

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2851

To improve the safety and security of Members of Congress, immediate family members of Members of Congress, and congressional staff, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 17 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 16), 2025

Mr. WYDEN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To improve the safety and security of Members of Congress, immediate family members of Members of Congress, and congressional staff, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Protecting Americans
5 from Doxing and Political Violence Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROTECTING COVERED INFORMATION IN PUBLIC**
7 **RECORDS.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) APPLICABLE LEGISLATIVE OFFICERS.—The
2 term “applicable legislative officers” means—

3 (A) with respect to a Member of the Sen-
4 ate or a designated Senate employee, the Ser-
5 geant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate
6 and the Secretary of the Senate, acting jointly;
7 and

8 (B) with respect to a Member of, or Dele-
9 gate or Resident Commissioner to, the House of
10 Representatives or a designated House em-
11 ployee, the Sergeant at Arms of the House of
12 Representatives and the Chief Administrative
13 Officer of the House of Representatives, acting
14 jointly.

15 (2) AT-RISK INDIVIDUAL.—The term “at-risk
16 individual” means—

17 (A) a Member of Congress;

18 (B) any individual who is the spouse, par-
19 ent, sibling, or child of an individual described
20 in subparagraph (A);

21 (C) any individual to whom an individual
22 described in subparagraph (A) stands in loco
23 parentis;

1 (D) any other individual living in the
2 household of an individual described in subpara-
3 graph (A);

4 (E) any designated Senate employee;

5 (F) any designated House employee; or

6 (G) a former Member of Congress.

7 (3) CANDIDATE.—The term “candidate” has
8 the meaning given the term in section 301 of the
9 Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C.
10 30101).

11 (4) COVERED EMPLOYEE.—The term “covered
12 employee” has the same meaning given such term in
13 section 101 of the Congressional Accountability Act
14 of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1301).

15 (5) COVERED INFORMATION.—The term “cov-
16 ered information”—

17 (A) means—

18 (i) a home address, including a pri-
19 mary residence or secondary residences;

20 (ii) a home or personal mobile tele-
21 phone number;

22 (iii) a personal email address;

23 (iv) a social security number or driv-
24 er’s license number;

1 (v) a bank account or credit or debit
2 card number;

3 (vi) a license plate number or other
4 unique identifier of a vehicle owned, leased,
5 or regularly used by an at-risk individual;

6 (vii) the identification of a child, who
7 is under 18 years of age, of an at-risk indi-
8 vidual;

9 (viii) information regarding current or
10 future school or day care attendance, in-
11 cluding the name or addresses of the
12 school or day care;

13 (ix) information regarding schedules
14 of school or day care attendance or routes
15 taken to or from the school or day care by
16 an at-risk individual;

17 (x) information regarding routes
18 taken to or from an employment location
19 by an at-risk individual; or

20 (xi) precise geolocation data that is
21 not anonymized and can identify the loca-
22 tion of a device of an at-risk individual;
23 and

24 (B) does not include information described
25 in subparagraph (A) that is contained in—

1 (i) any report or other record required
2 to be filed with the Federal Election Com-
3 mission; or

4 (ii) any report or other record other-
5 wise required under Federal or State law
6 to be filed—

7 (I) by an individual to qualify as
8 a candidate for the office of Member
9 of Congress; or

10 (II) by any candidate for the of-
11 fice of Member of Congress.

12 (6) DATA BROKER.—

13 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “data
14 broker” means a commercial entity engaged in
15 collecting, assembling, or maintaining personal
16 information concerning an individual who is not
17 a customer, client, or an employee of that entity
18 in order to sell the information or otherwise
19 profit from providing third-party access to the
20 information.

21 (B) EXCLUSION.—The term “data broker”
22 does not include a commercial entity engaged in
23 the following activities:

24 (i) Engaging in reporting, news-gath-
25 ering, speaking, or other activities intended

1 to inform the public on matters of public
2 interest or public concern.

3 (ii) Providing 411 directory assistance
4 or directory information services, including
5 name, address, and telephone number, on
6 behalf of or as a function of a tele-
7 communications carrier.

8 (iii) Using personal information inter-
9 nally, providing access to businesses under
10 common ownership or affiliated by cor-
11 porate control, or selling or providing data
12 for a transaction or service requested by or
13 concerning the individual whose personal
14 information is being transferred.

15 (iv) Providing publicly available infor-
16 mation via real-time or near-real-time alert
17 services for health or safety purposes.

18 (v) A consumer reporting agency, only
19 while engaging in activity subject to the
20 Fair Credit Reporting Act (15 U.S.C.
21 1681 et seq.).

22 (vi) A financial institution subject to
23 the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (Public Law
24 106–102) and regulations implementing
25 that Act.

1 (vii) A covered entity for purposes of
 2 the privacy regulations promulgated under
 3 section 264(c) of the Health Insurance
 4 Portability and Accountability Act of 1996
 5 (42 U.S.C. 1320d–2 note).

6 (viii) The collection and sale or licens-
 7 ing of covered information incidental to
 8 conducting the activities described in
 9 clauses (i) through (vii).

10 (7) DESIGNATED HOUSE EMPLOYEE.—The
 11 term “designated House employee” means—

12 (A) a covered employee designated in writ-
 13 ing by—

14 (i) a Member of, or Delegate or Resi-
 15 dent Commissioner to, the House of Rep-
 16 resentatives; or

17 (ii) an officer of the House of Rep-
 18 resentatives; or

19 (B) an officer of the House of Representa-
 20 tives.

21 (8) DESIGNATED SENATE EMPLOYEE.—The
 22 term “designated Senate employee” means—

23 (A) a covered employee designated in writ-
 24 ing by—

25 (i) a Member of the Senate; or

1 (ii) an officer of the Senate; or

2 (B) an officer of the Senate.

3 (9) GOVERNMENT AGENCY.—The term “Gov-
4 ernment agency” includes—

5 (A) an Executive agency, as defined in sec-
6 tion 105 of title 5, United States Code; and

7 (B) any agency in the judicial branch or
8 legislative branch.

9 (10) IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER.—The term
10 “immediate family member” means an at-risk indi-
11 vidual—

12 (A) who is the spouse, parent, sibling, or
13 child of another at-risk individual;

14 (B) to whom another at-risk individual
15 stands in loco parentis; or

16 (C) living in the household of another at-
17 risk individual.

18 (11) MEMBER OF CONGRESS.—The term
19 “Member of Congress” means—

20 (A) a Member of the Senate; or

21 (B) a Member of, or Delegate or Resident
22 Commissioner to, the House of Representatives.

23 (12) TRANSFER.—The term “transfer” means
24 to sell, license, trade, or exchange for consideration
25 the covered information of an at-risk individual.

1 (b) GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each at-risk individual
3 may—

4 (A) file written notice of the status of the
5 individual as an at-risk individual, for them-
6 selves and their immediate family members,
7 with each Government agency that includes in-
8 formation necessary to ensure compliance with
9 this section, as determined by the applicable
10 legislative officers; and

11 (B) request that each Government agency
12 described in subparagraph (A) mark as private
13 their covered information and that of their im-
14 mediate family members.

15 (2) NO PUBLIC POSTING.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—Government agencies
17 shall not publicly post or display publicly avail-
18 able content that includes covered information
19 of an at-risk individual.

20 (B) DEADLINE.—Upon receipt of a request
21 by an at-risk individual under paragraph
22 (1)(B), a Government agency shall remove the
23 covered information of the at-risk individual,
24 and any immediate family member on whose be-
25 half the at-risk individual submitted the re-

1 quest, from publicly available content not later
2 than 72 hours after such receipt.

3 (3) EXCEPTIONS.—Nothing in this section shall
4 prohibit a Government agency from providing access
5 to records containing the covered information of an
6 at-risk individual to a third party if the third
7 party—

8 (A) possesses a signed release from the at-
9 risk individual or a court order;

10 (B) is subject to the requirements of title
11 V of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (15 U.S.C.
12 6801 et seq.); or

13 (C) executes a confidentiality agreement
14 with the Government agency.

15 (e) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—An at-risk individual may di-
17 rectly, or through an agent designated by the at-risk
18 individual, make any notice or request required or
19 authorized by this section on behalf of the at-risk in-
20 dividual. The notice or request shall include informa-
21 tion necessary to ensure compliance with this sec-
22 tion.

23 (2) AUTHORIZATION OF LEGISLATIVE OFFICERS
24 AND EMPLOYEES TO MAKE REQUESTS.—

1 (A) LEGISLATIVE OFFICERS.—Upon writ-
2 ten request of a Member of Congress, des-
3 ignated Senate employee, or designated House
4 employee, the applicable legislative officers are
5 authorized to make any notice or request re-
6 quired or authorized by this section on behalf of
7 the Member of Congress, designated Senate em-
8 ployee, or designated House employee, respec-
9 tively. The notice or request shall include infor-
10 mation necessary to ensure compliance with this
11 section, as determined by the applicable legisla-
12 tive officers. Any notice or request made under
13 this subparagraph shall be deemed to have been
14 made by the Member of Congress, designated
15 Senate employee, or designated House em-
16 ployee, as applicable, and comply with the no-
17 tice and request requirements of this section.

18 (B) LIST.—

19 (i) IN GENERAL.—In lieu of individual
20 notices or requests, the applicable legisla-
21 tive officers may provide Government agen-
22 cies, data brokers, persons, businesses, or
23 associations with a list of—

24 (I) Members of Congress, des-
25 ignated Senate employees, and des-

1 ignated House employees making a
2 written request described in subpara-
3 graph (A); and

4 (II) immediate family members
5 of the Members of Congress, des-
6 ignated Senate employees, and des-
7 ignated House employees on whose
8 behalf the written request was made.

9 (ii) CONTENTS.—A list provided
10 under clause (i) shall include information
11 necessary to ensure compliance with this
12 section, as determined by the applicable
13 legislative officers for the purpose of main-
14 taining compliance with this section.

15 (iii) COMPLIANCE WITH NOTICE AND
16 REQUEST REQUIREMENT.—A list provided
17 under clause (i) shall be deemed to comply
18 with individual notice and request require-
19 ments of this section.

20 (d) DATA BROKERS AND OTHER BUSINESSES.—

21 (1) PROHIBITIONS.—

22 (A) DATA BROKERS.—

23 (i) DEFINITIONS.—

24 (I) COVERED INFORMATION.—

25 For purposes of applying the term

1 “covered information” in this sub-
2 paragraph, “covered person” shall be
3 substituted for “at-risk individual”
4 each place it appears in subsection
5 (a)(5).

6 (II) COVERED PERSON.—In this
7 subparagraph, the term “covered per-
8 son” means—

9 (aa) an individual that is lo-
10 cated in the United States; or

11 (bb) a United States person,
12 as defined in section 101 of the
13 Foreign Intelligence Surveillance
14 Act of 1978 (50 U.S.C. 1801).

15 (ii) PROHIBITION.—It shall be unlaw-
16 ful for a data broker to knowingly sell, li-
17 cense, trade for consideration, or purchase
18 covered information of a covered person.

19 (iii) ENFORCEMENT.—The Attorney
20 General or the attorney general (or equiva-
21 lent thereof) of any State may file an ac-
22 tion seeking injunctive or declaratory relief
23 in any court of competent jurisdiction to
24 enforce this subparagraph.

25 (B) OTHER BUSINESSES.—

1 (i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided
2 in clause (ii), no person, business, or asso-
3 ciation shall publicly post or publicly dis-
4 play on the internet covered information of
5 an at-risk individual if the at-risk indi-
6 vidual, or an immediate family member on
7 behalf of the at-risk individual, has made
8 a written request to that person, business,
9 or association to not disclose the covered
10 information of the at-risk individual.

11 (ii) EXCEPTIONS.—Clause (i) shall
12 not apply to—

13 (I) the display on the internet of
14 the covered information of an at-risk
15 individual if the information is rel-
16 evant to and displayed as part of a
17 news story, commentary, editorial, or
18 other speech on a matter of public
19 concern;

20 (II) covered information that the
21 at-risk individual voluntarily publishes
22 on the internet after the date of en-
23 actment of this Act; or

24 (III) covered information lawfully
25 received from a Federal Government

1 source (or from an employee or agent
2 of the Federal Government).

3 (2) REQUIRED CONDUCT.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—After receiving a writ-
5 ten request under paragraph (1)(B)(i), the per-
6 son, business, or association shall—

7 (i) remove within 72 hours the cov-
8 ered information from the internet and en-
9 sure that the information is not made
10 available on any website or subsidiary
11 website controlled by that person, business,
12 or association; and

13 (ii) ensure that the covered informa-
14 tion of the at-risk individual is not made
15 available on any website or subsidiary
16 website controlled by that person, business,
17 or association.

18 (B) TRANSFER.—

19 (i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided
20 in clause (ii), after receiving a written re-
21 quest under paragraph (1)(B)(i), the per-
22 son, business, or association shall not
23 transfer the covered information of the at-
24 risk individual to any other person, busi-
25 ness, or association through any medium.

1 (ii) EXCEPTIONS.—Clause (i) shall
2 not apply to—

3 (I) the transfer of the covered in-
4 formation of the at-risk individual if
5 the information is relevant to and dis-
6 played as part of a news story, com-
7 mentary, editorial, or other speech on
8 a matter of public concern;

9 (II) covered information that the
10 at-risk individual voluntarily publishes
11 on the internet after the date of en-
12 actment of this Act; or

13 (III) a transfer made at the re-
14 quest of the at-risk individual or that
15 is necessary to effectuate a request to
16 the person, business, or association
17 from the at-risk individual.

18 (e) REDRESS.—An at-risk individual whose covered
19 information is made public as a result of a violation of
20 this section may bring an action seeking injunctive or de-
21 claratory relief in any court of competent jurisdiction.

22 (f) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this section shall
24 be construed—

25 (A) to prohibit, restrain, or limit—

1 (i) the lawful investigation or report-
2 ing by the press of any unlawful activity or
3 misconduct alleged to have been committed
4 by an at-risk individual;

5 (ii) the reporting on an at-risk indi-
6 vidual regarding matters of public concern;
7 or

8 (iii) the disclosure of information oth-
9 erwise required under Federal law;

10 (B) to impair access to the actions or
11 statements of a Member of Congress in the
12 course of carrying out the public functions of
13 the Member of Congress;

14 (C) to limit the publication or transfer of
15 covered information with the written consent of
16 the at-risk individual; or

17 (D) to prohibit information sharing by a
18 data broker to a Federal, State, Tribal, or local
19 government, or any unit thereof.

20 (2) PROTECTION OF COVERED INFORMATION.—

21 This section shall be broadly construed to favor the
22 protection of the covered information of at-risk indi-
23 viduals.

24 (g) SEVERABILITY.—If any provision of this section,
25 or the application of such provision to any person or cir-

1 cumstance, is held to be unconstitutional, the remaining
2 provisions of this section, and the application of the provi-
3 sion to any other person or circumstance, shall not be af-
4 fected.

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