

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7343

To require the Federal Communications Commission and the Federal Trade Commission to jointly establish a robocaller bounty pilot program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 19, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. CRIST) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require the Federal Communications Commission and the Federal Trade Commission to jointly establish a robocaller bounty pilot program, 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. ROBOCALLER BOUNTY PILOT PROGRAM.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
5 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Commu-
6 nications Commission and the Federal Trade Commission
7 shall jointly establish a robocaller bounty pilot program
8 to reduce violations of section 227 of the Communications
9 Act of 1947 (47 U.S.C. 227) and the do-not-call registry.

1 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—In establishing the pilot pro-
2 gram under subsection (a), the Federal Communications
3 Commission and the Federal Trade Commission shall
4 jointly—

5 (1) provide monetary compensation for the
6 identification, apprehension, and prevention of fu-
7 ture robocalls and fraudulent callers;

8 (2) develop an expeditious process for partici-
9 pants in the pilot program to submit an expedited
10 background check, as determined by the Federal
11 Communications Commission and the Federal Trade
12 Commission, and approval for participation into the
13 program;

14 (3) develop a fee-sharing structure for partici-
15 pants to share in funds recovered from violations in
16 addition to payment for participation in program;

17 (4) consult with the Attorney General on how
18 to ensure participants of the pilot program are pro-
19 tected from prosecution for specific activities author-
20 ized under the pilot program;

21 (5) award competitive contracts as necessary to
22 manage the pilot program and for addressing the
23 vulnerabilities identified as a consequence of the
24 pilot program; and

1 (6) solicit interested persons, including the pri-
2 vate sector, about the structure of the pilot program
3 and constructive feedback.

4 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date
5 on which the pilot program is complete, the Federal Com-
6 munications Commission and the Federal Trade Commis-
7 sion shall submit a joint report to the Committees on En-
8 ergy and Commerce and the Judiciary of the House of
9 Representatives and the Committees on Commerce,
10 Science, and Transportation and the Judiciary of the Sen-
11 ate. The report shall include the following:

12 (1) The number of individuals and companies
13 that were approved and received compensation.

14 (2) The number of identified and apprehended
15 robocallers.

16 (3) The number of identified vulnerabilities in
17 existing law, apprehension, and enforcement of
18 robocallers.

19 (4) The number of resulting prosecutions.

20 (5) The recommendations for overseas identi-
21 fication and apprehension of robocallers.

22 (6) The obstacles encountered with appre-
23 hending robocallers and any other lessons learned
24 from the pilot program.

1 (7) The payouts per participant.

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