

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5465

To require the head of each agency to allow members of Congress access to certain Federal buildings, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

Mr. ALFORD (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. MANN, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. FALLON, Mr. MEUSER, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. FRY, Mr. EDWARDS, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. CRANE, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. ISSA, Mr. BURLISON, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, and Mr. JACKSON of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To require the head of each agency to allow members of Congress access to certain Federal buildings, 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 “Congressional Access  
5 to Bureaucratic Offices Act” or the “CABO Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ACCESS TO FEDERAL BUILDINGS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The head of each agency shall  
3 allow Members of Congress and congressional staff mem-  
4 bers to access the building that serves as the headquarters  
5 of such agency during regular business hours.

6 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—

7 (1) IDENTIFICATION.—The head of each agency  
8 shall require a Member of Congress seeking access  
9 to a building described in subsection (a) to provide  
10 congressional identification.

11 (2) CONGRESSIONAL STAFF.—The head of each  
12 agency shall allow a congressional staff member to  
13 access a building described in subsection (a) if—

14 (A) such staff member is accompanied by  
15 the Member of Congress that employs the staff  
16 member; and

17 (B) such staff member provides a valid  
18 congressional staff identification badge upon  
19 seeking access to such building.

20 (c) EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES.—The require-  
21 ments of subsection (a) shall apply during an extenuating  
22 circumstance and any restriction on access to a building  
23 that is imposed on the public during such a circumstance  
24 shall not apply to a Member of Congress or an applicable  
25 congressional staff member.

1 (d) EXCEPTION FOR AREAS REQUIRING SECURITY  
2 CLEARANCE.—The requirements of subsection (a) shall  
3 not apply to any part of a building for which a security  
4 clearance at the level of secret or higher is required for  
5 entry.

6 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 (1) AGENCY.—The term “agency” has the  
8 meaning given such term in section 551 of title 5,  
9 United States Code.

10 (2) CONGRESSIONAL IDENTIFICATION.—The  
11 term “congressional identification” means any form  
12 of identification issued to Members by the Clerk or  
13 Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives  
14 (in the case of a Member of the House of Represent-  
15 atives) or by the Secretary or Sergeant at Arms and  
16 Doorkeeper of the Senate (in the case of a Senator).

17 (3) CONGRESSIONAL STAFF MEMBER.—The  
18 term “congressional staff member” means a full-  
19 time staff member of the House of Representatives  
20 or the Senate.

21 (4) EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCE.—The term  
22 “extenuating circumstance” means an event for  
23 which—

1           (A) the President has declared an emer-  
2           gency pursuant to section 202 of the National  
3           Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622); or

4           (B) the Secretary of Health and Human  
5           Services has declared an emergency pursuant to  
6           section 319 of the Public Health Service Act  
7           (42 U.S.C. 247d).

8           (5) MEMBER OF CONGRESS.—The term “Mem-  
9           ber of Congress” means a Member of the House of  
10          Representatives or a Senator.

11 **SEC. 3. COMPLIANCE WITH CUTGO.**

12          No additional amounts are authorized to be appro-  
13          priated to carry out this Act. Such Act shall be carried  
14          out using amounts otherwise appropriated to the head of  
15          the agency.

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