

Union Calendar No. 528

118TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7593

[Report No. 118-631]

To enhance the authority of the Director of the Congressional Research Service to obtain information directly from agencies of the Federal government.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 8, 2024

Mrs. BICE (for herself, Mr. CAREY, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. MORELLE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

AUGUST 16, 2024

Additional sponsor: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina

AUGUST 16, 2024

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union
and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To enhance the authority of the Director of the Congressional Research Service to obtain information directly from agencies of the Federal government.

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 “Modernizing the Con-
5 gressional Research Service’s Access to Data Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ACCESS OF CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE**
7 **TO GOVERNMENT INFORMATION.**

8 (a) DIRECT ACCESS TO INFORMATION.—Section 203
9 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C.
10 166) is amended—

11 (1) by redesignating subsection (j) as sub-
12 section (k); and

13 (2) by inserting after subsection (i) the fol-
14 lowing new subsection:

15 “(j)(1) In carrying out the duties and functions of
16 the Congressional Research Service under subsection (d),
17 the Director is authorized to secure books, records, cor-
18 respondence, memoranda, papers, documents, secure in-
19 formation, and other data in all forms directly from the
20 various departments, agencies, and establishments of the
21 executive branch of the Government and the regulatory
22 agencies and commissions of the Government as the Direc-
23 tor determines to be necessary to carry out the request,
24 and all such departments, agencies, establishments, and

1 regulatory agencies and commissions shall furnish the Di-
2 rector with all such available material in a timely manner.

3 “(2) With respect to books, records, correspondence,
4 memoranda, papers, documents, secure information, and
5 other data in all forms obtained under paragraph (1), the
6 Director shall maintain the same level of confidentiality
7 as is required by law of the department, agency, establish-
8 ment, or regulatory agency or commission from which it
9 is obtained. Officers and employees of the Congressional
10 Research Service shall be subject to the same statutory
11 penalties for unauthorized disclosure or use as officers or
12 employees of the department, agency, establishment, or
13 regulatory agency or commission from which it is ob-
14 tained.”.

15 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 203(d)(1)
16 of such Act (2 U.S.C. 166(d)(1)) is amended in the matter
17 following subparagraph (C) by striking “and in the per-
18 formance of this duty” and all that follows through “com-
19 ply with such request;”.

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