

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5551

To extend the statute of limitations for offenses relating to pandemic-era programs to be 10 years.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 17 (legislative day, DECEMBER 16), 2024

Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Ms. ERNST) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To extend the statute of limitations for offenses relating
to pandemic-era programs to be 10 years.

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 “Fraudulent Covid
5 Funds Recovery Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR OFFENSES RELAT-**
7 **ING TO PANDEMIC-ERA PROGRAMS.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

9 (1) the term “pandemic-era law” means—

1 (A) the Coronavirus Preparedness and Re-
2 sponse Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020
3 (Public Law 116–123; 134 Stat. 146);

4 (B) the Families First Coronavirus Re-
5 sponse Act (Public Law 116–127; 134 Stat.
6 177);

7 (C) the CARES Act (Public Law 116–136;
8 134 Stat. 281);

9 (D) the Paycheck Protection Program and
10 Health Care Enhancement Act (Public Law
11 116–139; 134 Stat. 620);

12 (E) divisions M and N of the Consolidated
13 Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116–
14 260; 134 Stat. 1182);

15 (F) the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
16 (Public Law 117–2; 135 Stat. 4); or

17 (G) an amendment made by a law de-
18 scribed in subparagraphs (A) through (F); and

19 (2) the term “pandemic-era program offense”
20 means an offense involving conduct that relates to or
21 involves—

22 (A) a program, project, or activity that
23 was authorized or established by, or was carried
24 out under, a pandemic-era law; or

1 (B) funding provided under a pandemic-
2 era law.

3 (b) EXTENSION OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—No
4 person shall be prosecuted, tried, or punished for any pan-
5 demic-era offense unless the indictment is found or the
6 information is instituted—

7 (1) notwithstanding section 3282(a) of title 18,
8 United States Code, within 10 years after such of-
9 fense shall have been committed; or

10 (2) within such longer period of years after
11 such offense shall have been committed as is other-
12 wise provided by law.

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