

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1461

To provide transparency regarding waivers granted to individuals from Executive orders related to ethics commitments or compliance, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 1, 2021

Mr. LYNCH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform

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## A BILL

To provide transparency regarding waivers granted to individuals from Executive orders related to ethics commitments or compliance, 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 “White House Ethics  
5 Transparency Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROCEDURE FOR WAIVERS AND AUTHORIZATIONS**  
7 **RELATING TO ETHICS REQUIREMENTS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
9 sion of law, not later than 30 days after an officer or em-

1 ployee issues or approves a waiver or authorization pursu-  
2 ant to any Executive order related to ethics commitments  
3 or compliance by covered employees, such officer or em-  
4 ployee shall—

5           (1) transmit a written copy of such waiver or  
6           authorization to the Director of the Office of Gov-  
7           ernment Ethics; and

8           (2) make a written copy of such waiver or au-  
9           thorization available to the public on the website of  
10          the employing agency of the covered employee.

11          (b) OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS PUBLIC  
12          AVAILABILITY.—Not later than 30 days after receiving a  
13          written copy of a waiver or authorization under subsection  
14          (a)(1), the Director of the Office of Government Ethics  
15          shall make such waiver or authorization available to the  
16          public on the website of the Office of Government Ethics.

17          (c) DEFINITION OF COVERED EMPLOYEE.—In this  
18          section, the term “covered employee”—

19               (1) means a non-career Presidential or Vice  
20               Presidential appointee, non-career appointee in the  
21               Senior Executive Service (or other SES-type sys-  
22               tem), or an appointee to a position that has been ex-  
23               cepted from the competitive service by reason of  
24               being of a confidential or policymaking character

1 (Schedule C and other positions excepted under com-  
2 parable criteria) in an executive agency; and

3 (2) does not include any individual appointed as  
4 a member of the Senior Foreign Service or solely as  
5 a uniformed service commissioned officer.

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