

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2690

To amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to require annual reports to Congress regarding the status of investigations of unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 20, 2021

Mr. GUTHRIE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to require annual reports to Congress regarding the status of investigations of unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce.

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 “Clarifying Legality and
5 Enforcement Action Reasoning Act” or the “CLEAR
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ANNUAL REPORTING ON THE STATUS OF INVES-**
2 **TIGATIONS.**

3 Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15
4 U.S.C. 45) is amended by adding at the end the following
5 new subsection:

6 “(o) REPORT ON INVESTIGATIONS.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall, on
8 an annual basis, transmit a report to Congress on
9 investigations with respect to unfair or deceptive
10 acts or practices in or affecting commerce (within
11 the meaning of subsection (a)(1)), detailing—

12 “(A) the number of such investigations the
13 Commission has commenced;

14 “(B) the number of such investigations the
15 Commission has closed with no official agency
16 action;

17 “(C) the disposition of such investigations,
18 if such investigations have concluded and re-
19 sulted in official agency action; and

20 “(D) for each such investigation that was
21 closed with no official agency action, a descrip-
22 tion sufficient to indicate the legal analysis sup-
23 porting the Commission’s decision not to con-
24 tinue such investigation, and the industry sec-
25 tors of the entities subject to each such inves-
26 tigation.

1 “(2) PRIVACY PROTECTION.—The description
2 required under paragraph (1)(D) shall not include
3 the identity of the person who is the subject of an
4 investigation or any other information that identifies
5 the person.

6 “(3) FTC WEBSITE POSTING.—The Commis-
7 sion shall make the most recent report required
8 under this subsection publicly available on the Com-
9 mission’s website, and maintain such report on such
10 website until the next report is transmitted to Con-
11 gress.”.

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