
20 315 of title 5);

21 “(5) carry out the requirements of the agency  
22 under subsections (b) through (d), (f), and (i) of  
23 section 3506, section 3507, and section 3511;

24 “(6) ensure that agency data conforms with  
25 data management best practices;

1           “(7) engage agency employees, the public, and  
2           contractors in using public data assets and encour-  
3           age collaborative approaches on improving data use;

4           “(8) support the Performance Improvement Of-  
5           ficer of the agency in identifying and using data to  
6           carry out the functions described in section  
7           1124(a)(2) of title 31;

8           “(9) support the Chief Evaluation Officer of the  
9           agency in obtaining data to carry out the functions  
10          described in section 314 of title 5;

11          “(10) review the impact of the infrastructure of  
12          the agency on data asset accessibility and coordinate  
13          with the Chief Information Officer of the agency to  
14          improve such infrastructure to reduce barriers that  
15          inhibit data asset accessibility;

16          “(11) ensure that, to the extent practicable, the  
17          agency maximizes the use of data in the agency, in-  
18          cluding for the production of evidence (as defined in  
19          section 3561), cybersecurity, and the improvement of  
20          agency operations;

21          “(12) identify points of contact for roles and re-  
22          sponsibilities related to open data use and implemen-  
23          tation (as required by the Director);

24          “(13) serve as the agency liaison to other agen-  
25          cies and the Office of Management and Budget on

1 the best way to use existing agency data for statis-  
2 tical purposes (as defined in section 3561); and

3 “(14) comply with any regulation and guidance  
4 issued under subchapter III, including the acquisi-  
5 tion and maintenance of any required certification  
6 and training.

7 “(d) DELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent necessary to  
9 comply with statistical laws, the Chief Data Officer  
10 of an agency shall delegate any responsibility under  
11 subsection (d) to the head of a statistical agency or  
12 unit (as defined in section 3561) within the agency.

13 “(2) CONSULTATION.—To the extent permis-  
14 sible under law, the individual to whom a responsi-  
15 bility has been delegated under paragraph (1) shall  
16 consult with the Chief Data Officer of the agency in  
17 carrying out such responsibility.

18 “(3) DEFERENCE.—The Chief Data Officer of  
19 the agency shall defer to the individual to whom a  
20 responsibility has been delegated under paragraph  
21 (1) regarding the necessary delegation of such re-  
22 sponsibility with respect to any data acquired, main-  
23 tained, or disseminated by the agency under applica-  
24 ble statistical law.

1       “(e) REPORTS.—The Chief Data Officer of an agency  
 2 shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and  
 3 Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee  
 4 on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of  
 5 Representatives an annual report on the compliance of the  
 6 agency with the requirements of this subchapter, including  
 7 information on each requirement that the agency could not  
 8 carry out and, if applicable, what the agency needs to  
 9 carry out such requirement.”.

10           (2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMEND-  
 11       MENT.—The item relating to section 3520 of the  
 12 table of sections at the beginning of chapter 35 of  
 13 title 44, United States Code, is amended to read as  
 14 follows:

“3520. Chief Data Officers.”.

15       (f) CHIEF DATA OFFICER COUNCIL.—

16           (1) AMENDMENT.—Subchapter I of chapter 35  
 17 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by in-  
 18 serting before section 3521 the following new sec-  
 19 tion:

20   **“§ 3520A. Chief Data Officer Council**

21       “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the  
 22 Office of Management and Budget a Chief Data Officer  
 23 Council (in this section referred to as the ‘Council’).

24       “(b) PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS.—The Council  
 25 shall—

1           “(1) establish Governmentwide best practices  
2           for the use, protection, dissemination, and genera-  
3           tion of data;

4           “(2) promote and encourage data sharing  
5           agreements between agencies;

6           “(3) identify ways in which agencies can im-  
7           prove upon the production of evidence for use in pol-  
8           icymaking;

9           “(4) consult with the public and engage with  
10          private users of Government data and other stake-  
11          holders on how to improve access to data assets of  
12          the Federal Government; and

13          “(5) identify and evaluate new technology solu-  
14          tions for improving the collection and use of data.

15          “(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

16               “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Chief Data Officer of  
17               each agency shall serve as a member of the Council.

18               “(2) CHAIR.—The Director shall select the  
19               Chair of the Council from among the members of  
20               the Council.

21               “(3) ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.—The Adminis-  
22               trator of the Office of Electronic Government shall  
23               serve as a member of the Council.

24               “(4) EX OFFICIO MEMBER.—The Director shall  
25               appoint a representative for all Chief Information

1       Officers and Chief Evaluation Officers, and such  
 2       representative shall serve as an ex officio member of  
 3       the Council.

4       “(d) REPORTS.—The Council shall submit to the Di-  
 5       rector, the Committee on Homeland Security and Govern-  
 6       mental Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Over-  
 7       sight and Government Reform of the House of Represent-  
 8       atives a biennial report on the work of the Council.

9       “(e) EVALUATION AND TERMINATION.—

10       “(1) GAO EVALUATION OF COUNCIL.—Not  
 11       later than 4 years after date of the enactment of  
 12       this section, the Comptroller General shall submit to  
 13       Congress a report on whether the additional duties  
 14       of the Council improved the use of evidence and pro-  
 15       gram evaluation in the Federal Government.

16       “(2) TERMINATION OF COUNCIL.—The Council  
 17       shall terminate and this section shall be repealed  
 18       upon the expiration of the 2-year period that begins  
 19       on the date the Comptroller General submits the re-  
 20       port under paragraph (1) to Congress.”.

21       (2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMEND-  
 22       MENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of  
 23       chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is  
 24       amended by inserting before the item relating to sec-  
 25       tion 3521 the following new item:

“3520A. Chief Data Officer Council.”.

1 (g) REPORTS.—

2 (1) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 3 years  
3 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
4 Comptroller General of the United States shall sub-  
5 mit to the Committee on Homeland Security and  
6 Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Com-  
7 mittee on Oversight and Government Reform of the  
8 House of Representatives a report that identifies, to  
9 the extent practicable—

10 (A) the value of information made avail-  
11 able to the public as a result of this Act and  
12 the amendments made by this Act;

13 (B) whether the public availability of any  
14 information that has not yet been made so  
15 available would be valuable to the public; and

16 (C) the completeness of each comprehen-  
17 sive data inventory developed under section  
18 3511 of title 44, United States Code.

19 (2) BIENNIAL OMB REPORT.—Not later than 1  
20 year after date of the enactment of this Act, and bi-  
21 ennially thereafter, the Director of the Office of  
22 Management and Budget shall electronically publish  
23 a report on agency performance and compliance with  
24 this Act and the amendments made by this Act.



1 **TITLE III—CONFIDENTIAL IN-**  
 2 **FORMATION PROTECTION**  
 3 **AND STATISTICAL EFFI-**  
 4 **CIENCY**

5 **SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.**

6 This title may be cited as the “Confidential Informa-  
 7 tion Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2017”.

8 **SEC. 302. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PROTECTION AND**  
 9 **STATISTICAL EFFICIENCY.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 35 of title 44, United  
 11 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
 12 lowing new subchapter:

13 “SUBCHAPTER III—CONFIDENTIAL INFORMA-  
 14 TION PROTECTION AND STATISTICAL EFFI-  
 15 CIENCY

16 **“PART A—GENERAL**

17 **“§ 3561. Definitions**

18 “In this subchapter:

19 “(1) AGENCY.—The term ‘agency’ means any  
 20 entity that falls within the definition of the term ‘ex-  
 21 ecutive agency’, as defined in section 102 of title 31,  
 22 or ‘agency’, as defined in section 3502.

23 “(2) AGENT.—The term ‘agent’ means an indi-  
 24 vidual—

1           “(A)(i) who is an employee of a private or-  
2           ganization or a researcher affiliated with an in-  
3           stitution of higher learning (including a person  
4           granted special sworn status by the Bureau of  
5           the Census under section 23(c) of title 13), and  
6           with whom a contract or other agreement is ex-  
7           ecuted, on a temporary basis, by an executive  
8           agency to perform exclusively statistical activi-  
9           ties under the control and supervision of an of-  
10          ficer or employee of that agency;

11           “(ii) who is working under the author-  
12          ity of a government entity with which a  
13          contract or other agreement is executed by  
14          an executive agency to perform exclusively  
15          statistical activities under the control of an  
16          officer or employee of that agency;

17           “(iii) who is a self-employed re-  
18          searcher, a consultant, a contractor, or an  
19          employee of a contractor, and with whom  
20          a contract or other agreement is executed  
21          by an executive agency to perform a statis-  
22          tical activity under the control of an officer  
23          or employee of that agency; or

24           “(iv) who is a contractor or an em-  
25          ployee of a contractor, and who is engaged

1 by the agency to design or maintain the  
2 systems for handling or storage of data re-  
3 ceived under this subchapter; and

4 “(B) who agrees in writing to comply with  
5 all provisions of law that affect information ac-  
6 quired by that agency.

7 “(3) BUSINESS DATA.—The term ‘business  
8 data’ means operating and financial data and infor-  
9 mation about businesses, tax-exempt organizations,  
10 and government entities.

11 “(4) DATA ASSET.—The term ‘data asset’ has  
12 the meaning given that term in section 3502.

13 “(5) DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Director’ means  
14 the Director of the Office of Management and Budg-  
15 et.

16 “(6) EVIDENCE.—The term ‘evidence’ means  
17 information produced as a result of statistical activi-  
18 ties conducted for a statistical purpose.

19 “(7) IDENTIFIABLE FORM.—The term ‘identifi-  
20 able form’ means any representation of information  
21 that permits the identity of the respondent to whom  
22 the information applies to be reasonably inferred by  
23 either direct or indirect means.

24 “(8) NONSTATISTICAL PURPOSE.—The term  
25 ‘nonstatistical purpose’—

1           “(A) means the use of data in identifiable  
2           form for any purpose that is not a statistical  
3           purpose, including any administrative, regu-  
4           latory, law enforcement, adjudicatory, or other  
5           purpose that affects the rights, privileges, or  
6           benefits of a particular identifiable respondent;  
7           and

8           “(B) includes the disclosure under section  
9           552 of title 5 of data that are acquired for ex-  
10          clusively statistical purposes under a pledge of  
11          confidentiality.

12          “(9) RESPONDENT.—The term ‘respondent’  
13          means a person who, or organization that, is re-  
14          quested or required to supply information to an  
15          agency, is the subject of information requested or re-  
16          quired to be supplied to an agency, or provides that  
17          information to an agency.

18          “(10) STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES.—The term  
19          ‘statistical activities’—

20               “(A) means the collection, compilation,  
21               processing, or analysis of data for the purpose  
22               of describing or making estimates concerning  
23               the whole, or relevant groups or components  
24               within, the economy, society, or the natural en-  
25               vironment; and

1           “(B) includes the development of methods  
2           or resources that support those activities, such  
3           as measurement methods, models, statistical  
4           classifications, or sampling frames.

5           “(11) STATISTICAL AGENCY OR UNIT.—The  
6           term ‘statistical agency or unit’ means an agency or  
7           organizational unit of the executive branch whose ac-  
8           tivities are predominantly the collection, compilation,  
9           processing, or analysis of information for statistical  
10          purposes, as designated by the Director under sec-  
11          tion 3562.

12          “(12) STATISTICAL PURPOSE.—The term ‘sta-  
13          tistical purpose’—

14               “(A) means the description, estimation, or  
15               analysis of the characteristics of groups, with-  
16               out identifying the individuals or organizations  
17               that comprise such groups; and

18               “(B) includes the development, implemen-  
19               tation, or maintenance of methods, technical or  
20               administrative procedures, or information re-  
21               sources that support the purposes described in  
22               subparagraph (A).

23   **“§ 3562. Coordination and oversight of policies**

24          “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall coordinate  
25          and oversee the confidentiality and disclosure policies es-

1 tablished by this subchapter. The Director may promul-  
2 gate rules or provide other guidance to ensure consistent  
3 interpretation of this subchapter by the affected agencies.  
4 The Director shall develop a process by which the Director  
5 designates agencies or organizational units as statistical  
6 agencies and units. The Director shall promulgate guid-  
7 ance to implement such process, which shall include spe-  
8 cific criteria for such designation and methods by which  
9 the Director will ensure transparency in the process.

10 “(b) AGENCY RULES.—Subject to subsection (c),  
11 agencies may promulgate rules to implement this sub-  
12 chapter. Rules governing disclosures of information that  
13 are authorized by this subchapter shall be promulgated by  
14 the agency that originally collected the information.

15 “(c) REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF RULES.—The Di-  
16 rector shall review any rules proposed by an agency pursu-  
17 ant to this subchapter for consistency with the provisions  
18 of this chapter and such rules shall be subject to the ap-  
19 proval of the Director.

20 “(d) REPORTS.—

21 “(1) The head of each agency shall provide to  
22 the Director such reports and other information as  
23 the Director requests.

24 “(2) Each Designated Statistical Agency (as  
25 defined in section 3576(e)) shall report annually to

1 the Director, the Committee on Oversight and Gov-  
2 ernment Reform of the House of Representatives,  
3 and the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-  
4 ernmental Affairs of the Senate on the actions it has  
5 taken to implement section 3576. The report shall  
6 include copies of each written agreement entered  
7 into pursuant to section 3576(c)(1) for the applica-  
8 ble year.

9 “(3) The Director shall include a summary of  
10 reports submitted to the Director under this sub-  
11 section and actions taken by the Director to advance  
12 the purposes of this subchapter in the annual report  
13 to Congress on statistical programs prepared under  
14 section 3504(e)(2).

15 **“§ 3563. Federal statistical agencies**

16 “(a) RESPONSIBILITIES.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each statistical agency or  
18 unit shall—

19 “(A) produce and disseminate relevant and  
20 timely statistical information;

21 “(B) conduct credible and accurate statis-  
22 tical activities;

23 “(C) conduct objective statistical activities;  
24 and

1           “(D) protect the trust of information pro-  
2           viders by ensuring the confidentiality and exclu-  
3           sive statistical use of their responses

4           “(2) POLICIES, BEST PRACTICES, AND PROCE-  
5           DURES.—Each statistical agency or unit shall adopt  
6           policies, best practices, and appropriate procedures  
7           to implement the responsibilities described in para-  
8           graph (1).

9           “(b) SUPPORT FROM OTHER AGENCIES.—The head  
10          of each agency shall enable, support, and facilitate statis-  
11          tical agencies or units in carrying out the responsibilities  
12          described in subsection (a)(1).

13          “(c) REGULATIONS.—The Director shall prescribe  
14          regulations to carry out this section.

15          “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16               “(1) ACCURATE.—The term ‘accurate’, when  
17               used with respect to statistical activities, means sta-  
18               tistics that consistently match the events and trends  
19               being measured.

20               “(2) CONFIDENTIALITY.—The term ‘confiden-  
21               tiality’ means a quality or condition accorded to in-  
22               formation as an obligation not to disclose that infor-  
23               mation to an unauthorized party.



1           “(3) OBJECTIVE.—The term ‘objective’, when  
2           used with respect to statistical activities, means ac-  
3           curate, clear, complete, and unbiased.

4           “(4) RELEVANT.—The term ‘relevant’, when  
5           used with respect to statistical information, means  
6           processes, activities, and other such matters likely to  
7           be useful to policymakers and public and private sec-  
8           tor data users.

9   **“§ 3564. Effect on other laws**

10          “(a) TITLE 44, UNITED STATES CODE.—This sub-  
11          chapter does not diminish the authority under section  
12          3510 of the Director to direct, and of an agency to make,  
13          disclosures that are not inconsistent with any applicable  
14          law.

15          “(b) TITLE 13 AND TITLE 44, UNITED STATES  
16          CODE.—This subchapter does not diminish the authority  
17          of the Bureau of the Census to provide information in ac-  
18          cordance with sections 8, 16, 301, and 401 of title 13 and  
19          section 2108 of this title.

20          “(c) TITLE 13, UNITED STATES CODE.—This sub-  
21          chapter shall not be construed as authorizing the dislo-  
22          sure for nonstatistical purposes of demographic data or  
23          information collected by the Bureau of the Census pursu-  
24          ant to section 9 of title 13.

1       “(d) VARIOUS ENERGY STATUTES.—Data or infor-  
2 mation acquired by the Energy Information Administra-  
3 tion under a pledge of confidentiality and designated by  
4 the Energy Information Administration to be used for ex-  
5 clusively statistical purposes shall not be disclosed in iden-  
6 tifiable form for nonstatistical purposes under—

7               “(1) section 12, 20, or 59 of the Federal En-  
8 ergy Administration Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 771,  
9 779, 790h);

10              “(2) section 11 of the Energy Supply and Envi-  
11 ronmental Coordination Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C.  
12 796); or

13              “(3) section 205 or 407 of the Department of  
14 Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7135, 7177).

15       “(e) SECTION 201 OF CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT  
16 OF 1974.—This subchapter shall not be construed to limit  
17 any authorities of the Congressional Budget Office to  
18 work (consistent with laws governing the confidentiality  
19 of information the disclosure of which would be a violation  
20 of law) with databases of Designated Statistical Agencies  
21 (as defined in section 3576(e)), either separately or, for  
22 data that may be shared pursuant to section 3576(c) or  
23 other authority, jointly in order to improve the general  
24 utility of these databases for the statistical purpose of ana-  
25 lyzing pension and health care financing issues.

1       “(f) PREEMPTION OF STATE LAW.—Nothing in this  
2 subchapter shall preempt applicable State law regarding  
3 the confidentiality of data collected by the States.

4       “(g) STATUTES REGARDING FALSE STATEMENTS.—  
5 Notwithstanding section 3572, information collected by an  
6 agency for exclusively statistical purposes under a pledge  
7 of confidentiality may be provided by the collecting agency  
8 to a law enforcement agency for the prosecution of submis-  
9 sions to the collecting agency of false statistical informa-  
10 tion under statutes that authorize criminal penalties (such  
11 as section 221 of title 13) or civil penalties for the provi-  
12 sion of false statistical information, unless such disclosure  
13 or use would otherwise be prohibited under Federal law.

14       “(h) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subchapter  
15 shall be construed as restricting or diminishing any con-  
16 fidentiality protections or penalties for unauthorized dis-  
17 closure that otherwise apply to data or information col-  
18 lected for statistical purposes or nonstatistical purposes,  
19 including, but not limited to, section 6103 of the Internal  
20 Revenue Code of 1986.

21       “(i) AUTHORITY OF CONGRESS.—Nothing in this  
22 subchapter shall be construed to affect the authority of  
23 the Congress, including its committees, members, or  
24 agents, to obtain data or information for a statistical pur-

1 pose, including for oversight of an agency’s statistical ac-  
 2 tivities.

3       **“PART B—CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**  
 4                               **PROTECTION**

5       **“§ 3571. Findings**

6       “The Congress finds the following:

7               “(1) Individuals, businesses, and other organi-  
 8               zations have varying degrees of legal protection  
 9               when providing information to the agencies for  
 10              strictly statistical purposes.

11             “(2) Pledges of confidentiality by agencies pro-  
 12             vide assurances to the public that information about  
 13             individuals or organizations or provided by individ-  
 14             uals or organizations for exclusively statistical pur-  
 15             poses will be held in confidence and will not be used  
 16             against such individuals or organizations in any  
 17             agency action.

18             “(3) Protecting the confidentiality interests of  
 19             individuals or organizations who provide information  
 20             under a pledge of confidentiality for Federal statis-  
 21             tical programs serves both the interests of the public  
 22             and the needs of society.

23             “(4) Declining trust of the public in the protec-  
 24             tion of information provided under a pledge of con-

1        confidentiality to the agencies adversely affects both the  
2        accuracy and completeness of statistical analyses.

3            “(5) Ensuring that information provided under  
4        a pledge of confidentiality for statistical purposes re-  
5        ceives protection is essential in continuing public co-  
6        operation in statistical programs.

7    **“§ 3572. Confidential information protection**

8            “(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are  
9        the following:

10           “(1) To ensure that information supplied by in-  
11        dividuals or organizations to an agency for statistical  
12        purposes under a pledge of confidentiality is used ex-  
13        clusively for statistical purposes.

14           “(2) To ensure that individuals or organizations  
15        who supply information under a pledge of confiden-  
16        tiality to agencies for statistical purposes will neither  
17        have that information disclosed in identifiable form  
18        to anyone not authorized by this subchapter nor  
19        have that information used for any purpose other  
20        than a statistical purpose.

21           “(3) To safeguard the confidentiality of individ-  
22        ually identifiable information acquired under a  
23        pledge of confidentiality for statistical purposes by  
24        controlling access to, and uses made of, such infor-  
25        mation.

1       “(b) USE OF STATISTICAL DATA OR INFORMA-  
2 TION.—Data or information acquired by an agency under  
3 a pledge of confidentiality and for exclusively statistical  
4 purposes shall be used by officers, employees, or agents  
5 of the agency exclusively for statistical purposes and pro-  
6 tected in accordance with such pledge.

7       “(c) DISCLOSURE OF STATISTICAL DATA OR INFOR-  
8 MATION.—

9           “(1) Data or information acquired by an agency  
10       under a pledge of confidentiality for exclusively sta-  
11       tistical purposes shall not be disclosed by an agency  
12       in identifiable form, for any use other than an exclu-  
13       sively statistical purpose, except with the informed  
14       consent of the respondent.

15           “(2) A disclosure pursuant to paragraph (1) is  
16       authorized only when the head of the agency ap-  
17       proves such disclosure and the disclosure is not pro-  
18       hibited by any other law.

19           “(3) This section does not restrict or diminish  
20       any confidentiality protections in law that otherwise  
21       apply to data or information acquired by an agency  
22       under a pledge of confidentiality for exclusively sta-  
23       tistical purposes.

24       “(d) RULE FOR USE OF DATA OR INFORMATION FOR  
25 NONSTATISTICAL PURPOSES.—A statistical agency or

1 unit shall clearly distinguish any data or information it  
2 collects for nonstatistical purposes (as authorized by law)  
3 and provide notice to the public, before the data or infor-  
4 mation is collected, that the data or information could be  
5 used for nonstatistical purposes.

6 “(e) DESIGNATION OF AGENTS.—A statistical agency  
7 or unit may designate agents, by contract or by entering  
8 into a special agreement containing the provisions re-  
9 quired under section 3561(2) for treatment as an agent  
10 under that section, who may perform exclusively statistical  
11 activities, subject to the limitations and penalties de-  
12 scribed in this subchapter.

13 “(f) FINES AND PENALTIES.—Whoever, being an of-  
14 ficer, employee, or agent of an agency acquiring informa-  
15 tion for exclusively statistical purposes, having taken and  
16 subscribed the oath of office, or having sworn to observe  
17 the limitations imposed by this section, comes into posses-  
18 sion of such information by reason of his or her being an  
19 officer, employee, or agent and, knowing that the disclo-  
20 sure of the specific information is prohibited under the  
21 provisions of this subchapter, willfully discloses the infor-  
22 mation in any manner to a person or agency not entitled  
23 to receive it, shall be guilty of a class E felony and impris-  
24 oned for not more than 5 years, or fined not more than  
25 \$250,000, or both.

1           **“PART C—STATISTICAL EFFICIENCY**

2   **“§ 3575. Findings**

3           “The Congress finds the following:

4               “(1) Federal statistics are an important source  
5           of information for public and private decision-mak-  
6           ers such as policymakers, consumers, businesses, in-  
7           vestors, and workers.

8               “(2) Federal statistical agencies should continu-  
9           ously seek to improve their efficiency. Statutory con-  
10          straints limit the ability of these agencies to share  
11          data and thus to achieve higher efficiency for Fed-  
12          eral statistical programs.

13              “(3) The quality of Federal statistics depends  
14          on the willingness of businesses to respond to statis-  
15          tical surveys. Reducing reporting burdens will in-  
16          crease response rates, and therefore lead to more ac-  
17          curate characterizations of the economy.

18              “(4) Enhanced sharing of business data among  
19          the Bureau of the Census, the Bureau of Economic  
20          Analysis, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics for ex-  
21          clusively statistical purposes will improve their abil-  
22          ity to track more accurately the large and rapidly  
23          changing nature of United States business. In par-  
24          ticular, the statistical agencies will be able to better  
25          ensure that businesses are consistently classified in  
26          appropriate industries, resolve data anomalies,



1 produce statistical samples that are consistently ad-  
2 justed for the entry and exit of new businesses in a  
3 timely manner, and correct faulty reporting errors  
4 quickly and efficiently.

5 “(5) Congress enacted the International Invest-  
6 ment and Trade in Services Survey Act (Public Law  
7 94–472), which allowed the Bureau of the Census,  
8 the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the Bureau  
9 of Labor Statistics to share data on foreign-owned  
10 companies. The Act not only expanded detailed in-  
11 dustry coverage from 135 industries to over 800 in-  
12 dustries with no increase in the data collected from  
13 respondents but also demonstrated how data sharing  
14 can result in the creation of valuable data products.

15 “(6) With part B of this subchapter, the shar-  
16 ing of business data among the Bureau of the Cen-  
17 sus, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the Bu-  
18 reau of Labor Statistics continues to ensure the  
19 highest level of confidentiality for respondents to  
20 statistical surveys.

21 **“§ 3576. Designated Statistical Agencies**

22 “(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are  
23 the following:

24 “(1) To authorize the sharing of business data  
25 among the Bureau of the Census, the Bureau of

1 Economic Analysis, and the Bureau of Labor Statis-  
2 tics for exclusively statistical purposes.

3 “(2) To reduce the paperwork burdens imposed  
4 on businesses that provide requested information to  
5 the Federal Government.

6 “(3) To improve the comparability and accu-  
7 racy of Federal economic statistics by allowing the  
8 Bureau of the Census, the Bureau of Economic  
9 Analysis, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics to up-  
10 date sample frames, develop consistent classifica-  
11 tions of establishments and companies into indus-  
12 tries, improve coverage, and reconcile significant dif-  
13 ferences in data produced by the three agencies.

14 “(4) To increase understanding of the United  
15 States economy, especially for key industry and re-  
16 gional statistics, to develop more accurate measures  
17 of the impact of technology on productivity growth,  
18 and to enhance the reliability of the Nation’s most  
19 important economic indicators, such as the National  
20 Income and Product Accounts.

21 “(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF DESIGNATED STATIS-  
22 TICAL AGENCIES.—The head of each of the Designated  
23 Statistical Agencies shall—

24 “(1) identify opportunities to eliminate duplica-  
25 tion and otherwise reduce reporting burden and cost

1 imposed on the public in providing information for  
2 statistical purposes;

3 “(2) enter into joint statistical projects to im-  
4 prove the quality and reduce the cost of statistical  
5 programs; and

6 “(3) protect the confidentiality of individually  
7 identifiable information acquired for statistical pur-  
8 poses by adhering to safeguard principles, includ-  
9 ing—

10 “(A) emphasizing to their officers, employ-  
11 ees, and agents the importance of protecting  
12 the confidentiality of information in cases where  
13 the identity of individual respondents can rea-  
14 sonably be inferred by either direct or indirect  
15 means;

16 “(B) training their officers, employees, and  
17 agents in their legal obligations to protect the  
18 confidentiality of individually identifiable infor-  
19 mation and in the procedures that must be fol-  
20 lowed to provide access to such information;

21 “(C) implementing appropriate measures  
22 to assure the physical and electronic security of  
23 confidential data;

24 “(D) establishing a system of records that  
25 identifies individuals accessing confidential data

1 and the project for which the data were re-  
2 quired; and

3 “(E) being prepared to document their  
4 compliance with safeguard principles to other  
5 agencies authorized by law to monitor such  
6 compliance.

7 “(c) SHARING OF BUSINESS DATA AMONG DES-  
8 IGNATED STATISTICAL AGENCIES.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A Designated Statistical  
10 Agency may provide business data in an identifiable  
11 form to another Designated Statistical Agency under  
12 the terms of a written agreement among the agen-  
13 cies sharing the business data that specifies—

14 “(A) the business data to be shared;

15 “(B) the statistical purposes for which the  
16 business data are to be used;

17 “(C) the officers, employees, and agents  
18 authorized to examine the business data to be  
19 shared; and

20 “(D) appropriate security procedures to  
21 safeguard the confidentiality of the business  
22 data.

23 “(2) RESPONSIBILITIES OF AGENCIES UNDER  
24 OTHER LAWS.—The provision of business data by an  
25 agency to a Designated Statistical Agency under this

1 section shall in no way alter the responsibility of the  
2 agency providing the data under other statutes (in-  
3 cluding sections 552 and 552b of title 5) with re-  
4 spect to the provision or withholding of such infor-  
5 mation by the agency providing the data.

6 “(3) RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICERS, EMPLOY-  
7 EES, AND AGENTS.—Examination of business data  
8 in identifiable form shall be limited to the officers,  
9 employees, and agents authorized to examine the in-  
10 dividual reports in accordance with written agree-  
11 ments pursuant to this section. Officers, employees,  
12 and agents of a Designated Statistical Agency who  
13 receive data pursuant to this section shall be subject  
14 to all provisions of law, including penalties, that re-  
15 late—

16 “(A) to the unlawful provision of the busi-  
17 ness data that would apply to the officers, em-  
18 ployees, and agents of the agency that originally  
19 obtained the information; and

20 “(B) to the unlawful disclosure of the busi-  
21 ness data that would apply to officers, employ-  
22 ees, and agents of the agency that originally ob-  
23 tained the information.

24 “(4) NOTICE.—Whenever a written agreement  
25 concerns data that respondents were required by law

1 to report and the respondents were not informed  
2 that the data could be shared among the Designated  
3 Statistical Agencies, for exclusively statistical pur-  
4 poses, the terms of such agreement shall be de-  
5 scribed in a public notice issued by the agency that  
6 intends to provide the data. Such notice shall allow  
7 a minimum of 60 days for public comment.

8 “(d) LIMITATIONS ON USE OF BUSINESS DATA PRO-  
9 VIDED BY DESIGNATED STATISTICAL AGENCIES.—

10 “(1) GENERAL USE.—Business data provided  
11 by a Designated Statistical Agency pursuant to this  
12 section shall be used exclusively for statistical pur-  
13 poses.

14 “(2) PUBLICATION.—Publication of business  
15 data acquired by a Designated Statistical Agency  
16 shall occur in a manner whereby the data furnished  
17 by any particular respondent are not in identifiable  
18 form.

19 “(e) DESIGNATED STATISTICAL AGENCY DE-  
20 FINED.—In this section, the term ‘Designated Statistical  
21 Agency’ means each of the following:

22 “(1) The Census Bureau of the Department of  
23 Commerce.

24 “(2) The Bureau of Economic Analysis of the  
25 Department of Commerce.

1           “(3) The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the De-  
2           partment of Labor.”.

3           (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
4           at the beginning of chapter 35 of title 44, United States  
5           Code, as amended by proceeding provisions of this Act,  
6           is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“SUBCHAPTER III—CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PROTECTION AND  
STATISTICAL EFFICIENCY

“PART A—GENERAL

“3561. Definitions.

“3562. Coordination and oversight of policies.

“3563. Federal statistical agencies.

“3564. Effect on other laws.

“PART B—CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PROTECTION

“3571. Findings.

“3572. Confidential information protection.

“PART C—STATISTICAL EFFICIENCY

“3575. Findings.

“3576. Designated Statistical Agencies.”.

7           (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

8           (1) REPEAL OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION  
9           PROTECTION AND STATISTICAL EFFICIENCY ACT OF  
10          2002.—Title V of the E–Government Act of 2002  
11          (Public Law 107–347; 44 U.S.C. 3501 note) is re-  
12          pealed (and the table of contents of such Act shall  
13          be conformed accordingly).

14          (2) TITLE 13, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section  
15          402 of title 13, United States Code, is amended by  
16          striking “the Confidential Information Protection

1 and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002” and inserting  
2 “section 3576(e) of title 44”.

3 (3) TITLE 49, UNITED STATES CODE.—Title  
4 49, United States Code, is amended—

5 (A) in section 6302(d)(4), by striking “the  
6 Confidential Information” and all that follows  
7 through the period and inserting “section 3572  
8 of title 44.”; and

9 (B) in section 6314(d)(2), by striking “the  
10 Confidential Information” and all that follows  
11 through the period and inserting “section 3572  
12 of title 44.”.

13 (4) ACT OF JANUARY 27, 1938.—The first sec-  
14 tion of the Act of January 27, 1938, entitled “An  
15 Act to make confidential certain information fur-  
16 nished to the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Com-  
17 merce, and for other purposes” (52 Stat. 8, chapter  
18 11; 15 U.S.C. 176a), is amended by striking “the  
19 Confidential Information Protection and Statistical  
20 Efficiency Act of 2002” and inserting “subchapter  
21 III of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code”.

22 (5) FIXING AMERICA’S SURFACE TRANSPOR-  
23 TATION ACT.—Section 7308(e)(2) of the Fixing  
24 America’s Surface Transportation Act (Public Law  
25 114–94; 49 U.S.C. 20155 note) is amended by strik-



1 ing “the Confidential Information Protection and  
2 Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (44 U.S.C. 3501  
3 note)” and inserting “section 3572 of title 44,  
4 United States Code”.

5 (d) TRANSITIONAL AND SAVINGS PROVISIONS.—

6 (1) CUTOFF DATE.—This title replaces certain  
7 provisions of law enacted on December 17, 2002. If  
8 a law enacted after that date amends or repeals a  
9 provision replaced by this title, that law is deemed  
10 to amend or repeal, as the case may be, the cor-  
11 responding provision enacted by this title. If a law  
12 enacted after that date is otherwise inconsistent with  
13 this title, it supersedes this title to the extent of the  
14 inconsistency.

15 (2) ORIGINAL DATE OF ENACTMENT UN-  
16 CHANGED.—For purposes of determining whether  
17 one provision of law supersedes another based on en-  
18 actment later in time, the date of the enactment of  
19 a provision enacted by this title is deemed to be the  
20 date of the enactment of the provision it replaced.

21 (3) REFERENCES TO PROVISIONS REPLACED.—  
22 A reference to a provision of law replaced by this  
23 title, including a reference in a regulation, order, or  
24 other law, is deemed to refer to the corresponding  
25 provision enacted by this title.

(5) ACTIONS TAKEN AND OFFENSES COMMITTED.—An action taken or an offense committed under a provision of law replaced by this title is deemed to have been taken or committed under the corresponding provision enacted by this title.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, as added by section 302, is amended by adding at the end the following new part:

“(a) ACCESSIBILITY OF DATA ASSETS.—The head of  
an agency shall, to the extent practicable, make any data  
asset maintained by the agency available, upon request,  
to any statistical agency or unit for purposes of developing  
evidence.

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1           “(1) prohibits the sharing or intended use of  
2           such asset in a manner as to leave no discretion on  
3           the issue; or

4           “(2) if enacted after the date of the enactment  
5           of this section, specifically cites to this paragraph.

6           “(c) REGULATIONS.—The Director shall prescribe  
7           regulations for agencies to carry out this section. Such  
8           regulations shall—

9           “(1) require the timely provision of data assets  
10          under subsection (a);

11          “(2) provide a list of statutes that exempt agen-  
12          cies from the requirement under subsection (a) pur-  
13          suant to subsection (b)(1); and

14          “(3) require a transparent process for statis-  
15          tical agencies and units to request data assets from  
16          agencies and for agencies to respond to such re-  
17          quests.

18          “(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
19          tion may be construed as altering existing intellectual  
20          property rights or the terms of any contract or other bind-  
21          ing, written agreement.

22       **“§ 3582. Expanding secure access to CIPSEA data as-**  
23               **sets**

24          “(a) STATISTICAL AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES.—To  
25          the extent practicable, each statistical agency or unit shall

1 expand access to data assets of such agency or unit ac-  
2 quired or accessed under this subchapter to develop evi-  
3 dence while protecting such assets from inappropriate ac-  
4 cess and use, in accordance with the regulations promul-  
5 gated under subsection (b).

6 “(b) REGULATIONS FOR ACCESSIBILITY OF NON-  
7 PUBLIC DATA ASSETS.—The Director shall promulgate  
8 regulations, in accordance with applicable law, for statis-  
9 tical agencies and units to carry out the requirement  
10 under subsection (a). Such regulations shall include the  
11 following:

12 “(1) Standards for each statistical agency or  
13 unit to assess each data asset owned or accessed by  
14 the statistical agency or unit for purposes of catego-  
15 rizing the sensitivity level of each such asset and  
16 identifying the corresponding level of accessibility to  
17 each such asset. Such standards shall include—

18 “(A) common sensitivity levels and cor-  
19 responding levels of accessibility that may be  
20 assigned to a data asset, including a requisite  
21 minimum and maximum number of sensitivity  
22 levels for each statistical agency or unit to use;

23 “(B) criteria for determining the sensi-  
24 tivity level and corresponding level of accessi-  
25 bility of each data asset; and

1           “(C) criteria for determining whether a  
2           less sensitive and more accessible version of a  
3           data asset can be produced.

4           “(2) Standards for each statistical agency or  
5           unit to improve access to a data asset pursuant to  
6           paragraph (1) or (3) by removing or obscuring infor-  
7           mation in such a manner that the identity of the  
8           data subject is less likely to be reasonably inferred  
9           by either direct or indirect means.

10          “(3) A requirement for each statistical agency  
11          or unit to conduct a comprehensive risk assessment  
12          of any data asset acquired or accessed under this  
13          subchapter prior to any public release of such asset,  
14          including standards for such comprehensive risk as-  
15          sessment and criteria for making a determination of  
16          whether to release the data.

17          “(4) Requirements for each statistical agency or  
18          unit to make any process or assessment established,  
19          produced, or conducted pursuant to this section  
20          transparent and easy to understand, including the  
21          following:

22                 “(A) A requirement to make information  
23                 on the assessment of the sensitivity level of  
24                 each data asset conducted pursuant to para-

1 graph (1) available on the Federal data cata-  
2 logue established under section 3511(c)(1).

3 “(B) A requirement to make any com-  
4 prehensive risk assessment, and associated de-  
5 terminations, conducted under paragraph (3)  
6 available on the Federal data catalogue estab-  
7 lished under section 3511(c)(1).

8 “(C) A requirement to make any standard  
9 or policy established by the statistical agency or  
10 unit to carry out this section and any assess-  
11 ment conducted under this section easily acces-  
12 sible on the public website of such agency or  
13 unit.

14 “(c) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTOR.—The  
15 Director shall—

16 “(1) make public all standards and policies es-  
17 tablished under this section; and

18 “(2) ensure that statistical agencies and units  
19 have the ability to make information public on the  
20 Federal data catalogue established under section  
21 3511(c)(1), in accordance with requirements estab-  
22 lished pursuant to subsection (b).

1   **“§ 3583. Application to access data assets for devel-**  
2                   **oping evidence**

3           “(a) STANDARD APPLICATION PROCESS.—The Di-  
4   rector shall establish a process through which agencies,  
5   the Congressional Budget Office, State, local, and Tribal  
6   governments, researchers, and other individuals, as appro-  
7   priate, may apply to access the data assets accessed or  
8   acquired under this subchapter by a statistical agency or  
9   unit for purposes of developing evidence. The process shall  
10 include the following:

11           “(1) Sufficient detail to ensure that each statis-  
12   tical agency or unit establishes an identical process.

13           “(2) A common application form.

14           “(3) Criteria for statistical agencies and units  
15   to determine whether to grant an applicant access to  
16   a data asset.

17           “(4) Timeframes for prompt determinations by  
18   each statistical agency or unit.

19           “(5) An appeals process for adverse decisions  
20   and noncompliance with the process established  
21   under this subsection.

22           “(6) Standards for transparency, including re-  
23   quirements to make the following information pub-  
24   licly available:

25                   “(A) Each application received.

26                   “(B) The status of each application.

1                   “(C) The determination made for each ap-  
2                   plication.

3                   “(D) Any other information, as appro-  
4                   priate, to ensure full transparency of the proc-  
5                   ess established under this subsection.

6           “(b) CONSULTATION.—In establishing the process re-  
7           quired under subsection (a), the Director shall consult  
8           with stakeholders, including the public, agencies, State  
9           and local governments, and representatives of non-govern-  
10          mental researchers.

11          “(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—The head of each statistical  
12          agency or unit shall implement the process established  
13          under subsection (a).”.

14          (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
15          at the beginning of chapter 35 of title 44, United States  
16          Code, as amended by preceding provisions of this Act, is  
17          further amended by adding at the end the following:

“PART D—ACCESS TO DATA FOR EVIDENCE

“3581. Presumption of accessibility for statistical agencies and units.

“3582. Expanding secure access to CIPSEA data assets.

“3583. Application to access data assets for developing evidence.”.

18          (c) DEADLINE FOR GUIDANCE AND IMPLEMENTA-  
19          TION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enact-  
20          ment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Manage-  
21          ment and Budget shall promulgate or issue any regulation  
22          or guidance required by subchapter III of title 44, United  
23          States Code, as amended by this section, with a require-



1 ment for such regulation or guidance to be implemented  
2 not later than 1 year after the date on which such regula-  
3 tion or guidance has been promulgated or issued.

## 4 **TITLE IV—GENERAL** 5 **PROVISIONS**

### 6 **SEC. 401. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

7 Nothing in this Act, or the amendments made by this  
8 Act, may be construed—

9 (1) to require the disclosure of information or  
10 records that are exempt from disclosure under sec-  
11 tion 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly  
12 known as the “Freedom of Information Act”);

13 (2) to create or expand an exemption from dis-  
14 closure under such section; or

15 (3) to affect the authority of a Federal agency  
16 regarding—

17 (A) intellectual property rights, including  
18 rights under titles 17 and 35, United States  
19 Code;

20 (B) confidential business information that  
21 could be withheld under section 552(b)(4) of  
22 title 5; or

23 (C) data assets restricted from disclosure  
24 under a contract or other binding, written  
25 agreement.

1 **SEC. 402. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2       Except as otherwise provided, this Act, and the  
3 amendments made by this Act, shall take effect on the  
4 date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of  
5 this Act.

        Passed the House of Representatives November 15,  
2017.

Attest:

*Clerk.*



115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4174

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## AN ACT

To amend titles 5 and 44, United States Code, to require Federal evaluation activities, improve Federal data management, and for other purposes.