

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5290

To provide that, for purposes of certain Federal privacy laws, agencies of the District of Columbia are treated as Federal agencies, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 3, 2019

Ms. NORTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To provide that, for purposes of certain Federal privacy laws, agencies of the District of Columbia are treated as Federal agencies, 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 District of Columbia  
5 Returning Citizens Coordination Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AGENCIES TO BE TREATED**  
2 **AS FEDERAL AGENCIES FOR PURPOSES OF**  
3 **CERTAIN PRIVACY LAWS.**

4 For purposes of a provision of law set forth in section  
5 3, to the extent that such provision of law applies to any  
6 communication for purposes of providing public benefits  
7 or services to any person resuming or commencing resi-  
8 dence in the District of Columbia (including any person  
9 resuming or commencing residence in the District of Co-  
10 lumbia upon release from any term of imprisonment) be-  
11 tween—

12 (1) the Director of the Bureau of Prisons and  
13 any agency of the District of Columbia; or

14 (2) the Director of the Court Services and Of-  
15 fender Supervision Agency for the District of Colum-  
16 bia and any agency of the District of Columbia,  
17 the agency of the District of Columbia shall be treated  
18 as a Federal agency for purposes of such provision of law.

19 **SEC. 3. PROVISIONS OF LAW DESCRIBED.**

20 The provisions of law set forth in this section are as  
21 follows:

22 (1) Title II of the Health Insurance Portability  
23 and Accountability Act of 1996 (including parts 160  
24 and 165 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations).

1           (2) Section 543 of the Public Health Service  
2 Act (including part 2 of title 42, Code of Federal  
3 Regulations).

4           (3) Section 552a of title 5, United States Code  
5 (commonly referred to as the “Privacy Act”).

6           (4) Any other provision of law setting forth  
7 substantially similar protections for the privacy of  
8 information.

9 **SEC. 4. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

10          Nothing in this Act may be construed to expand the  
11 authority of the Director of the Bureau of Prisons or the  
12 Director of the Court Services and Offender Supervision  
13 Agency for the District of Columbia to disclose informa-  
14 tion to any law enforcement officer.

15 **SEC. 5. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COUNCIL.**

16          For purposes of this Act, the Council of the District  
17 of Columbia shall be considered an agency of the District  
18 of Columbia.

19 **SEC. 6. APPLICATION OF PRIVACY ACT.**

20          A communication under this Act shall be deemed to  
21 be a lawful disclosure under section 552a(b)(7) of title 5,  
22 United States Code.

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