those States to increase participation in drug take-back programs.

S. 2652

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2652, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Stephen Michael Gleason.

S. 2667

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2667, a bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to provide for State and Tribal regulation of hemp production, and for other purposes.

S. 2708

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2708, a bill to provide for the establishment of Medicare part E public health plans, and for other purposes.

S. 2736

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2736, a bill to develop a long-term strategic vision and a comprehensive, multifaceted, and principled United States policy for the Indo-Pacific region, and for other purposes.

S. 2756

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2756, a bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to revise the regulations of the Commission regarding the qualifications of natural persons as accredited investors.

S. 2762

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2762, a bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to support opportunities for beginning farmers and ranchers, and for other purposes.

S. 2789

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2789, a bill to prevent substance abuse and reduce demand for illicit narcotics.

S. 2823

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2823, a bill to modernize copyright law, and for other purposes.

S. 2835

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2835, a bill to require a study of the well-being of the newsprint and publishing industry in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2836

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2836, a bill to assist the Department of Homeland Security in preventing emerging threats from unmanned aircraft and vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 2863

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2863, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in commemoration of the opening of the National Law Enforcement Museum in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

S. 2886

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2886, a bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to reinstate the ban on the export of crude oil and natural gas produced in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2930

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2930, a bill to provide that Congress may not recess, adjourn, or consider other matters after August 1 of any year if Congress has not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget and passed the regular appropriations bills with respect to the next fiscal year.

S. 2938

At the request of Mr. SASSE, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 2938, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to modify provisions relating to hours of service requirements with respect to transportation of livestock and insects, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 5

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 5, a joint resolution removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment.

S. RES. 435

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 435, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the 85th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933, known as the Holodomor, should serve as a reminder of repressive Soviet policies against the people of Ukraine.

S. RES. 460

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 460, a resolution condemning Boko Haram and calling on the Governments of the United States of America and Nigeria to swiftly implement measures to defeat the terrorist organization.

S. RES. 508

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 508, a resolution supporting the goals of Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome International Awareness Day.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. NELSON, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. COONS, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 2946. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to clarify the meaning of the terms ''act of war'' and ''blocked asset'', and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2946

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Anti-Terrorism Clarification Act of 2018''.

SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION OF THE TERM "ACT OF WAR".

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2331 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(6) the term 'military force' does not include any person that—

''(A) has been designated as a—

''(i) foreign terrorist organization by the Secretary of State under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189); or

''(ii) Specially Designated Global Terrorist (as such term is defined in section 594.310 of the Code of Federal Regulations) by the Secretary of State or the Secretary of the Treasury; or

''(B) has been determined by the court to not be a 'military force'.''.

(b) APPLICATION.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to any civil action pending on or commenced after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. SATISFACTION OF JUDGMENTS AGAINST TERRORISTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2333 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting at the end following:

''(e) USE OF BLOCKED ASSETS TO SATISFY JUDGMENTS OF U.S. NATIONALS.—For purposes of section 201 of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 (28 U.S.C. 1610 note), in any action in which a national of the United States has obtained a judgment against a

terrorist party pursuant to this section, the term 'blocked asset' shall include any asset of that terrorist party (including the blocked assets of any agency or instrumentality of that party) seized or frozen by the United States under section 805(b) of the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act (21 U.S.C. 1904(b)).''.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to any judgment entered before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. CONSENT OF CERTAIN PARTIES TO PERSONAL JURISDICTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2334 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) CONSENT OF CERTAIN PARTIES TO PERSONAL JURISDICTION.—For purposes of any civil action under section 2333 of this title, a defendant shall be deemed to have consented to personal jurisdiction in such civil action if, regardless of the date of the occurrence of the act of international terrorism upon which such civil action was filed, the defendant—

''(1) after the date of enactment of this subsection, accepts—

''(A) assistance under chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2346 et seq.); or

''(B) assistance under section 481 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2291) for international narcotics control and law enforcement; or

''(2) in the case of a defendant benefiting from a waiver or suspension of section 1003 of the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1987 (22 U.S.C. 5202)—

''(A) after the date that is 120 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, continues to maintain any office, headquarters, premises, or other facilities or establishments within the jurisdiction of the United States; or

''(B) after the date of enactment of this subsection, establishes or procures any office, headquarters, premises, or other facilities or establishments within the jurisdiction of the United States.''.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to any civil action filed after the date of enactment of this Act.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. ROBERTS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. ENZI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. ERNST, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. HELLER, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CASEY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. NELSON, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. TESTER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. REED, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 2952. A bill to amend the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to establish protections against congressional sexual harassment and discrimination, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

S. 2952

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES IN ACT; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 Reform Act''.

(b) REFERENCES IN ACT.—Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Act, wherever an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to or repeal of a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to that section or other provision of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.).

(c) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; references in Act; table of contents.

TITLE I—REFORM OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURES

Subtitle A—Reform of Procedures for Initiation and Resolution of Claims

Sec. 101. Description of procedures available for consideration of alleged violations.
Sec. 102. Reform of process for initiation of procedures.
Sec. 103. Availability of mediation during process.
Sec. 104. Hearings.

Subtitle B—Other Reforms

Sec. 111. Requiring Members of Congress to reimburse treasury for damages paid as settlements and awards for certain violations.
Sec. 112. Automatic referral to congressional ethics committees of disposition of certain claims alleging violations of Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 involving Members of Congress and senior staff.
Sec. 113. Availability of option to request remote work assignment or paid leave of absence during pendency of procedures.
Sec. 114. Modification of rules on confidentiality of proceedings.
Sec. 115. Reimbursement by other employing offices of legislative branch of payments of certain awards and settlements.

TITLE II—IMPROVING OPERATIONS OF OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS

Sec. 201. Reports on awards and settlements.
Sec. 202. Workplace climate surveys of employing offices.
Sec. 203. Record retention.
Sec. 204. Confidential Advisor.
Sec. 205. GAO study of management practices.
Sec. 206. GAO audit of cybersecurity.

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS REFORMS

Sec. 301. Application of Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008.
Sec. 302. Extension to unpaid staff of rights and protections against employment discrimination.
Sec. 303. Provisions relating to instrumentalities.
Sec. 304. Notices.
Sec. 305. Clarification of coverage of employees of Stennis Center and Helsinki and China Commissions.
Sec. 306. Training and education programs of other employing offices.
Sec. 307. Support for out-of-area covered employees.
Sec. 308. Renaming Office of Compliance as Office of Congressional Workplace Rights.

TITLE IV—EFFECTIVE DATE

Sec. 401. Effective date.

TITLE I—REFORM OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURES

Subtitle A—Reform of Procedures for Initiation and Resolution of Claims

SEC. 101. DESCRIPTION OF PROCEDURES AVAILABLE FOR CONSIDERATION OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS.

(a) PROCEDURES DESCRIBED.—Section 401 (2 U.S.C. 1401) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 401. PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERATION OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS.

''(a) FILING OF CLAIMS.—Except as otherwise provided in this Act, the procedure for consideration of an alleged violation of part A of title II consists of—

''(1) notification of intent to file, and filing of, a claim by the covered employee alleging the violation, as provided in section 402, which may be followed, as described in section 403(a), with mediation under section 403; and

''(2) an election of proceeding, as provided in this section, of—

''(A) a formal hearing as provided in section 405, subject to Board review as provided in section 406, and judicial review in the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit as provided in section 407;

''(B) a civil action in a district court of the United States as provided in section 408; or

''(C) in the case of a Library claimant (as defined in subsection (d)(1)), a proceeding described in subsection (d)(2) that relates to the violation at issue.

''(b) ELECTION OF FORMAL HEARING OR CIVIL ACTION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A covered employee who seeks to make—

''(A) the election described in subsection (a)(2)(A) shall file the request for the formal hearing as provided in section 405(a)(1), by the deadline described in paragraph (2); or

''(B) the election described in subsection (a)(2)(B) shall file the civil action as provided in section 408, by the deadline described in paragraph (2).

''(2) DEADLINE FOR ELECTION.—The deadline described in this paragraph shall be 90 days after the later of—

''(A) the date on which either party opts out of mediation under section 402(c); or

''(B) the end of the period of mediation under section 403(c).

''(3) EFFECT OF ELECTION.—If the covered employee—

''(A) elects to file a request for a formal hearing as provided in section 405(a), the procedure for consideration of the claim shall not include a civil action or other proceeding described in subparagraph (B) or (C) of subsection (a)(2); or

''(B) elects to file a civil action as provided in section 408(a), the procedure for consideration of the claim shall not include any formal hearing, review, or other proceeding described in subparagraph (A) or (C) of subsection (a)(2).

''(c) SPECIAL RULE FOR ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL AND CAPITOL POLICE.—In the case of an employee of the Office of the Architect of the Capitol or of the Capitol Police, the Office, after receiving a claim filed under section 402, may recommend that the employee use, for a specific period of time, the grievance procedures of the Architect of the Capitol or the Capitol Police for resolution of the employee's grievance. If the grievance procedures do not resolve the grievance, the employee may resume the procedure described in subsection (a), starting with section 403, except that the deadline for opting out of mediation under that section shall be 10 business days after the last day of the grievance procedures.

''(d) ELECTION OF REMEDIES FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.—

''(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) DIRECT ACT.—The term 'direct Act' means an Act (other than this Act), or provision of the Revised Statutes, that is specified in section 201, 202, or 203.

''(B) DIRECT PROVISION.—The term 'direct provision' means a provision (including a definitional provision) of a direct Act that applies the rights or protections of a direct Act (including rights and protections relating to nonretaliation or noncoercion) to a Library claimant.

''(C) LIBRARY CLAIMANT.—The term 'Library claimant' means, with respect to a direct provision, an employee of the Library of Congress who is covered by that direct provision.

''(2) ELECTION AFTER PROCEEDINGS INITIALLY BROUGHT UNDER THIS ACT.—A Library claimant who initially files a claim for an alleged violation as provided in section 402 may, instead of proceeding with the claim in accordance with sections 403 (if applicable) and 405 or filing a civil action in accordance with section 408, during the period described in subsection (b)(2) but before the Office commences a formal hearing under section 405, elect to bring the claim for a proceeding before the corresponding Federal agency, under the corresponding direct provision.

''(3) ELECTION AFTER PROCEEDINGS INITIALLY BROUGHT UNDER OTHER CIVIL RIGHTS OR LABOR LAW.—A Library claimant who initially brings a claim, complaint, or charge under a direct provision for a proceeding before a Federal agency may, prior to requesting a hearing under the agency's procedures, elect to—

''(A) continue with the agency's procedures and preserve the option (if any) to bring any civil action relating to the claim, complaint, or charge, that is available to the Library claimant; or

''(B) file a claim with the Office under section 402, make an election under subparagraph (A) or (B) of section 401(a)(2), and continue with the corresponding procedures of this subtitle.

''(4) APPLICATION.—This subsection shall take effect and shall apply as described in section 153(c) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115–141) (except to the extent such section applies to any violation of section 210 or a provision of an Act specified in section 210).

''(e) RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS TO RETAIN PRIVATE COUNSEL.—Nothing in this Act may be construed to limit the authority of any particular individual, including a covered employee, the head of an employing office, or an individual who has a right to intervene under section 415(d)(6), to retain private counsel to protect the interests of the particular individual at any point during any of the procedures provided under this Act for the consideration of an alleged violation of part A of title II, including procedures described in section 415(d)(6).

''(f) STANDARDS FOR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES OR UNREPRESENTED PARTIES.—

''(1) STANDARDS.—Each designated representative of a party, and unrepresented party, participating in any of the procedures (including proceedings) provided under this Act shall have an obligation to ensure that, to the best of that designated representative or unrepresented party's knowledge, information, and belief, as formed after an inquiry which is reasonable under the circumstances, each of the following is correct:

''(A) No pleading, written motion, or other paper is presented for any improper purpose, such as to harass, cause unnecessary delay, or needlessly increase the cost of resolution of the matter.

''(B) The claims, defenses, and other legal contentions the designated representative or unrepresented party advocates are warranted by existing law or by a nonfrivolous argument for extending, modifying, or reversing existing law or for establishing new law.

''(C) The factual contentions have evidentiary support or, if specifically so identified, will likely have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for discovery.

''(D) The denials of factual contentions are warranted on the evidence or, if specifically so identified, are reasonably based on belief or a lack of information.

''(2) SANCTIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If a decisionmaker described in subparagraph (B) determines that a designated representative of a party, or unrepresented party, has failed to comply with the standards specified in paragraph (1), then that decisionmaker may impose appropriate sanctions.

''(B) DECISIONMAKER.—A decisionmaker described in subparagraph (A) is—

''(i) a hearing officer or mediator chosen from the list specified in section 405(c)(2), who is not serving as a hearing officer or mediator to resolve any claim filed under section 402 that is associated with—

''(I) the designated representative or unrepresented party; or

''(II) an individual identified in claim.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO CIVIL ACTION.—Section 408(a) (2 U.S.C. 1408(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''section 404'' and inserting ''section 401'';

(2) by striking ''who has completed counseling under section 402 and mediation under section 403'' and inserting ''who filed a timely claim under section 402, elected to file a civil action under section 401(a)(2)(B), and made a timely filing under this section as described in section 401(b)''; and

(3) by striking the second sentence.

(c) OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Title IV is amended by striking section 404 (2 U.S.C. 1404).

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents is amended by striking the item relating to section 404.

SEC. 102. REFORM OF PROCESS FOR INITIATION OF PROCEDURES.

(a) INITIATION OF PROCEDURES.—Section 402 (2 U.S.C. 1402) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 402. INITIATION OF PROCEDURES.

''(a) INTAKE OF CLAIM BY OFFICE.—

''(1) NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO FILE.—To commence a proceeding under this title, a covered employee alleging a violation of law made applicable under part A of title II shall notify the Office of intent to file a claim with the Office.

''(2) INFORMATION.—On receiving a notification under paragraph (1), the Office shall provide to the covered employee all relevant information with respect to the employee's and the employing office's rights under this Act, the process for filing the claim, and the option for the employee to elect, if the employee so chooses, to file a civil action regarding the alleged violation. The Office shall discuss the information and covered employee's claim with the covered employee. The Office shall initiate the procedures described in this paragraph on the date of the notification.

''(3) FILING.—Upon providing the notification described in paragraph (1), and not later than the expiration of the 180-day period in subsection (e), the covered employee may file the claim. The claim shall be made in writing under oath or affirmation, shall describe the facts that form the basis of the claim and the violation that is being alleged, shall identify the employing office alleged to have committed the violation or in which the violation is alleged to have occurred, and shall be in such form as the Office requires.

''(b) INITIAL PROCESSING OF CLAIM.—Upon the filing of a claim by a covered employee under subsection (a), the Office shall take such steps as may be necessary for the initial intake and recording of the claim and shall transmit a copy of the claim to the head of the employing office not later than 3 business days after the date on which the claim is filed.

''(c) MEDIATION.—

''(1) NOTIFICATION OF RIGHT TO OPT OUT OF MEDIATION.—

''(A) COVERED EMPLOYEE.—Upon receipt of a claim, the Office shall notify the covered employee about the process for mediation under section 403, the right to opt out of the mediation, and the deadline for opting out of the mediation.

''(B) EMPLOYING OFFICE.—Upon transmission to the employing office of the claim pursuant to subsection (b), the Office shall notify the employing office about the process for mediation under section 403, the right to opt out of the mediation, and the deadline for opting out of the mediation.

''(2) DEADLINE TO OPT OUT OF MEDIATION.—Either party may opt out of the mediation. The deadline for opting out shall be 10 business days after the date on which the claim that would be the subject of the mediation is filed.

''(d) USE OF ELECTRONIC REPORTING AND TRACKING SYSTEM.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF SYSTEM.—The Office shall establish and operate an electronic reporting and tracking system through which a covered employee may initiate a proceeding under this title, and which will keep an electronic record of the date and time at which the proceeding is initiated and will track all subsequent actions or proceedings occurring with respect to the proceeding under this title.

''(2) ACCESSIBILITY TO ALL PARTIES.—The system shall be accessible to all parties to such actions or proceedings, but only until the completion of such actions or proceedings.

''(3) ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTIVENESS OF PROCEDURES.—The Office shall use the information contained in the system to make regular assessments of the effectiveness of the procedures under this title in providing for the timely resolution of claims, and shall submit semiannual reports on such assessments each year to the Committee on House Administration and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

''(e) DEADLINE.—A covered employee may not file a claim under this section with respect to an allegation of a violation of law after the expiration of the 180-day period which begins on the date of the alleged violation. The Office shall not accept a claim that does not meet the requirements of this subsection.

''(f) NO EFFECT ON ABILITY OF COVERED EMPLOYEE TO SEEK INFORMATION FROM OFFICE OR PURSUE RELIEF.—Nothing in this section may be construed to limit the ability of a covered employee—

''(1) to contact the Office or any other appropriate office prior to filing a claim under this title to seek information regarding the employee's rights under this Act and the procedures available under this Act; or

''(2) in the case of a covered employee of an employing office described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of section 101(9), to refer information regarding an alleged violation of part A of title II to the Committee on Ethics of the House of Representatives or the Select Committee on Ethics of the Senate (as the case may be).''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents is amended by amending the item relating to section 402 to read as follows:

''Sec. 402. Initiation of procedures.''.

SEC. 103. AVAILABILITY OF MEDIATION DURING PROCESS.

(a) AVAILABILITY OF MEDIATION.—Section 403(a) (2 U.S.C. 1403(a)) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) AVAILABILITY OF MEDIATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Unless the covered employee who filed a claim under section 402 or the employing office named in the claim opts out of mediation by the deadline described in section 402(c)(2), the Office shall promptly assign a mediator to the claim, and conduct such mediation under this section.

''(2) IMPACT OF DECISION.—A decision by a party to engage in or opt out of mediation as provided in this Act shall not be used for or against the party in any proceeding under this Act.''.

(b) REQUIRING PARTIES TO BE SEPARATED DURING MEDIATION AT REQUEST OF EMPLOYEE.—Section 403(b)(2) (2 U.S.C. 1403(b)(2)) is amended by striking ''meetings with the parties separately or jointly'' and inserting ''meetings with the parties during which, at the request of the covered employee, the parties shall be separated,''.

(c) PERIOD OF MEDIATION.—Section 403(c) (2 U.S.C. 1403(c)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking ''beginning on the date the request for mediation is received'' and inserting ''beginning on the first day after the deadline described in section 402(c)(2)''; and

(2) by striking the second sentence and inserting ''The mediation period may be extended for one additional period of 30 days at the joint request of the covered employee and employing office.''.

SEC. 104. HEARINGS.

(a) HEARINGS COMMENCED BY OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS.—Section 405 (2 U.S.C. 1405) is amended as follows:

(1) In the heading, by striking ''**COMPLAINT AND**''.

(2) By amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

''(a) REQUIREMENT FOR HEARINGS TO COMMENCE IN OFFICE.—

''(1) HEARING REQUIRED UPON REQUEST.—If a covered employee elects to file a request for a hearing under this section by the deadline described in paragraph (2), the Executive Director shall appoint an independent hearing officer pursuant to subsection (c) to consider the claim and render a decision, and a hearing shall be commenced in the Office.

''(2) DEADLINE FOR REQUESTING HEARING.—The deadline described in this paragraph shall be 90 days after the later of—

''(A) the date on which either party opts out of mediation under section 402(c); or

''(B) the end of the period of mediation under section 403(c).

''(3) EFFECT OF FILING CIVIL ACTION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if the covered employee files a civil action as provided in section 408 with respect to a complaint, the provisions of section 401(b)(3)(B) shall apply with regard to a hearing under this section.''.

(3) In subsection (b), by striking ''dismiss any claim'' and inserting ''dismiss any cause of action within a claim''.

(4) In subsection (c)(1), by striking ''Upon the filing of a complaint'' and inserting ''Upon receipt of a request for a hearing in accordance with subsection (a)''.

(5) In subsection (d), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''complaint'' and inserting ''claim''.

(6) In subsection (g), by striking ''complaint'' and inserting ''claim''.

(b) ADDITIONAL TIME TO COMMENCE A HEARING BEFORE A HEARING OFFICER.—Section 405(d) (2 U.S.C. 1405(d)), as amended by subsection (a), is further amended by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) commenced no later than 90 days after the Executive Director receives a request filed under subsection (a), except that, upon mutual agreement of the parties or for good cause, the Office shall extend the time for commencing a hearing for not more than an additional 30 days; and''.

(c) OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading of section 414 (2 U.S.C. 1414) is amended by striking ''**OF COMPLAINTS**''.

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents, as amended by section 101(d), is further amended as follows:

(1) By amending the item relating to section 405 to read as follows:

''Sec. 405. Hearing.''.

(2) By amending the item relating to section 414 to read as follows:

''Sec. 414. Settlement.''.

Subtitle B—Other Reforms

SEC. 111. REQUIRING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO REIMBURSE TREASURY FOR DAMAGES PAID AS SETTLEMENTS AND AWARDS FOR CERTAIN VIOLATIONS.

(a) MANDATING REIMBURSEMENT OF AMOUNTS PAID.—Section 415 (2 U.S.C. 1415) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) REIMBURSEMENT BY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS FOR DAMAGES PAID AS SETTLEMENTS AND AWARDS.—

''(1) REIMBURSEMENT REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN VIOLATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If a payment is made from the account described in subsection (a) for an award or settlement in connection with a claim alleging a violation described in subparagraph (D) perpetrated directly against a covered employee by an individual who, at the time of committing the violation, was a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress) or a Senator, that individual who committed the violation shall reimburse the account for the amount of compensatory damages included in the award or settlement attributable to that violation.

''(B) SEPARATE FINDING REQUIRED IN CASE OF AWARD OR SETTLEMENT.—Personal liability or a reimbursement requirement may not be imposed on an individual under this subsection unless the hearing officer, the court, or the corresponding committee described in section 416(e)(1) (as the case may be) makes a finding, separate from the finding on the underlying claim, that the individual perpetrated a violation requiring reimbursement under this subsection.

''(C) MULTIPLE CLAIMS.—If an award or settlement is made for multiple claims, some of which do not require reimbursement under this subsection, the Member or Senator shall only be required to reimburse for the amount of compensatory damages included in the portion of the award or settlement attributable to a claim requiring reimbursement.

''(D) VIOLATION DESCRIBED.—A violation described in this subparagraph is—

''(i) unwelcome harassment by an individual described in subparagraph (A) on any basis protected by section 201(a) or 206(a) that has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering, and is sufficiently severe or pervasive to unreasonably interfere, with a covered employee's work performance or create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment; or

''(ii) in the case of a violation of section 201(a) on the basis of sex, conduct by an individual described in subparagraph (A) that is an unwelcome sexual advance or request for sexual favors, when—

''(I) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of the covered employee's employment; or

''(II) submission to or rejection of such conduct by the employee is used as the basis for an employment decision affecting such employee.

''(2) WITHHOLDING AMOUNTS FROM COMPENSATION.—

''(A) ESTABLISHMENT OF TIMETABLE AND PROCEDURES BY COMMITTEES.—For purposes of carrying out subparagraph (B), the applicable Committee shall establish a timetable and procedures for the withholding of amounts from the compensation of an individual who is a Member of the House of Representatives or a Senator.

''(B) DEADLINE.—The payroll administrator shall withhold from an individual's compensation and transfer to the account described in subsection (a) (after transferring to the account of the individual in the Thrift Savings Fund any amount that the individual had requested to be so transferred) such amounts as may be necessary to reimburse the account described in subsection (a) for the reimbursable portion of the award or settlement described in paragraph (1) if the individual has not reimbursed the account as required under paragraph (1) prior to the expiration of the 90-day period which begins on the date a payment is made from the account for such an award or settlement.

''(C) APPLICABLE COMMITTEE DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the 'applicable Committee' means—

''(i) the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives, in the case of an individual who, at the time of the withholding, is a Member of the House; or

''(ii) the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate, in the case of an individual who, at the time of the withholding, is a Senator.

''(3) ADMINISTRATIVE WAGE GARNISHMENT OR OTHER COLLECTION OF WAGES FROM A SUBSEQUENT POSITION.—

''(A) INDIVIDUAL SUBJECT TO GARNISHMENT OR OTHER COLLECTION.—Subparagraph (B) shall apply to an individual who is subject to the reimbursement requirement of this subsection if, by the expiration of the 180-day period that begins on the date a payment is made from the account described in subsection (a) relating to an award or settlement described in paragraph (1), the individual—

''(i) has not reimbursed the account for the entire reimbursable portion as required under paragraph (1); and

''(ii) is not employed as a Member of the House of Representatives or a Senator but is employed in a subsequent non-Federal position.

''(B) GARNISHMENT OR OTHER COLLECTION OF WAGES.—On the expiration of that 180-day period, the amount of the reimbursable portion of an award or settlement described in paragraph (1) (reduced by any amount the individual has reimbursed, taking into account any amounts withheld under paragraph (2)) shall be treated as a delinquent nontax debt and transferred to the Secretary of the Treasury for collection. Upon that transfer, the Secretary of the Treasury shall collect the debt, in accordance with section 3711 of title 31, United States Code, including by administrative wage garnishment of the wages of the individual described in subparagraph (A) from the position described in subparagraph (A)(ii). The Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer the collected amount to the account described in subsection (a).

''(4) NOTIFICATION TO OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT AND SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.—If the individual does not obtain employment in a subsequent position referred

to in paragraph (3)(A)(ii), not later than 90 days after the individual is first no longer receiving compensation as a Member or a Senator, the amounts withheld or collected under this subsection have not been sufficient to reimburse the account described in subsection (a) for the reimbursable portion of the award or settlement described in paragraph (1), the payroll administrator—

''(A) shall notify the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, who shall take such actions as the Director considers appropriate to withhold from any annuity payable to the individual under chapter 83 or chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, and transfer to the account described in subsection (a), such amounts as may be necessary to reimburse the account for the reimbursable portion of an award or settlement described in paragraph (1); and

''(B) shall notify the Secretary of the Treasury, who (if necessary), notwithstanding section 207 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 407), shall take such actions as the Secretary of the Treasury considers appropriate to withhold from any payment to the individual under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) and transfer to the account described in subsection (a), such amounts as may be necessary to reimburse the account for the reimbursable portion of an award or settlement described in paragraph (1).

''(5) COORDINATION BETWEEN OPM AND TREASURY.—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management and the Secretary of the Treasury shall carry out paragraph (4) in a manner that ensures the coordination of the withholding and transferring of amounts under such paragraph, in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Director and the Secretary.

''(6) RIGHT TO INTERVENE.—An individual who is subject to the reimbursement requirement of this subsection shall have the unconditional right to intervene in any mediation, hearing, or civil action under this title to protect the interests of the individual in the determination of whether an award or settlement described in paragraph (1) should be made, and the amount of any such award or settlement, except that nothing in this paragraph may be construed to require the covered employee who filed the claim to be deposed by counsel for the individual in a deposition that is separate from any other deposition taken from the employee in connection with the hearing or civil action.

''(7) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the term 'payroll administrator' means—

''(A) in the case of an individual who is a Member of the House of Representatives, the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives, or an employee of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer who is designated by the Chief Administrative Officer to carry out this subsection; or

''(B) in the case of an individual who is a Senator, the Secretary of the Senate, or an employee of the Office of the Secretary of the Senate who is designated by the Secretary to carry out this subsection.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to claims made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 112. AUTOMATIC REFERRAL TO CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS COMMITTEES OF DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN CLAIMS ALLEGING VIOLATIONS OF CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995 INVOLVING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND SENIOR STAFF.

Section 416(e) (2 U.S.C. 1416(e)) is amended to read as follows:

''(e) AUTOMATIC REFERRALS TO CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS COMMITTEES OF DISPOSITIONS OF CLAIMS INVOLVING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND SENIOR STAFF.—

''(1) REFERRAL.—Upon the final disposition under this title (as described in paragraph (6)) of a claim alleging a violation of section 201(a) or 206(a) that is perpetrated directly against a covered employee by a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress) or a Senator, or by a senior staffer of an employing office described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of section 101(9), the Executive Director shall refer the claim to—

''(A) the Committee on Ethics of the House of Representatives, in the case of a Member or senior staffer of the House (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress); or

''(B) the Select Committee on Ethics of the Senate, in the case of a Senator or senior staffer of the Senate.

''(2) ACCESS TO RECORDS AND INFORMATION.—If the Executive Director refers a claim to a Committee under paragraph (1), the Executive Director shall provide the Committee with access to the settlement documents in the case of a settlement and findings by the hearing officer involved in the case of an award under this title.

''(3) REVIEW BY CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS COMMITTEES OF SETTLEMENTS OF CERTAIN CLAIMS.—After the receipt of a settlement agreement for a claim that includes an allegation of a violation of section 201(a) or 206(a) that is perpetrated directly against a covered employee as described in section 415(d)(1)(D) by a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or a Resident Commissioner to the Congress) or a Senator, the corresponding committee described in paragraph (1) shall—

''(A) not later than 90 days after that receipt, review the settlement agreement;

''(B) determine whether an investigation of the claim is warranted; and

''(C) if the committee determines, after the investigation, that the claim that resulted in the settlement involved an actual violation of section 201(a) or 206(a) perpetrated directly against a covered employee as described in section 415(d)(1)(D) by the Member or Senator, then the committee shall notify the Executive Director to request the reimbursement described in section 415(d) and include the settlement in the report required by section 301(l).

''(4) PROTECTION OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION.—If a Committee to which a claim is referred under paragraph (1) issues a report with respect to the claim, the Committee shall ensure that the report does not directly disclose the identity or position of the individual who filed the claim.

''(5) AUTHORITY TO PROTECT IDENTITY OF A CLAIMANT.—

''(A) REDACTIONS.—If a Committee issues a report as described in paragraph (4), the Committee may, in accordance with subparagraph (B), make an appropriate redaction to the information or data included in the report if the Committee and the appropriate decisionmakers described in subparagraph (B) determine that including the information or data considered for redaction may lead to the unintentional disclosure of the identity or position of a claimant. The report including any such redaction shall note each redaction and include a statement that the redaction was made solely for the purpose of avoiding such an unintentional disclosure of the identity or position of a claimant.

''(B) AGREEMENT ON REDACTIONS.—The Committee shall make a redaction under subparagraph (A) only if agreement is reached on the precise information or data to be redacted by—

''(i) the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on Ethics of the House of Representatives, in the case of a report concerning a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress) or a senior staffer who is an employee of the House of Representatives; or

''(ii) the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Select Committee on Ethics of the Senate, in the case of a report concerning a Senator or senior staffer who is an employee of the Senate.

''(C) RETENTION OF UNREDACTED REPORTS.—Each committee described in subparagraph (B) shall retain a copy of the report, without redactions.

''(6) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) FINAL DISPOSITION.—The 'final disposition' of a claim means the following:

''(i) An agreement to pay a settlement, including an agreement reached pursuant to mediation under section 403.

''(ii) An order to pay an award that is final and not subject to appeal.

''(B) SENIOR STAFFER.—The term 'senior staffer' means any individual who, at the time a violation occurred, was required to file a report under title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).''.

SEC. 113. AVAILABILITY OF OPTION TO REQUEST REMOTE WORK ASSIGNMENT OR PAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING PENDENCY OF PROCEDURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title IV (2 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 417. OPTION TO REQUEST REMOTE WORK ASSIGNMENT OR PAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING PENDENCY OF PROCEDURES.

''(a) OPTIONS FOR EMPLOYEES.—

''(1) REMOTE WORK ASSIGNMENT.—At the request of a covered employee who files a claim alleging a violation of part A of title II by the covered employee's employing office, during the pendency of any of the procedures available under this title for consideration of the claim, the employing office may permit the covered employee to carry out the employee's responsibilities from a remote location (referred to in this section as 'permitting a remote work assignment') where such relocation would have the effect of materially reducing interactions between the covered employee and any person alleged to have committed the violation, instead of from a location of the employing office.

''(2) EXCEPTION FOR WORK ASSIGNMENTS REQUIRED TO BE CARRIED OUT ONSITE.—If, in the determination of the covered employee's employing office, a covered employee who makes a request under this subsection cannot carry out the employee's responsibilities from a remote location or such relocation would not have the effect described in paragraph (1), the employing office may during the pendency of the procedures described in paragraph (1)—

''(A) grant a paid leave of absence to the covered employee;

''(B) permit a remote work assignment and grant a paid leave of absence to the covered employee; or

''(C) make another workplace adjustment, or permit a remote work assignment, that would have the effect of reducing interactions between the covered employee and any person alleged to have committed the violation described in paragraph (1).

''(3) ENSURING NO RETALIATION.—An employing office may not grant a covered employee's request under this subsection in a manner which would constitute a violation of section 207.

''(4) NO IMPACT ON VACATION OR PERSONAL LEAVE.—In granting leave for a paid leave of

absence under this section, an employing office shall not require the covered employee to substitute, for that leave, any of the accrued paid vacation or personal leave of the covered employee.

''(b) EXCEPTION FOR ARRANGEMENTS SUBJECT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS.—Subsection (a) does not apply to the extent that it is inconsistent with the terms and conditions of any collective bargaining agreement which is in effect with respect to an employing office.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents is amended by adding at the end of the items relating to tile IV the following new item:

''Sec. 417. Option to request remote work assignment or paid leave of absence during pendency of procedures.''.

SEC. 114. MODIFICATION OF RULES ON CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROCEEDINGS.

(a) MEDIATION.—Section 416(b) (2 U.S.C. 1416(b)) is amended by striking ''All mediation'' and inserting ''All information discussed or disclosed in the course of any mediation''.

(b) CLAIMS.—Section 416 (2 U.S.C. 1416), as amended by section 112, is further amended—

(1) by striking subsection (a);

(2) by redesignating subsections (b) through (f) as subsections (a) through (e), respectively;

(3) in subsection (b), as redesignated by paragraph (2) of this subsection, by striking ''subsections (d), (e), and (f)'' and inserting ''subsections (c), (d), and (e)''; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''(f) CLAIMS.—Nothing in this section may be construed to prohibit a covered employee from disclosing the factual allegations supporting the covered employee's claim, or to prohibit an employing office from disclosing the factual allegations supporting the employing office's defense to the claim, in the course of any proceeding under this title.''.

SEC. 115. REIMBURSEMENT BY OTHER EMPLOYING OFFICES OF LEGISLATIVE BRANCH OF PAYMENTS OF CERTAIN AWARDS AND SETTLEMENTS.

(a) REQUIRING REIMBURSEMENT.—Section 415 (2 U.S.C. 1415), as amended by section 111, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) REIMBURSEMENT BY EMPLOYING OFFICES.—

''(1) NOTIFICATION OF PAYMENTS MADE FROM ACCOUNT.—As soon as practicable after the Executive Director is made aware that a payment of an award or settlement under this Act has been made from the account described in subsection (a) in connection with a claim alleging a violation described in section 201(a) or 206(a) by an employing office (other than an employing office described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of section 101(9)), the Executive Director shall notify the head of the employing office associated with the claim that the payment has been made, and shall include in the notification a statement of the amount of the payment.

''(2) REIMBURSEMENT BY OFFICE.—Not later than 180 days after receiving a notification from the Executive Director under paragraph (1), the head of the employing office involved shall transfer to the account described in subsection (a), out of any funds available for operating expenses of the office, a payment equal to the amount specified in the notification.

''(3) TIMETABLE AND PROCEDURES FOR REIMBURSEMENT.—The head of an employing office shall transfer a payment under paragraph (2) in accordance with such timetable and procedures as may be established under regulations promulgated by the Office.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to payments made under section 415 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1415) for an award or settlement for a claim that is filed on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

TITLE II—IMPROVING OPERATIONS OF OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS

SEC. 201. REPORTS ON AWARDS AND SETTLEMENTS.

(a) ANNUAL REPORTS ON AWARDS AND SETTLEMENTS.—

(1) REQUIRING SUBMISSION AND PUBLICATION OF REPORTS.—Section 301 (2 U.S.C. 1381) is amended—

(A) in subsection (h)(3), by striking ''complaint'' each place it appears and inserting ''claim''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(l) ANNUAL REPORTS ON AWARDS AND SETTLEMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 45 days after the beginning of each calendar year, the Office shall submit to Congress and publish on the Office's public website a report listing each award that is the result of a violation of part A of title II or settlement that is attributable to a finding described in section 415(d)(1)(B) and that was paid during the previous calendar year from the account described in section 415(a). The report shall include information on the employing office involved, the amount of the award or settlement, the provision that was the subject of the claim, and (in the case of an award or settlement resulting from a finding described in section 415(d)(1)(B)), whether the Member or former Member is in compliance with the requirement of section 415(d) to reimburse the account for the reimbursable portion of the award or settlement.

''(2) PROTECTION OF IDENTITY OF INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING AWARDS AND SETTLEMENTS.—In preparing and submitting the reports required under paragraph (1), the Office shall ensure that the identity or position of any claimant is not disclosed.

''(3) AUTHORITY TO PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF A CLAIMANT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out paragraph (2), the Executive Director may make an appropriate redaction to the data included in the report described in paragraph (1) if the Executive Director determines that including the data considered for redaction may lead to the identity or position of a claimant unintentionally being disclosed. The report shall note each redaction and include a statement that the redaction was made solely for the purpose of avoiding such an unintentional disclosure of the identity or position of a claimant.

''(B) RECORDKEEPING.—The Executive Director shall retain a copy of the report described in subparagraph (A), without redactions.

''(4) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term 'claimant' means an individual who received an award or settlement, or who made an allegation of a violation against an employing office.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to 2018 and each succeeding year.

(b) REPORT ON AMOUNTS PREVIOUSLY PAID.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights shall submit to Congress and make available to the public on the Office's public website a report on all payments made with public funds prior to the date of the enactment of this Act for awards and settlements in connection with violations of section 201(a) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1311(a)), or section 207 of such Act (2 U.S.C. 1317) and shall include in the report the following information:

(A) The amount paid for each such award or settlement.

(B) The source of the public funds used for the award or settlement, without regard to whether the funds were paid from the account described in section 415(a) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 1415(a)), an account of the House of Representatives or Senate, or any other account of the Federal Government.

(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING IDENTIFICATION OF HOUSE AND SENATE ACCOUNTS.—Nothing in paragraph (1)(B) may be construed to require or permit the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights to report the account of any specific office of the House of Representatives or Senate as the source of funds used for an award or settlement.

SEC. 202. WORKPLACE CLIMATE SURVEYS OF EMPLOYING OFFICES.

(a) REQUIRING SURVEYS.—Title III (2 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 307. WORKPLACE CLIMATE SURVEYS OF EMPLOYING OFFICES.

''(a) REQUIREMENT TO CONDUCT SURVEYS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, and every 2 years thereafter, the Office shall conduct a survey of employees of employing offices described in subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (E) of section 101(9), regarding the workplace environment of such office. The Office shall make the survey available (which may include making the survey available electronically) to all such employees. Employee responses to the survey shall be voluntary.

''(b) SPECIAL INCLUSION OF INFORMATION ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION.—In each survey conducted under this section, the Office shall survey respondents on attitudes regarding sexual harassment and discrimination.

''(c) METHODOLOGY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Office shall conduct each survey under this section in accordance with methodologies established by the Office.

''(2) CONFIDENTIALITY.—Under the methodologies established under paragraph (1), all responses to all portions of the survey shall be anonymous and confidential, and each respondent shall be told throughout the survey that all responses shall be anonymous and confidential.

''(3) SURVEY FORM.—The Office shall not include any code or information on the survey form that makes a respondent to the survey, or the respondent's employing office, individually identifiable.

''(d) USE OF RESULTS OF SURVEYS.—The Office shall furnish the information obtained from the surveys conducted under this section to the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and the Committee on Rules and Administration, of the Senate.

''(e) CONSULTATION WITH COMMITTEES.—The Office shall carry out this section, including establishment of methodologies and procedures under subsection (c), in consultation with the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and the Committee on Rules and Administration, of the Senate.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents is amended by adding at the end of the items relating to title III the following new item:

''Sec. 307. Workplace climate surveys of employing offices.''.

SEC. 203. RECORD RETENTION.

Section 301 (2 U.S.C. 1381), as amended by section 201(a), is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(m) RECORD RETENTION.—Not later than 180 days following the date of enactment of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 Reform Act, the Office, in consultation with the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate, shall create a program to be enforced by the Office for the proper and timely disposition of confidential documents and data created or obtained by mediators or hearing officers in connection with their service in confidential proceedings under this Act.''.

SEC. 204. CONFIDENTIAL ADVISOR.

Section 302 (2 U.S.C. 1382) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (d) through (f) as subsections (e) through (g), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

''(d) CONFIDENTIAL ADVISOR.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Executive Director shall—

''(A) appoint, and fix the compensation of, and may remove, a Confidential Advisor; or

''(B) designate an employee of the Office to serve as a Confidential Advisor.

''(2) DUTIES.—

''(A) VOLUNTARY SERVICES.—The Confidential Advisor shall offer to provide to covered employees described in paragraph (4) the services described in subparagraph (B), which a covered employee may accept or decline.

''(B) SERVICES.—The services referred to in subparagraph (A) are—

''(i) informing, on a privileged and confidential basis, a covered employee who has experienced a practice that may be a violation of part A of title II about the employee's rights under this Act;

''(ii) consulting, on a privileged and confidential basis, with a covered employee who has experienced a practice that may be a violation of part A of title II regarding—

''(I) the roles, responsibilities, and authority of the Office; and

''(II) the relative merits of securing private counsel, designating a non-attorney representative, or proceeding without representation during proceedings before the Office;

''(iii) assisting, on a privileged and confidential basis, a covered employee who seeks consideration under title IV of an allegation of a violation of part A of title II in understanding the procedures, and the significance of the procedures, described in that title IV; and

''(iv) informing, on a privileged and confidential basis, a covered employee who has experienced a practice that may be a violation of part A of title II about the option of pursuing, in appropriate circumstances, a complaint with the Committee on Ethics of the House of Representatives or the Select Committee on Ethics of the Senate.

''(3) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Confidential Advisor shall be a lawyer who—

''(A) is admitted to practice before, and is in good standing with, the bar of a State of the United States, the District of Columbia, or a territory of the United States; and

''(B) has experience representing clients in cases involving the workplace laws incorporated by part A of title II.

''(4) INDIVIDUALS COVERED.—The services described in paragraph (2) are available to any covered employee (which, for purposes of this subsection, shall include any staff member described in section 201(d) and any former covered employee (including any former staff member described in that section)), except that—

''(A) a former covered employee may only request such services if the practice that may be a violation of part A of title II occurred during the employment or service of the employee; and

''(B) a covered employee described in this paragraph may only request such services before the expiration of the 180-day period described in section 402(e).

''(5) RESTRICTIONS.—The Confidential Advisor—

''(A) shall not provide legal advice to, or act as the designated representative for, any covered employee in connection with the covered employee's participation in any proceeding, including any proceeding under this Act, any judicial proceeding, or any proceeding before any committee of Congress; and

''(B) shall not serve as a mediator in any mediation conducted pursuant to section 403.''.

SEC. 205. GAO STUDY OF MANAGEMENT PRACTICES.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study of the management practices of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report on the study conducted under subsection (a), and shall include in the report such recommendations as the Comptroller General considers appropriate for improvements to the management practices of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights.

SEC. 206. GAO AUDIT OF CYBERSECURITY.

(a) AUDIT.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an audit of the cybersecurity systems and practices of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report on the audit conducted under subsection (a), and shall include in the report such recommendations as the Comptroller General considers appropriate for improvements to the cybersecurity systems and practices of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights.

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS REFORMS

SEC. 301. APPLICATION OF GENETIC INFORMATION NONDISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2008.

Section 102 (2 U.S.C. 1302) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) GENETIC INFORMATION NONDISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2008.—The provisions of this Act that apply to a violation of section 201(a)(1) shall be considered to apply to a violation of title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 2000ff et seq.), consistent with section 207(c) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 2000ff–6(c)).''.

SEC. 302. EXTENSION TO UNPAID STAFF OF RIGHTS AND PROTECTIONS AGAINST EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION.

(a) EXTENSION.—Section 201(d) (2 U.S.C. 1311(d)) is amended to read as follows:

''(d) APPLICATION TO UNPAID STAFF.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsections (a) and (b) and section 207 shall apply with respect to any staff member of an employing office who carries out official duties of the employing office but who is not paid by the employing office for carrying out such duties, including an intern, an individual detailed to an employing office, and an individual participating in a fellowship program, in the same manner and to the same extent as such subsections and section apply with respect to a covered employee.

''(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in paragraph (1) may be construed to extend liability for a violation of subsection (a) or section 207 to an employing office on the basis of an action taken by any person who is not under the supervision or control of the employing office.

''(3) INTERN DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term 'intern' means an individual who performs service for an employing office which is uncompensated by the United States, who obtains an educational benefit, such as by earning credit awarded by an educational institution or learning a trade or occupation, and who is appointed on a temporary basis.''.

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTION RELATING TO OFFICE RESPONSIBLE FOR DISBURSEMENT OF PAY TO HOUSE EMPLOYEES.—Section 101(7) (2 U.S.C. 1301(7)) is amended by striking ''disbursed by the Clerk of the House of Representatives'' and inserting ''disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives''.

SEC. 303. PROVISIONS RELATING TO INSTRUMENTALITIES.

(a) REFERENCES TO FORMER OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT.—

(1) PUBLIC SERVICES AND ACCOMMODATIONS PROVISIONS.—Section 210(a) (2 U.S.C. 1331(a)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (9), by adding ''and'' at the end;

(B) by striking paragraph (10); and

(C) by redesignating paragraph (11) as paragraph (10).

(2) OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROVISIONS.—Section 215(e)(1) (2 U.S.C. 1341(e)(1)) is amended by striking ''the Office of Technology Assessment,''.

(3) LABOR-MANAGEMENT PROVISIONS.—Section 220(e)(2)(G) (2 U.S.C. 1351(e)(2)(G)) is amended by striking '', the Office of Technology Assessment,''.

(b) AMENDMENTS RELATING TO LOC COVERAGE OF LIBRARY VISITORS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 210 (2 U.S.C. 1331) is amended—

(A) by redesignating subsection (h) as subsection (i); and

(B) by inserting after subsection (g) the following:

''(h) ELECTION OF REMEDIES RELATING TO RIGHTS TO PUBLIC SERVICES AND ACCOMMODATIONS FOR LIBRARY VISITORS.—

''(1) DEFINITION OF LIBRARY VISITOR.—In this subsection, the term 'Library visitor' means an individual who is eligible to bring a claim for a violation under title II or III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (other than a violation for which the exclusive remedy is under section 201) against the Library of Congress.

''(2) ELECTION OF REMEDIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A Library visitor who alleges a violation of subsection (b) by the Library of Congress may, subject to subparagraph (B)—

''(i) file a charge against the Library of Congress under subsection (d); or

''(ii) use the remedies and procedures set forth in section 717 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000e–16), as provided under section 510 (other than paragraph (5)) of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12209).

''(B) TIMING.—A Library visitor that has initiated proceedings under clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) may elect to change and initiate a proceeding under the other clause—

''(i) in the case of a Library visitor who first filed a charge pursuant to subparagraph (A)(i), before the General Counsel files a complaint under subsection (d)(3); or

''(ii) in the case of a Library visitor who first initiated a proceeding under subparagraph (A)(ii), before the Library visitor requests a hearing under the procedures of the Library of Congress described in such subparagraph.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE AND APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this subsection shall take effect as if such amendments were included in section 153 of the Legislative

Branch Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141), and shall apply as specified in section 153(c) of such Act.

SEC. 304. NOTICES.

Part E of title II (2 U.S.C. 1361) is amended—

(1) in section 225 (2 U.S.C. 1361)—

(A) by striking subsection (e); and

(B) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (e).

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 226. NOTICES.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Every employing office shall post and keep posted (in conspicuous places upon its premises where notices to covered employees are customarily posted) a notice provided by the Office that—

''(1) describes the rights, protections, and procedures applicable to covered employees of the employing office under this Act, concerning violations described in subsection (b); and

''(2) includes contact information for the Office.

''(b) VIOLATIONS.—A violation described in this subsection is—

''(1) discrimination prohibited by section 201(a) (including, in accordance with section 102(c), discrimination prohibited by title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 2000ff et seq.)) or 206(a); and

''(2) a violation of section 207, or a violation of section 4311(b) of title 38, United States Code, that is related to discrimination described in paragraph (1).''.

SEC. 305. CLARIFICATION OF COVERAGE OF EMPLOYEES OF STENNIS CENTER AND HELSINKI AND CHINA COMMISSIONS.

(a) COVERAGE OF STENNIS CENTER, CHINA REVIEW COMMISSION, CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE CHINA COMMISSION, AND HELSINKI COMMISSION.—

(1) TREATMENT OF EMPLOYEES AS COVERED EMPLOYEES.—Section 101(3) (2 U.S.C. 1301(3)) is amended—

(A) by striking subparagraph (I);

(B) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (J) and inserting a semicolon;

(C) by redesignating subparagraph (J) as subparagraph (I); and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(J) the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development;

''(K) the China Review Commission;

''(L) the Congressional-Executive China Commission; or

''(M) the Helsinki Commission.''.

(2) TREATMENT OF CENTER AND COMMISSIONS AS EMPLOYING OFFICE.—Section 101(9)(D) (2 U.S.C. 1301(9)(D)) is amended by striking ''and the Office of Technology Assessment'' and inserting the following: ''the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development, the China Review Commission, the Congressional-Executive China Commission, and the Helsinki Commission''.

(3) DEFINITIONS OF COMMISSIONS.—Section 101 (2 U.S.C. 1301) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(13) CHINA REVIEW COMMISSION.—The term 'China Review Commission' means the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission established under section 1238 of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (22 U.S.C. 7002), as enacted into law by section 1 of Public Law 106–398.

''(14) CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE CHINA COMMISSION.—The term 'Congressional-Executive China Commission' means the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China established under title III of the U.S.–China Relations Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–286; 22 U.S.C. 6911 et seq.).

''(15) HELSINKI COMMISSION.—The term 'Helsinki Commission' means the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe established under the Act entitled 'An Act to establish a Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe', approved June 3, 1976 (Public Law 94–304; 22 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.).''.

(b) LEGAL ASSISTANCE AND REPRESENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Title V (2 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.) is amended—

(A) by redesignating section 509 as section 512; and

(B) by inserting after section 508 the following:

''SEC. 509. LEGAL ASSISTANCE AND REPRESENTATION.

''Legal assistance and representation under this Act, including assistance and representation with respect to the proposal or acceptance of the disposition of a claim under this Act, shall be provided to the China Review Commission, the Congressional-Executive China Commission, and the Helsinki Commission—

''(1) by the Office of the House Employment Counsel of the House of Representatives, in the case of assistance and representation in connection with a claim filed under title IV (including all subsequent proceedings under such title in connection with the claim) at a time when the chair of the Commission is a Member of the House, and in the case of assistance and representation in connection with any subsequent claim related to the initial claim where the subsequent claim involves the same parties; or

''(2) by the Office of the Senate Chief Counsel for Employment of the Senate, in the case of assistance and representation in connection with a claim filed under title IV (including all subsequent proceedings under such title in connection with the claim) at a time when the chair of the Commission is a Senator, and in the case of assistance and representation in connection with any subsequent claim related to the initial claim where the subsequent claim involves the same parties.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents is amended—

(A) by redesignating the item relating to section 509 as relating to section 512; and

(B) by inserting after the item relating to section 508 the following new item:

''Sec. 509. Legal assistance and representation.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 101 (2 U.S.C. 1301) is amended, in paragraphs (7) and (8), by striking ''through (I)'' and inserting ''through (M)''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsections (a) through (c) shall apply with respect to claims alleging violations of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.) which are first made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 306. TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS OF OTHER EMPLOYING OFFICES.

(a) REQUIRING OFFICES TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS.—Title V (2 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.), as amended by section 305(b), is further amended by inserting after section 509 the following:

''SEC. 510. TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS OF EMPLOYING OFFICES.

''(a) REQUIRING OFFICES TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS.—Each employing office shall develop and implement a program to train and educate covered employees of the office in the rights and protections provided under this Act, including the procedures available under this Act to consider alleged violations of this Act.

''(b) REPORT TO COMMITTEES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 45 days after the beginning of each Congress (beginning with the One Hundred Sixteenth Congress), each employing office shall submit a report to the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate on the implementation of the program required under subsection (a).

''(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR FIRST REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 Reform Act, each employing office shall submit the report described in paragraph (1) to the Committees described in such paragraph.

''(c) EXCEPTION FOR OFFICES OF CONGRESS.—This section does not apply to an employing office described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of section 101(9).''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 509, as inserted by section 305(b), the following new item:

''Sec. 510. Training and education programs of employing offices.''.

SEC. 307. SUPPORT FOR OUT-OF-AREA COVERED EMPLOYEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title V (2 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.), as amended by section 306(a), is further amended by inserting after section 510 the following:

''SEC. 511. SUPPORT FOR OUT-OF-AREA COVERED EMPLOYEES.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—All covered employees whose location of employment is outside of the Washington, DC area (referred to in this section as 'out-of-area covered employees', shall have equitable access to the resources and services provided by the Office and under this Act as is provided to covered employees who work in the Washington, DC area.

''(b) OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS.—The Office shall—

''(1) establish a method by which out-of-area covered employees may communicate securely with the Office, which shall include an option for real-time audiovisual communication; and

''(2) provide guidance to employing offices regarding how each office can facilitate equitable access to the resources and services provided under this Act for its out-of-area covered employees, including information regarding the communication methods described in paragraph (1).

''(c) EMPLOYING OFFICES.—It is the sense of Congress that each employing office with out-of-area covered employees should use its best efforts to facilitate equitable access to the resources and services provided under this Act for those employees.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 510, as inserted by section 306(b), the following new item:

''Sec. 511. Support for out-of-area employees.''.

SEC. 308. RENAMING OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE AS OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS.

(a) RENAMING.—Section 301 (2 U.S.C. 1381) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking ''**OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE**'' and inserting ''**OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS**''; and

(2) in subsection (a), by striking ''Office of Compliance'' and inserting ''Office of Congressional Workplace Rights''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995.—The Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 is amended as follows:

(1) In section 101(1) (2 U.S.C. 1301(1)), by striking ''Office of Compliance'' and inserting ''Office of Congressional Workplace Rights''.

(2) In section 101(2) (2 U.S.C. 1301(2)), by striking ''Office of Compliance'' and inserting ''Office of Congressional Workplace Rights''.

(3) In section 101(3)(H) (2 U.S.C. 1301(3)(H)), by striking ''Office of Compliance'' and inserting ''Office of Congressional Workplace Rights''.

(4) In section 101(9)(D) (2 U.S.C. 1301(9)(D)), by striking ''Office of Compliance'' and inserting ''Office of Congressional Workplace Rights''.

(5) In section 101(10) (2 U.S.C. 1301(10)), by striking ''Office of Compliance'' and inserting ''Office of Congressional Workplace Rights''.

(6) In section 101(11) (2 U.S.C. 1301(11)), by striking ''Office of Compliance'' and inserting ''Office of Congressional Workplace Rights''.

(7) In section 101(12) (2 U.S.C. 1301(12)), by striking ''Office of Compliance'' and inserting ''Office of Congressional Workplace Rights''.

(8) In section 210(a)(9) (2 U.S.C. 1331(a)(9)), by striking ''Office of Compliance'' and inserting ''Office of Congressional Workplace Rights''.

(9) In section 215(e)(1) (2 U.S.C. 1341(e)(1)), by striking ''Office of Compliance'' and inserting ''Office of Congressional Workplace Rights''.

(10) In section 220(e)(2)(G) (2 U.S.C. 1351(e)(2)(G)), by striking ''Office of Compliance'' and inserting ''Office of Congressional Workplace Rights''.

(11) In the heading of title III, by striking ''**OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE**'' and inserting ''**OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS**''.

(12) In section 304(c)(4) (2 U.S.C. 1384(c)(4)), by striking ''Office of Compliance'' and inserting ''Office of Congressional Workplace Rights''.

(13) In section 304(c)(5) (2 U.S.C. 1384(c)(5)), by striking ''Office of Compliance'' and inserting ''Office of Congressional Workplace Rights''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents is amended—

(1) by amending the item relating to the title heading of title III to read as follows:

''TITLE III—OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS'';

and

(2) by amending the item relating to section 301 to read as follows:

''Sec. 301. Establishment of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights.''.

(d) REFERENCES IN OTHER LAWS, RULES, AND REGULATIONS.—Any reference to the Office of Compliance in any law, rule, regulation, or other official paper in effect as of the effective date specified in section 401(a) shall be considered to refer and apply to the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights.

TITLE IV—EFFECTIVE DATE

SEC. 401. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this Act, this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect upon the expiration of the 180-day period which begins on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) NO EFFECT ON PENDING PROCEEDINGS.—Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act may be construed to affect any proceeding or payment of an award or settlement relating to a claim under title IV of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.) which is pending as of the date of the enactment of this Act. If, as of that date, an employee has begun any of the proceedings under that title that were available to the employee prior to that date, the employee may complete, or initiate and complete, all such proceedings, and such proceedings shall remain in effect with respect to, and provide the exclusive proceedings for, the claim involved until the completion of all such proceedings.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. MORAN):

S. 2955. A bill to reform the Mobility Fund Phase II challenge process conducted by the Federal Communications Commission; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I rise this morning to encourage my colleagues to support and cosponsor the Mobile Accuracy and Precision Broadband Act, also known as the MAP Broadband Act.

If we want to get broadband deployment right in this country, if we want to close the digital divide, particularly in rural America—in that great heartland of America—we need for the FCC to be working with an accurate map, and right now they are not working with an accurate map. The agency needs to know which areas are in the most desperate need for consistent wireless service, and the FCC's current map does not even come close to doing this.

I certainly was not alone in my surprise when I saw the coverage shown on the map released by the FCC in late February. It portrayed my home State of Mississippi as basically a wireless hot spot, with only 2 percent of my State not covered with a reliable 4G LTE connection.

This was an absurd conclusion based on what is actually taking place on the ground. That would mean that 98 percent of my State should have one of the fastest mobile broadband connections on the market. That is ridiculous.

I doubted that the map was accurate based on my own experiences, but I wanted to know what others had to say. So I did a survey in April. I sent out a survey asking Mississippians to tell me about their issues with connectivity. Their responses, which totaled more than 1,800, supported my conclusion that the FCC map is just wrong, and something needs to be done about it. The responses also reaffirmed what is at stake if the FCC does not correct the situation and get these maps right.

Mississippians and Americans across this great country need better service so their children can do their homework. They need it so they can FaceTime with loved ones who are away from home in military service. They need it for jobs. They need it for healthcare. A bad connection is inconvenient, to be sure, but it means so much more to public safety and jobs.

Americans in rural areas should not be at a disadvantage because of where we live. Strong, dependable broadband paves the way for economic growth for us all, and it allows for life-giving telehealth and cutting-edge agricultural technologies.

No one thinks my State is an exception to the FCC map. I have yet to hear from any colleague in the Senate who thinks this national map accurately reflects the coverage back in our State. So I propose that we continue to work together with legislation to direct the FCC to get this right. Let's harness the best data for closing the digital divide. Let's make sure decisions are informed by the most accurate maps possible.

Now, what is at stake here? There is $4.53 billion that is at stake here. The way we are headed now with this program and with this inaccurate map, the Mobility Fund Phase II program is about to go forward with funds being distributed based on a map that is absolutely wrong.

So my bill would do four things that I think would help. My bill would give challengers more time to voice their concerns and submit better data.

It would require the FCC to extend the challenge process by 90 days.

My bill would also require the FCC to disclose which phones should be getting 4G LTE service so consumers can know whether their service meets these expectations. In addition, it would require the FCC to provide monthly updates on the percentage of areas on the map that are being challenged and the number of challengers.

Fourth, we would monitor the effectiveness of the Mobility Fund Phase II program by the agency offering annual updates on how mobile wireless service is being expanded.

If anyone in the Senate, if anyone in the House, if anyone who can hear me today has a better idea, I am open to adding that to the bill. But at the end of the day, rushing through this challenge process is not in the best interests of Americans who are waiting for fast wireless coverage. It is not in the best interests, frankly, of the Commission, which needs to take the time to get it right, and we are out to help them to do that.

There will be original cosponsors from both sides of the aisle today when I drop the bill. Those who want to be a part of the challenge process need time and resources to put forward sound information—information to help the FCC develop a map that truly portrays broadband limitations in this country. An accurate map would also help ensure the proper use of billions of taxpayer dollars—public dollars—to lead to real results to get us where we need to go.

We cannot go forward and we should not go forward with the data we have. My legislation today would take a big step in ensuring that before we distribute these billions of dollars, we need to make sure that we know what we are talking about, that we have the right information, and that we get it right.

Thank you.

By Mr. UDALL (for himself and Mr. GARDNER):

S. 2958. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to make the provision of Wi-Fi access on school

buses eligible for E-rate support; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, the Federal Communications Commission Schools and Libraries program, commonly known as E-Rate, has helped connect our schools and libraries to highspeed broadband. Recent changes allowed for schools to pay for Wi-Fi on campuses, recognizing that students are using laptops and other devices for learning. This bill, cosponsored by my friend Senator GARDNER, would allow schools to receive reimbursement for Wi-Fi on school buses—an idea inspired by a New Mexico high school student. A few years ago, a football player from Hatch Valley High School in Hatch, New Mexico told me how, after being on a bus for hours after a game, he would sit in the dark parking lot of his school doing his homework—because he didn't have high-speed broadband at home. Making Wi-Fi available on school buses is one piece to solving the homework gap—especially in rural areas. Adequate internet is an absolute necessity in this day and age. And I will continue to work with my colleagues to make sure every home in the Nation has adequate internet access.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2958

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. E-RATE SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL BUS WI-FI.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''school bus'' means a passenger motor vehicle that is—

(1) designed to carry a driver and not less than 5 passengers; and

(2) used significantly to transport early child education, elementary school, or secondary school students to or from school or an event related to school.

(b) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Communications Commission shall conduct a rulemaking to make the provision of Wi-Fi access on school buses eligible for support under the E-rate program of the Commission set forth under subpart F of part 54 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 2965. A bill to amend the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 to give Americans the option to delete personal information collected by internet operators as a result of the person's internet activity prior to age 13; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2965

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Clean Slate for Kids Online Act of 2018''.

SEC. 2. ENHANCING THE CHILDREN'S ONLINE PRIVACY PROTECTION ACT OF 1998.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1302 of the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 (15 U.S.C. 6501) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(13) DELETE.—The term 'delete' means to remove personal information such that the information is not maintained in retrievable form and cannot be retrieved in the normal course of business.''.

(b) REGULATION OF UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE ACTS AND PRACTICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE COLLECTION AND USE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION FROM AND ABOUT CHILDREN ON THE INTERNET.—Section 1303 of the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 (15 U.S.C. 6502) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following:

''(3) FAILURE TO DELETE.—It is unlawful for an operator of a website or online service directed to children, or any operator that has actual knowledge that it is collecting personal information from a child, to fail to delete personal information collected from or about a child if a request for deletion is made pursuant to regulations prescribed under subsection (e).''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(e) RIGHT OF AN INDIVIDUAL TO DELETE PERSONAL INFORMATION COLLECTED WHEN THE PERSON WAS A CHILD.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Commission shall promulgate under section 553 of title 5, United States Code, regulations that require the operator of any website or online service directed to children, or any operator that has actual knowledge that it has collected personal information from a child or maintains such personal information—

''(A) to provide notice on the website of how an individual over the age of 13, or a legal guardian of an individual over the age of 13 acting with the knowledge and consent of the individual, can request that the operator delete all personal information in the possession of the operator that was collected from or about the individual when the individual was a child notwithstanding any parental consent that may have been provided when the individual was a child;

''(B) to promptly delete all personal information in the possession of the operator that was collected from or about an individual when the individual was a child when such deletion is requested by an individual over the age of 13 or by the legal guardian of such individual acting with the knowledge and consent of the individual, notwithstanding any parental consent that may have been provided when the individual was a child;

''(C) to provide written confirmation of deletion, after the deletion has occurred, to an individual or legal guardian of such individual who has requested such deletion pursuant to this subsection; and

''(D) to except from deletion personal information collected from or about a child—

''(i) only to the extent that the personal information is necessary—

''(I) to respond to judicial process; or

''(II) to the extent permitted under any other provision of law, to provide information to law enforcement agencies or for an investigation on a matter related to public safety; and

''(ii) if the operator retain such excepted personal information for only as long as reasonably necessary to fulfill the purpose for which the information has been excepted and that the excepted information not be used, disseminated or maintained in a form retrievable to anyone except for the purposes specified in this subparagraph.''.

(c) SAFE HARBORS.—Section 1304 of the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 (15 U.S.C. 6503) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''section 1303(b)'' and inserting ''subsections (b) and (e) of section 1303''; and

(2) in subsection (b)(1), by striking ''subsection (b)'' and inserting ''subsections (b) and (e)''.

(d) ACTIONS BY STATES.—Section 1305(a)(1) of the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 (15 U.S.C. 6504(a)(1)) is amended by striking ''1303(b)'' and inserting ''subsection (b) or (e) of section 1303''.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. NELSON):

S. 2974. A bill to amend section 923 of title 18, United States Code, to require an electronic, searchable database of the importation, production, shipment, receipt, sale, or other disposition of firearms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, right now, in a small town in West Virginia 90 miles outside of our Nation's capital, dedicated employees of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) are diligently searching through millions of firearms sales records at the National Tracing Center. They are busily responding to urgent requests from detectives and agents to trace firearms found at crime scenes throughout the country. By the end of the day, they will likely have completed more than 1,000 requests, providing law enforcement with information that can lead to arrests, prosecutions, and ultimately justice for victims of violent crime.

The tracing center plays a critical and unique role in keeping our communities safe. It is the only crime gun tracing facility in the country. Its sole purpose is to help track down and hold criminals accountable.

One would expect Congress to fully and unequivocally support this mission. Yet, inexplicably, Congress has done the opposite. Relenting to pressure from the gun lobby, Congress placed archaic hurdles on crime gun traces, prohibiting the ATF from digitizing or electronically searching through firearms records.

These restrictions were born out of an unfounded fear that can only be described as a conspiracy theory: that allowing records to be electronically searched would lead to firearms—presumably to include my own—being seized by the government en masse, in clear violation of both the Second and Fourth Amendments.

This unworldly fear is having a very real-world impact. In an era when an electronic trace could be completed in an instant, the ATF is instead forced to locate individual records by visiting Federal firearms licensees or searching by hand through the records housed at the National Tracing Center; these National Tracing Center records currently number 800 million, and are

growing by an additional 2 million each month.

Some of these records have been damaged by flooding and mold. Countless more have been relegated to rented shipping containers in the parking lot, as the floor of the tracing center is structurally unable to support the weight of so many thousands of boxes. Other records are stored as images on microfilm, forcing ATF employees to reel through up to 10,000 records on a single roll to find the one desired firearm.

Tracing requests are processed every single day, 24 hours a day, so that when a homicide detective finds a firearm believed to have been used in a murder, the detective can determine the chain of custody for that firearm, which may lead to a suspect.

I asked the ATF about the impact of these restrictions on crime gun traces at a recent hearing of the Judiciary Committee Acting Director Thomas Brandon stated that in these criminal investigations, ''time matters, [and] getting accurate information can develop the critical lead.'' He testified that if the ATF were able to electroncially search through records it would be ''beneficial for public safety.''

I agree. That is why today I am introducing the Crime Gun Tracing Modernization Act, which will bring our nation's tracing capabilities into the 21st century. This legislation would empower the ATF to digitize and electronically search through its firearms records, so that it can quickly and accurately connect crime guns with purchasers. Yet this legislation is also narrowly tailored; it only permits the ATF to search through firearms sale and disposition records that it already has access to, and only for the purposes of criminal and national security investigations, and it strictly prohibits searches using an individual's name or other personally identifiable information.

This legislation represents only a modest step, but an important step. There are few signs more revealing of Congress's inability to responsibly legislate gun policy than its insistence that law enforcement not be allowed to effectively search through records already in its possession. The gun lobby cannot be permitted to tie the hands of agents and detectives investigating violent gun crime. We cannot let a baseless conspiracy theory drive our public safety policies.

It is time for Congress to fix our mistakes. It is time to bring one of our Nation's premier law enforcement agencies, which in turn serves every Federal, State, and local agency in the country, out of the Stone Age. It is no surprise that this legisation is supported by important voices within the law enforcement community, including the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, Major Cities Chiefs Association, and Association of Prosecuting Attorneys.

I am also proud that March For Our Lives, led by the students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, strongly supports this legislation. We in Congress owe it to those who have been victimized by gun violence to do something. There are many commonsense steps we can and should take right now. That includes removing indefensible restrictions on law enforcement that waste public safety resources and delay critical investigations of violent gun crime. I urge my fellow senators to join me and Senator NELSON in supporting this important legislation.

By Mr. CARDIN:

S. 2984. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide greater access to higher education for America's students, to eliminate educational barriers for participation in a public service career, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today, I am introducing the Strengthening American Communities (SAC) Act of 2018. My bill seeks to expand access to debt-free public service career pathways for Americans who want to serve their communities, States, or Nation. No one should be denied the opportunity to serve their community as a law enforcement officer, public health practitioner, social worker, or educator based on his or her ability to afford the rising cost of an undergraduate education. My bill is a first step toward correcting public sector workforce disparities by enabling people to serve their communities without being hobbled by massive student loan debt, and by providing current public servants with the financial freedom to continue to heed their calling to service.

Every city, town, and rural community in the United States relies on individuals who choose to utilize their talents for the betterment of others while accepting the lower pay of public service careers. The very foundation of our civil society is based on these public servants making such sacrifices. Far too many individuals who feel drawn to public service do not pursue such careers—or they are forced to abandon such careers prematurely—due to the high cost of obtaining their college educations. When I had the opportunity to hear directly from a student at an Historically Black College and University (HBCU) in my home State of Maryland, I was saddened to hear from an academically successful sophomore who was planning to drop out of school because she feared further indebting herself and her family. She said that while she appreciated the financial assistance she did receive, it simply wasn't sufficient to cover her cost of attendance. While this student had aspirations to serve in her own community, she could not bear to burden her family with the cost of her education. As a result, my home City of Baltimore lost out on a young, engaged aspiring public servant.

Our current system of indebting individuals at the onset of their careers has led to minority underrepresentation in the public sector workforce. First generation college students and students from low-income families cannot afford to take on student loan debt and enter into lower-paying public service careers. As a result, our Nation is deprived of the talents and perspectives of individuals who want to serve their communities but simply cannot afford to do so. As a result, our workforce is less representative of the people it serves. We must find new ways for people to earn the degrees they need to serve our communities. I believe that students who make a commitment to public service should be afforded a debt-free pathway to the baccalaureate degree they need to start their public service career. And those individuals who have already made the decision to choose service over salary should not have to wait for ten years in a lower-paying public career before seeing any reward in the form of Federal student loan forgiveness.

The Strengthen American Communities Act I am introducing today offers a new path for future public servants to earn their baccalaureate degree. Through a new partnership between the Federal Government, States, and public and private, non-profit institutions of higher education, students will have the ability to receive the first two years of their education at a community college, Minority Serving Institution, or Historically Black College or University tuition- and fee-free. Colleges would be required to commit to ensuring student success, and students would have to meet certain academic standards and complete their education within two years. Once students transfer into a four-year institution for their junior and senior years, those who commit themselves to at least three years of public service and meet academic standards will receive a National Public Service Education Grant to pay a significant portion of their college's tuition, fees, and room and board costs. Universities must provide students with opportunities to engage in public service commitments, academic counseling and student support services, and the opportunity to earn to finish their degree in fewer than two years. Depending on a student's financial need, under the Strengthening American Communities Act, she or he may be able to graduate with a baccalaureate degree debt-free before embarking on the path to becoming a public servant.

For those individuals who have already answered their calling to public service, my legislation would assist more public servants continue serving their communities by accelerating the existing Public Service Loan Forgiveness program. Under current law, these dedicated workers must work for 10 years in a public service career and make 120 payments on their Federal student loans before they see a dime of

Federal student loan forgiveness. Economic, family, and other reasons can cause individuals to leave the public sector workforce and despite their years of service, the service these workers provided are not taken into consideration. I propose to accelerate the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program to provide more immediate student loan relief. For every two years of employment and corresponding monthly Federal student loan payments, hard-working public sector employees will receive a percentage of their student loans forgiven, with 100 percent of the Federal student loan balance being forgiven at the end of 10 years of service. By accelerating Public Service Loan Forgiveness, we can encourage additional individuals to stay in the public sector workforce despite the lower-paying salaries, reduce their cost of borrowing for home and auto loans, and set aside additional money for their own retirement.

As Congress moves forward with an overdue reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, I urge my colleagues to join in this effort to help individuals who are wholly committed to public service by supporting the Strengthening American Communities Act. No individual willing to serve his or her community in a public service career should be held back from that calling due to the high cost of obtaining a college education. No individual willing to serve his or her community should be forced to leave public service because of financial hardship.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 522—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 23 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 29, 2018 AS ''GOLD STAR FAMILIES REMEMBRANCE WEEK''

Mrs. HYDE–SMITH submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 522

Whereas the last Sunday in September—

(1) is designated as ''Gold Star Mother's Day'' under section 111 of title 36, United States Code; and

(2) was first designated as ''Gold Star Mother's Day'' under the Joint Resolution entitled ''Joint Resolution designating the last Sunday in September as 'Gold Star Mother's Day', and for other purposes'', approved June 23, 1936 (49 Stat. 1895);

Whereas there is no date dedicated to families affected by the loss of a loved one who died in service to the United States;

Whereas a gold star symbolizes a family member who died in the line of duty while serving in the Armed Forces;

Whereas the members and veterans of the Armed Forces, through their service, bear the burden of protecting the freedom of the people of the United States;

Whereas the selfless example of the service of the members and veterans of the Armed Forces, as well as the sacrifices made by the families of those individuals, inspires all individuals in the United States to sacrifice and work diligently for the good of United States; and

Whereas the sacrifices of the families of the fallen members of the Armed Forces and the families of veterans of the Armed Forces should never be forgotten: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 23 through September 29, 2018 as ''Gold Star Families Remembrance Week'';

(2) honors and recognizes the sacrifices made by the families of members of the Armed Forces who have made the ultimate sacrifice in order to defend freedom and protect the United States and by the families of veterans of the Armed Forces; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe Gold Star Families Remembrance Week by—

(A) performing acts of service and good will in their communities; and

(B) celebrating families in which loved ones have made the ultimate sacrifice so that others could continue to enjoy life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

SENATE RESOLUTION 523—ENCOURAGING COMPANIES TO APPLY PRIVACY PROTECTIONS INCLUDED IN THE GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 523

Whereas the European Union has enacted the General Data Protection Regulation (referred to in this preamble as the ''GDPR''), which provides the 508,000,000 residents of the European Union with significant new privacy protections;

Whereas the GDPR takes effect on May 25, 2018;

Whereas the rules of the GDPR will apply to many entities in the United States that serve users and customers in both Europe and the United States;

Whereas the GDPR requires that—

(1) data processors have a legal basis for processing the data of users; and

(2) opt-in, freely given, specific, informed, and unambiguous consent from users is a primary legal basis;

Whereas polling shows that people in the United States are increasingly concerned about their privacy and the security of their personal information;

Whereas recent data breaches and privacy invasions affecting millions of people in the United States underscore the need for enhanced privacy protection in the United States; and

Whereas people in the United States have a right to privacy, and entities that control and process the data of people in the United States have an obligation to protect that data: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate encourages entities covered by the General Data Protection Regulation of the European Union (referred to in this resolving clause as the ''GDPR''), including edge providers, broadband providers, and data brokers—

(1) to provide the people of the United States with the privacy protections included in the GDPR in a manner consistent with existing laws and rights in the United States, including the First Amendment; and

(2) to include in the protections described in paragraph (1)—

(A) the requirement that—

(i) data processors (as described in the GDPR) have a legal basis for processing the data of users;

(ii) opt-in, freely given, specific, informed, and unambiguous consent from users be a primary legal basis for purposes of clause (i);

(iii) data processors design their systems in a way that—

(I) minimizes the processing of data to only what is necessary for the specific purpose stated to the individual; and

(II) by default, protects personal information from being used for other purposes;

(iv) entities processing the data of children institute special protections, particularly with reference to the use of the data of children for marketing purposes;

(v) data processors and controllers (as described in the GDPR) ensure compliance with relevant privacy rules; and

(vi) data processors implement appropriate oversight over third party data processors; and

(B) the right of an individual—

(i) to revoke consent for data processing at any time;

(ii) to not be subject to automated decisionmaking, including profiling, without human intervention if the decisionmaking has legal or otherwise significant effects on the individual;

(iii) to know which entities have access to the data of the individual and how that data is being used;

(iv) to correct the data of the individual if it is inaccurate or incomplete; and

(v) to obtain and reuse the data of the individual for the purposes of the individual across other services.

SENATE RESOLUTION 524—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JUNE 1 THROUGH JUNE 3, 2018 AS ''NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS WEEKEND'' AND JUNE 2018 AS ''NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH''

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. REED, Mr. NELSON, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. CARPER, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. COONS, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 524

Whereas, in the United States each year, more than—

(1) 35,000 individuals are killed and 80,000 individuals are injured by gunfire;

(2) 12,000 individuals are killed in homicides involving firearms;

(3) 21,000 individuals commit suicide by using firearms; and

(4) 500 individuals are killed in unintentional shootings;

Whereas, since 1968, more individuals have died from guns in the United States than have died on the battlefields of all the wars in the history of the United States;

Whereas, by one count, in 2017 in the United States, there were—

(1) 346 mass shooting incidents in which not fewer than 4 people were killed or wounded by gunfire; and

(2) 64 incidents in which a gun was fired in a school or college;