113TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

S. 2683

To reform classification and security clearance processes throughout the Federal Government and, within the Department of Homeland Security, to establish an effective and transparent process for the designation, investigation, adjudication, denial, suspension, and revocation of security clearances, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

July 29, 2014

Mr. Wyden introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To reform classification and security clearance processes throughout the Federal Government and, within the Department of Homeland Security, to establish an effective and transparent process for the designation, investigation, adjudication, denial, suspension, and revocation of security clearances, 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 TITLES; TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 4 (a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the
- 5 "Clearance and Over-Classification Reform and Reduction
- 6 Act" or the "CORRECT Act".

1 (b) Table of Contents for

2 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short titles; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—REFORMS TO CLASSIFICATION AND CLEARANCE PROCESSES

Subtitle A—Reducing Over-Classification

- Sec. 101. Trend information on classified information and third evaluations.
- Sec. 102. Uniformity in sampling.
- Sec. 103. Ten percent reduction in holdings of classified information.
- Sec. 104. Status update on efforts at reducing holdings of classified information.
- Sec. 105. Report.
- Sec. 106. Public Interest Declassification Board enhancements.
- Sec. 107. Classification designation training.
- Sec. 108. Reducing over-classification guidance.

Subtitle B—Governmentwide Reforms

- Sec. 111. Sense of Congress.
- Sec. 112. Report on certain designations.
- Sec. 113. Transparency and accountability in personnel security investigations.
- Sec. 114. Continuous evaluation programs and insider threat programs.
- Sec. 115. Mitigating factors in the context of a continuous evaluation program or insider threat program.
- Sec. 116. Appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board.
- Sec. 117. Automated or nongovernmental adjudication prohibited.
- Sec. 118. Report on media contacts policy for intelligence personnel.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CLEARANCE PROCESS REFORMS

Subtitle A—Designation

- Sec. 201. Designation of national security sensitive and public trust positions.
- Sec. 202. Audits.
- Sec. 203. Review of position designations.

Subtitle B—Investigation

- Sec. 211. Investigation services provider performance.
- Sec. 212. Metrics.

Subtitle C—Adjudication

Sec. 221. Uniform adjudication standards.

Subtitle D—Denial, Suspension, Revocation, and Appeal

- Sec. 231. Uniform revocation criteria and procedures.
- Sec. 232. Annual reporting.
- Sec. 233. Final appeals panel.

Subtitle E—Miscellaneous Provisions

Sec. 241. Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 review and security clearance reciprocity.

Sec. 242. Office of Inspector General report.

Sec. 243. Penalties for falsification relating to an investigation file.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

2 In this Act:

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1) IN GENERAL.—The terms "agency", "authorized investigative agency", "authorized adjudicative agency", "current investigation file", "periodic reinvestigations", and "personnel security investigation" have the meanings given those terms in section 3001(a) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (50 U.S.C. 3341(a)).

(2) Other terms.—

- (A) CHIEF SECURITY OFFICER OF THE DE-PARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.—The term "Chief Security Officer of the Department of Homeland Security" means the Classified Information Advisory Officer of the Department of Homeland Security identified and designated pursuant to section 210F of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124m).
- (B) INVESTIGATION SERVICE PROVIDER.—
 The term "investigation service provider"
 means the Office of Personnel Management and
 any other entity that undertakes investigative

1	services, including criminal record checks, fi-
2	nancial record checks, field interviews, employ-
3	ment review, and education verifications, for an
4	investigation file for a national security posi-
5	tion.
6	(C) NATIONAL SECURITY POSITION.—The
7	term "national security position" has the mean-
8	ing given that term in section 732.102 of title
9	5, Code of Federal Regulations or similar suc-
10	cessor regulation.
11	TITLE I—REFORMS TO CLASSI-
12	FICATION AND CLEARANCE
13	PROCESSES
14	Subtitle A—Reducing Over-
15	Classification
16	SEC. 101. TREND INFORMATION ON CLASSIFIED INFORMA-
17	TION AND THIRD EVALUATIONS.
18	Subsection (b) of section 6 of the Reducing Over-
19	Classification Act (50 U.S.C. 3161 note; Public Law 111–
20	258) is amended—
21	(1) in paragraph (1)—
22	(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
23	(A)—
24	(i) by striking "2016," and inserting
25	"2019,"; and

1	(ii) by striking "no less than two" and
2	inserting "not fewer than three";
3	(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking
4	"and" at the end;
5	(C) in subparagraph (B), by striking the
6	period at the end and inserting "; and; and
7	(D) by adding after subparagraph (B) the
8	following new subparagraph:
9	"(C) beginning with the second evaluation
10	under paragraph (2)(B), to assess, with respect
11	to subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, the de-
12	gree to which the incentives for accurate classi-
13	fication decisions referred to in subsection (a)
14	have been utilized, and the extent to which the
15	use of such incentives, including cash incentives
16	or other alternative, non-cash awards, has im-
17	proved the accuracy of original classification de-
18	cisions or derivative classification decisions and
19	a reduction in classified information.";
20	(2) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end the
21	following new subparagraph:
22	"(C) Third evaluations.—Each third
23	evaluation required by paragraph (1) shall re-
24	view progress made since the second evaluation
25	and the adequacy of the records to support each

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self-inspection program determination in accordance with subsection (c), and assess such department or agency's procedures and activities regarding classification challenges. Specifically, each third evaluation shall—

"(i)(I) assess implementation of procedures by such department or agency to encourage authorized holders of classified information, including authorized holders outside the classifying agency, to challenge the classification of information that they believe is improperly classified or unclassified, as required by section 1.8 of Executive Order 13526 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note) or successor order, and the degree to which such department or agency makes each authorized holder of classified information aware of the procedures and encourages such holders to challenge the classification of information that they believe is improperly classified or unclassified; and

"(II) to the extent practicable, review data reflecting the disposition of challenges received by such department or agency, in-

1	cluding how often such challenges resulted
2	in a change in classification;
3	"(ii) review the degree to which infor-
4	mation that was declassified was deter-
5	mined by the agency to be of extraordinary
6	public interest that does not undermine the
7	national security of the United States, in-
8	cluding information on the number of na-
9	tional security positions (pursuant to part
10	732 of title 5, Code of Federal Regula-
11	tions, or similar successor regulation), by
12	classification level, that are designated
13	within the agency during that period; and
14	"(iii) shall be completed not later than
15	September 30, 2019."; and
16	(3) in paragraph (3)(B)—
17	(A) in clause (i), by striking "and" at the
18	end;
19	(B) in clause (ii), by striking the period at
20	the end and inserting "; and"; and
21	(C) by adding after clause (ii) the following
22	new clause:
23	"(iii) information relating to the as-
24	sessment required under paragraph
25	(1)(C).".

SEC. 102. UNIFORMITY IN SAMPLING.

- 2 Section 6 of the Reducing Over-Classification Act (50
- 3 U.S.C. 3161 note; Public Law 111–258) is amended by
- 4 adding at the end the following new subsection:
- 5 "(c) Uniformity in Sampling.—The President,
- 6 acting through the Director of the Information Security
- 7 Oversight Office, shall issue a standardized sampling tech-
- 8 nique for department and agency self-inspection programs
- 9 as required pursuant to Executive Order 13526 (50
- 10 U.S.C. 3161 note) or successor order in order to address
- 11 any vulnerabilities in such programs.".
- 12 SEC. 103. TEN PERCENT REDUCTION IN HOLDINGS OF
- 13 CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.
- 14 Section 6 of the Reducing Over-Classification Act (50
- 15 U.S.C. 3161 note; Public Law 111–258), as amended by
- 16 section 102 of this Act, is further amended by adding at
- 17 the end the following new subsection:
- 18 "(d) Ten Percent Reduction in Holding of
- 19 CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—The President shall estab-
- 20 lish goals for reducing, by the date that is not later than
- 21 five years after the date of the enactment of this sub-
- 22 section, classified information, through declassification
- 23 and improved original and derivative classification deci-
- 24 sionmaking, by not less than ten percent as compared to
- 25 the amount of such information as of the day before such
- 26 date. For purposes of this subsection, classified informa-

- 1 tion that would otherwise be declassified pursuant to Ex-
- 2 ecutive Order 13526 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note) or successor
- 3 order shall not count towards such ten percent require-
- 4 ment.".
- 5 SEC. 104. STATUS UPDATE ON EFFORTS AT REDUCING
- 6 HOLDINGS OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.
- 7 Section 704(d)(1) of the Public Interest Declassifica-
- 8 tion Act of 2000 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note; Public Law 106–
- 9 567) is amended by striking the period and inserting "and
- 10 information on the status of efforts, to the extent prac-
- 11 ticable on an agency-by-agency basis, at reducing the hold-
- 12 ing of classified information pursuant to section 6(d) of
- 13 the Reducing Over-Classification Act (50 U.S.C. 3161
- 14 note; Public Law 111–258).".
- 15 SEC. 105. REPORT.
- 16 Section 6 of the Reducing Over-Classification Act (50
- 17 U.S.C. 3161 note; Public Law 111–258), as amended by
- 18 sections 102 and 103 of this Act, is further amended by
- 19 adding at the end the following new subsection:
- 20 "(e) Report.—The Inspector General of each de-
- 21 partment or agency of the United States with an officer
- 22 or employee who is authorized to make original and deriv-
- 23 ative classification decisions shall submit to the appro-
- 24 priate entities (as such term is defined in subsection

1	(b)(4)) a report relating to progress accomplished under
2	subsections (e) and (d).".
3	SEC. 106. PUBLIC INTEREST DECLASSIFICATION BOARD
4	ENHANCEMENTS.
5	(a) Reviews of Classification Guidance.—Sub-
6	sections (a) and (b) of section 704 of the Public Interest
7	Declassification Act of 2000 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note; Public
8	Law 106–567) are amended to read as follows:
9	"(a) Agency Declassification Programs and
10	CLASSIFICATION GUIDANCE.—
11	"(1) Declassification programs.—
12	"(A) Report.—The head of any agency
13	with the authority under an Executive order to
14	classify information shall annually provide to
15	the Board, the Select Committee on Intelligence
16	of the Senate, and the Permanent Select Com-
17	mittee on Intelligence of the House of Rep-
18	resentatives a summary briefing and report on
19	the progress and plans of such agency in the
20	declassification of national security information.
21	"(B) Contents.—Each briefing and re-
22	port required under subparagraph (A) shall—
23	"(i) cover the declassification goals set
24	by statute, regulation, or policy, the
25	progress of the agency towards completing

1	such goals, and the planned goals and pri-
2	orities of the agency for its declassification
3	activities over the 2 fiscal years following
4	the report;
5	"(ii) give particular attention to
6	progress on the declassification of records
7	and materials that are of extraordinary
8	public interest to the people of the United
9	States; and
10	"(iii) include information on the dis-
11	position of recommendations regarding
12	special searches for records of extraor-
13	dinary public interest submitted pursuant
14	to subsection (c).
15	"(C) Consolidated report.—The an-
16	nual briefing and report under subparagraph
17	(A) for agencies within the Department of De-
18	fense, including the military departments and
19	the elements of the intelligence community (as
20	defined in section 3(4) of the National Security
21	Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4))), shall be pro-
22	vided on a consolidated basis.
23	"(2) REVIEW OF CLASSIFICATION GUIDANCE.—
24	The Board shall, on an ongoing basis, review classi-
25	fication guidance required pursuant to Executive

1	Order 13526 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note) or successor
2	order utilized within each agency to assess—
3	"(A) the validity of the national security
4	basis for each instruction in the classification
5	guidance;
6	"(B) the clarity of each instruction within
7	the classification guidance to ensure that only
8	the minimum necessary information is classi-
9	fied; and
10	"(C) the feasibility of narrowing or elimi-
11	nating any classification guidance that is un-
12	necessary or obsolete.
13	"(3) Plan for reviewing classification
14	GUIDANCE.—Not later than 90 days after the date
15	of the enactment of the Clearance and Over-Classi-
16	fication Reform and Reduction Act, the Chairperson
17	of the Board shall submit a multi-year plan for re-
18	viewing classification guidance utilized within each
19	agency, with benchmarks for when and, to the extent
20	practicable, which classification guidance will be re-
21	viewed and how the findings will be shared with the
22	head of each agency and the inspector general of
23	each agency.
24	"(4) Recommendations for harmonizing
25	AND REDUCING CLASSIFICATION GUIDANCE.—Not

- later than one year after the date of the enactment
- 2 of the Clearance and Over-Classification Reform and
- Reduction Act, the Chairperson of the Board shall
- 4 submit recommendations for harmonizing and reduc-
- 5 ing classification guidance across the Federal Gov-
- 6 ernment to the President.
- 7 "(b) Recommendations on Agency Declas-
- 8 SIFICATION PROGRAMS AND CLASSIFICATION GUID-
- 9 ANCE.—
- 10 "(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon reviewing classifica-
- 11 tion guidance and discussing declassification plans
- and progress with an agency, the Board shall pro-
- vide to the head of that agency, the Director of the
- 14 Office of Management and Budget, and the Assist-
- ant to the President for National Security Affairs
- the written recommendations of the Board as to how
- 17 the classification guidance and declassification pro-
- gram of the agency could be improved.
- 19 "(2) Public availability.—Not later than 60
- days after the Board provides written recommenda-
- 21 tions to the head of an agency in accordance with
- paragraph (1), the Board shall make such rec-
- ommendations public in accordance with section
- 24 703(k).".

1 (b) STAFF AND DETAILEES.—Subsection (f) of sec-2 tion 703 of such Act is amended to read as follows: 3 "(f) DIRECTOR AND STAFF.— DIRECTOR.—The Chairperson of 4 "(1)the 5 Board, in accordance with rules agreed upon by the 6 Board, shall appoint and fix the compensation of a 7 Director, except that no rate of pay fixed under this 8 paragraph may exceed the equivalent of that payable 9 for a position at level V of the Executive Schedule 10 under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code. 11 "(2) Staff.—The Chairperson of the Board, in 12 accordance with rules agreed upon by the Board, 13 may appoint and fix the pay of personnel as may be necessary to enable the Board to carry out its func-14 15 tions. 16 "(3) Applicability of certain civil serv-17 ICE LAWS.—The Director and staff may be ap-18 pointed without regard to the provisions of title 5, 19 United States Code, governing appointments in the 20 competitive service, and may be paid without regard 21 to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III 22 of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification 23 and General Schedule pay rates. 24 "(4) Detailes.—Any employee of the Federal

Government may be detailed to the Board with the

1	agreement of, and without reimbursement to, the de-
2	tailing agency, and such detail shall be without
3	interruption or loss of civil, military, or foreign serv-
4	ice status or privilege.".
5	(c) Compensation and Travel Expenses.—Sub-
6	section (h) of section 703 of such Act is amended to read
7	as follows:
8	"(h) Compensation and Travel Expenses.—
9	"(1) Compensation.—
10	"(A) Chairperson.—The Chairperson of
11	the Board shall be compensated at the rate of
12	pay payable for a position at level III of the Ex-
13	ecutive Schedule under section 5314 of title 5,
14	United States Code.
15	"(B) Members.—Each member of the
16	Board shall be compensated at a rate of pay
17	payable for a position at level IV of the Execu-
18	tive Schedule under section 5315 of such title,
19	for each day during which that member is en-
20	gaged in the actual performance of the duties
21	of the Board.
22	"(2) Travel expenses.—Members of the
23	Board shall receive travel expenses, including per
24	diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with appli-

1	cable provisions under subchapter I of chapter 57 of
2	title 5, United States Code.".
3	(d) Public Meetings.—Section 704(e) of such Act
4	is amended by adding at the end the following new para-
5	graph:
6	"(3) In carrying out this subsection, the Board shall
7	conduct public meetings on at least a semiannual basis
8	and publish in the Federal Register notice of such meet-
9	ings.".
10	(e) Extension of Sunset.—Subsection (b) of sec-
11	tion 710 of such Act is amended by striking "2018." and
12	inserting "2024.".
13	SEC. 107. CLASSIFICATION DESIGNATION TRAINING.
14	Section 7 of the Reducing Over-Classification Act (50
15	U.S.C. 3344) is amended—
16	(1) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding
17	paragraph (1)—
18	(A) in the first sentence, by inserting ", in-
19	cluding computer-based training," after "an-
20	nual training"; and
21	(B) in the second sentence, by inserting
22	"such" before "training"; and
23	(2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
24	section:

1	"(c) Recordkeeping.—The head of each Executive
2	agency shall maintain records and make such records
3	available to the inspector general of each such agency of
4	the extent to which training required under this section
5	is completed by each employee subject to such training.".
6	SEC. 108. REDUCING OVER-CLASSIFICATION GUIDANCE.
7	The Secretary of Homeland Security shall develop
8	and disseminate to components of the Department of
9	Homeland Security and make available to other agencies
10	guidance on best practices and strategies to implement the
11	Reducing Over-Classification Act (Public Law 111–258;
12	124 Stat. 2648), as amended by this Act. Such guidance
13	shall include information on the following:
14	(1) Administrative approaches, including the es-
15	tablishment of internal quarterly meetings and work-
16	ing groups to carry out the requirements of the Re-
17	ducing Over-Classification Act.
18	(2) Consolidation of information security poli-
19	cies throughout an agency.
20	(3) Provision of training, including in-person
21	initial training and computer-based recurrent train-
22	ing, in accordance with section 7 of the Reducing
23	Over-Classification Act, as amended by section 107

of this Act.

1	(4) Adoption of uniform formats for the prepa-
2	ration, production, or publication of classified infor-
3	mation.
4	(5) Ways to encourage an authorized holder of
5	classified information to challenge the classification
6	of information that such holder believes is improp-
7	erly classified or unclassified, as required by section
8	1.8 of Executive Order 13526 (50 U.S.C. 3161
9	note) or successor order.
10	Subtitle B—Governmentwide
11	Reforms
12	SEC. 111. SENSE OF CONGRESS.
13	It is the sense of Congress that a position shall only
14	be designated as a national security position if access to
15	classified information is required or if that position—
16	(1) presents a risk of a material adverse effect
17	on the national security (as described in section
18	732.201 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, or
19	similar successor regulation); and
20	(2) is determined to be a public trust position
21	(as described in section 731.106 of title 5, Code of
22	Federal Regulations, or similar successor regula-
23	tion).

1 SEC. 112. REPORT ON CERTAIN DESIGNATIONS.

2	(a) Report.—Not later than 6 months after the date
3	of the enactment of this Act and biannually thereafter,
4	the head of each agency with the authority to designate
5	a national security position shall submit to Congress a re-
6	port that provides information regarding any national se-
7	curity position for which access to classified materials is
8	not required and the position is not determined to be a
9	public trust position (as described in section 731.106 of
10	title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, or similar successor
11	regulation).
12	(b) Contents.—The report required under sub-
13	section (a) shall include—
14	(1) a description for the position, including spe-
15	cific information on duties and day-to-day oper-
16	ations;
17	(2) the history of the position's national secu-
18	rity position designation, including whether the posi-
19	tion is newly created or was transferred from an-
20	other department, division, or program;
21	(3) an explanation of the position's national se-
22	curity position designation and whether responsibil-
23	ities have been added to the position to explain the
24	designation;
25	(4) an explanation of the national security im-
26	plications of the position;

1	(5) the advertising and recruitment mechanisms
2	used to fill the position;
3	(6) information on the individual who holds the
4	position, including as appropriate, information on
5	periods when the individual had previously held a
6	national security position; and
7	(7) demographic information on the individual
8	who holds the position, including age, gender, race,
9	ethnicity, employment status, and geographic loca-
10	tion.
11	(c) Public Report.—The report required under
12	subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form and
13	be made publicly available, but may include a classified
14	annex for any sensitive or classified information if nec-
15	essary.
16	SEC. 113. TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN PER-
17	SONNEL SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS.
18	(a) In General.—Not later than 120 days after the
19	date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National
20	Intelligence and the Director of the Office of Personnel
21	Management shall establish requirements for a uniform
22	markings process to identify the investigation service pro-
23	vider that originated each piece of information in a current
24	investigation file.
25	(b) Utilization.—

- 1 (1) In general.—Not later than 90 days after
 2 the establishment of the uniform markings process
 3 pursuant to subsection (a), investigation service providers shall utilize such uniform markings process
 5 and make available, upon request by the authorized
 6 adjudicative agency, all documents in a current investigation file.
- 8 (2) EXCEPTION.—This subsection shall not 9 apply to a personnel security investigation that an 10 agency conducts using its own personnel, under dele-11 gated or statutory authority.

12 SEC. 114. CONTINUOUS EVALUATION PROGRAMS AND IN-

- 13 SIDER THREAT PROGRAMS.
- 14 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:
- 15 (1) The term "continuous evaluation", as de16 fined in Executive Order 13467 (50 U.S.C. 3161
 17 note), means reviewing the background of an indi18 vidual who has been determined to be eligible for ac19 cess to classified information at any time during the
 20 period of eligibility.
 - (2) Since 1998, at least 10 continuous evaluation pilot studies have been carried out by Federal agencies to monitor the individuals with security clearances on an ongoing basis.

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- 1 (3) The Department of Defense has conducted 2 multiple continuous evaluation pilots since early 3 2002 and has more than one pilot that is ongoing 4 as of July 1, 2014. By October 2014, the Depart-5 ment anticipates 100,000 people to be subject to 6 continuous evaluation with the population steadily 7 rising to 1,000,000 by 2017.
 - (4) The Office of the Director of National Intelligence plans for all individuals with Top Secret clearances or higher to be subject to continuous evaluation by 2016.
 - (5) Since 2010, applicants submitting an application for a security clearance, the Standard Form 86, are required to consent to being monitored through continuous evaluation.
 - (6) In February 2014, the Office of Management and Budget issued a 120-day review of Federal employee suitability and contractor fitness determinations as well as security clearance procedures and recommended an accelerated timetable for an integrated solution or continuous evaluation program across all Federal agencies and security levels.
 - (7) In addition to continuous evaluation, some Federal agencies are establishing insider threat programs pursuant to Executive Order 13587 (50

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- U.S.C. 3161 note), which authorized the establishment of insider threat programs to, among other things, identify any Government or contracted em-
- 4 ployee that may have compromised national security
- 5 through such employee's work capacity.
- 6 (8) Continuous evaluation and insider threat 7 programs are proliferating throughout the Federal 8 government without requirements for protections to 9 ensure that such programs be designed and imple-10 mented in a manner that not only protects national 11 security but also promotes fairness, transparency, 12 and employee protections, including whistleblower protections. 13
- 14 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than 180 days after 15 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Privacy and 16 Civil Liberties Oversight Board, established under section 17 1061 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 2000ee), shall publish in the Fed-18 19 eral Register standards for the protection of national security and promotion of fairness, transparency, and em-20 21 ployee protections, including safeguards to preserve the rights and confidentiality of whistleblowers with respect

to the operation of a continuous evaluation program and

the operation of an insider threat program by a Federal

(c) Certification.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of publication of the standards under subsection (b), the head of any agency that is operating a continuous evaluation program or insider threat program as of the date of the enactment of this Act shall—
 - (A) certify whether such program is in compliance with the standards established under subsection (b); and
 - (B) publish such certification in the Federal Register.
 - (2) Suspension or program.—Any such head who certifies that a continuous evaluation program or insider threat program does not meet such standards or who fails to publish a certification of compliance pursuant to paragraph (1) shall suspend the program until such program is compliant and certification of compliance is published in the Federal Register.
- 21 (d) Report.—The head of any agency that is oper-22 ating a continuous evaluation program or insider threat 23 program as of the date of the enactment of this Act shall 24 annually submit to Congress a report that includes the 25 following information:

- (1) The number of individuals in the agency subject to the continuous evaluation program or insider threat program.
 - (2) The number of individuals in the agency whose eligibility for access to classified information was suspended or revoked as a result of information acquired through the continuous evaluation program or insider threat program.
 - (3) The total number of individuals in the agency who are eligible to access classified information.
 - (4) Demographic information on each individual whose eligibility for access to classified information was changed as a result of information collected through the continuous evaluation program or insider threat program, including age, race, gender, and ethnicity.
 - (5) A description of the mechanisms used to conduct the evaluations, including how individuals were selected, whether the evaluations were randomized, and if so, the nature of the randomization, including the degree to which it was temporally randomized and the degree to which the selection of individuals subject to the program was randomized.
 - (6) A description of the types of information that were captured through the continuous evalua-

- tion program or insider threat program and were the
 basis for further investigation.
 - (7) The frequency that information captured through the continuous evaluation program or insider threat program was the basis for further investigation.
 - (8) Information on any individual whose eligibility for access to classified information was changed as a result of information collected through the continuous evaluation program or insider threat program, including the clearance level of each impacted individual and what position, if any, the individual holds within the agency, number of years the individual has been eligible to access classified information at the level held at the time that the individual was subject to the continuous evaluation program or insider threat program and, if available, the frequency that classified information was accessed by each such individual.
 - (9) Identification of each database that was accessed.
 - (10) Protocols for resolution of information captured through the continuous evaluation program or insider threat program that was the basis for further investigation, including the provision of notifica-

- tion to the impacted individual's supervisor and the impacted individual.
- 3 (11) Information on any specific instance in 4 which the continuous evaluation program or insider 5 threat program resulted in the protection of classi-6 fied information and national security.
- 7 (12) Information on the annual and life-cycle 8 costs of the continuous investigation or insider 9 threat program and, in the event that the head of 10 the agency intends to expand the program, informa-11 tion on the anticipated costs of expansion.
- 12 (e) PILOT PROGRAM.—The head of any agency that
 13 establishes a continuous evaluation program after the date
 14 of the enactment of this Act shall be subject to the fol15 lowing requirements:
 - (1) Before initiating a continuous evaluation program or insider threat program, such head shall conduct a pilot continuous evaluation program or pilot insider threat program that is not shorter than 120 days in duration and uses a representative sample of individuals eligible for access to classified information, including individuals employed by contractors. Participants in the program shall receive notification and, in the event that derogatory information is identified through the program that re-

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- sults in changes to such participant's eligibility for access to classified information, shall be provided access to the redress process described under section 116.
 - (2) Before conducting a pilot continuous evaluation program or pilot insider threat program under paragraph (1), such head shall publish, in the Federal Register, a notice of the program that provides information on the provisions of the program, metrics for evaluating its efficacy, and a privacy impact assessment.
 - (3) Not later than 90 days after the initiation of a pilot continuous evaluation program or pilot insider threat program pursuant to paragraph (1), such head shall submit to Congress a preliminary report that includes—
 - (A) the number of individuals evaluated under the program;
 - (B) the total number of individuals in the agency who are eligible to access classified information;
 - (C) demographics of the individuals evaluated under the program, including age, race, gender, ethnicity, employer, clearance level, and

1	the number of years the individual has been eli-
2	gible to access classified information;
3	(D) a position description for each indi-
4	vidual evaluated under the program;
5	(E) a description of the mechanisms used
6	to conduct the evaluations, including how indi-
7	viduals were selected, whether the evaluations
8	were randomized, and if so, the nature of the
9	randomization, including the degree to which it
10	was temporally randomized and the degree to
11	which the selection of individuals subject to the
12	program was randomized;
13	(F) a description of the types of informa-
14	tion that were captured through the program
15	and were the basis for further investigation;
16	(G) the frequency that information cap-
17	tured through the program was the basis for
18	further investigation; and
19	(H) information on the number of individ-
20	uals whose eligibility for access to classified in-
21	formation was changed as a result of informa-
22	tion collected through the program.
23	(4) Not later than 180 days after the conclu-
24	sion of a pilot continuous evaluation program or
25	pilot insider threat program pursuant to paragraph

1	(1) or expansion of a pilot continuous evaluation
2	program or pilot insider threat program, such head
3	shall submit to Congress a final report that updates
4	the information required in the preliminary report
5	under paragraph (3). The report shall include—
6	(A) an identification of each database that
7	was accessed;
8	(B) protocols for resolution of information
9	captured through the program that was the
10	basis for further investigation, including the
11	provision of notification to the impacted individ-
12	ual's supervisor and the impacted individual;
13	(C) information on any specific instance in
14	which continuous evaluation resulted in the pro-
15	tection of classified information and national se-
16	curity; and
17	(D) information regarding the annual and
18	life-cycle costs of the program and, in the event
19	that such head intends to expand the program
20	or initiate a continuous evaluation program or
21	insider threat program, information on the an-
22	ticipated costs of an expansion or initiation.
23	(5) Prior to expanding a pilot continuous eval-
24	uation program or insider threat program or initi-

ating a continuous evaluation program or insider

- threat program, such head shall secure a privacy im-
- 2 pact assessment from the top privacy and civil lib-
- 3 erties officials at such agency.
- 4 (f) Unclassified Reports.—All reports required
- 5 under this section shall be submitted in unclassified form
- 6 and be made publicly available, but may include a classi-
- 7 fied annex if necessary.
- 8 (g) Limitation on Data Collection.—Not later
- 9 than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
- 10 the head of an agency that operates a continuous evalua-
- 11 tion program shall ensure that data collection under the
- 12 program is limited to databases and other sources of infor-
- 13 mation accessed for a periodic reinvestigation as of the
- 14 date of the enactment of this Act.
- 15 (h) Definitions.—In this section:
- 16 (1) Continuous evaluation program.—The
- term "continuous evaluation program" means any
- program continually reviewing the background of an
- individual who has been determined to be eligible for
- access to classified information pursuant to Execu-
- 21 tive Order 12968 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note) (as amend-
- 22 ed by Executive Order 13467 (50 U.S.C. 3161
- 23 note)) or any other similar authority.
- 24 (2) Insider threat program.—The term "in-
- 25 sider threat program" means any program moni-

- 1 toring the activity of an individual who has been de-
- 2 termined to be eligible for access to classified infor-
- 3 mation to improve insider threat detection and pre-
- 4 vention pursuant to Executive Order 13587 (50
- 5 U.S.C. 3161 note) or successor order.
- 6 SEC. 115. MITIGATING FACTORS IN THE CONTEXT OF A
- 7 CONTINUOUS EVALUATION PROGRAM OR IN-
- 8 SIDER THREAT PROGRAM.
- 9 (a) Continuous Evaluation.—Not later than 120
- 10 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, for each
- 11 adjudicative guideline for individuals with access to classi-
- 12 field information (as described in part 147 of title 32, Code
- 13 of Federal Regulations, or similar successor regulation)
- 14 the President shall update and tailor the conditions that
- 15 mitigate security concerns to address continuous evalua-
- 16 tion of such individuals performed pursuant to Executive
- 17 Order 12968 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note) (as amended by Exec-
- 18 utive Order 13467 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note)) or any other
- 19 authority, including the implications of recency on the
- 20 availability of mitigation.
- 21 (b) Insider Threat Program.—Not later than 240
- 22 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Presi-
- 23 dent shall establish adjudicative guidelines, including con-
- 24 ditions that mitigate security concerns that consider the
- 25 implications of recency on the availability of mitigation,

- 1 for an individual who is subject to an adverse decision
- 2 based on an insider threat program established pursuant
- 3 to Executive Order 13587 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note) or suc-
- 4 cessor order.
- 5 SEC. 116. APPEAL TO THE MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION
- 6 BOARD.
- An employee for whom a final determination of ineli-
- 8 gibility for a national security position has been made is
- 9 entitled to appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board
- 10 under section 7701 of title 5, United States Code.
- 11 SEC. 117. AUTOMATED OR NONGOVERNMENTAL ADJUDICA-
- 12 TION PROHIBITED.
- 13 (a) In General.—An adjudication by an agency
- 14 that an individual may not have access to classified infor-
- 15 mation may only be made by a Federal employee and may
- 16 not be rendered by an automated, electronic, or computer
- 17 system.
- 18 (b) Federal Employee Defined.—In this section,
- 19 the term "Federal employee" has the meaning given the
- 20 term "employee" in section 2105 of title 5, United States
- 21 Code, and includes any member of the uniformed services.
- 22 SEC. 118. REPORT ON MEDIA CONTACTS POLICY FOR IN-
- 23 TELLIGENCE PERSONNEL.
- Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-
- 25 ment of this Act, the head of each element of the intel-

- 1 ligence community (as such term is defined in section 3(4)
- 2 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)))
- 3 shall submit to Congress a report on each such element's
- 4 implementation of policy directives regarding contacts
- 5 with news media by intelligence community personnel.
- 6 Such report shall describe how each such element's imple-
- 7 mentation of such directives protects the free speech rights
- 8 of intelligence community personnel, including intelligence
- 9 community personnel who choose to discuss unclassified
- 10 public policy issues with friends or family members who
- 11 may use new media technologies.
- 12 TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF
- 13 **HOMELAND SECURITY**
- 14 CLEARANCE PROCESS RE-
- 15 **FORMS**
- 16 Subtitle A—Designation
- 17 SEC. 201. DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL SECURITY SEN-
- 18 SITIVE AND PUBLIC TRUST POSITIONS.
- 19 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
- 20 rity shall require the Department of Homeland Security,
- 21 including all components of the Department, to designate
- 22 the sensitivity level of national security positions (pursu-
- 23 ant to part 732 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations,
- 24 or similar successor regulation) in an accurate and con-

- 1 sistent manner within the Department, including all such
- 2 components.
- 3 (b) Implementation.—In carrying out subsection
- 4 (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall require the
- 5 utilization of uniform designation tools throughout the De-
- 6 partment of Homeland Security, including all components
- 7 of the Department, and provide training to appropriate
- 8 staff of the Department, including staff of all such compo-
- 9 nents, on such utilization. Such training shall include
- 10 guidance on factors for determining eligibility for access
- 11 to classified information and facilities with classified infor-
- 12 mation.
- 13 SEC. 202. AUDITS.
- Not later than 180 days after the Director of Na-
- 15 tional Intelligence and Director of the Office of Personnel
- 16 Management issue a rule for designation of national secu-
- 17 rity positions (pursuant to part 732 of title 5, Code of
- 18 Federal Regulations, or similar successor regulation), the
- 19 Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Secu-
- 20 rity shall conduct regular audits of compliance of the De-
- 21 partment with such rule.
- 22 SEC. 203. REVIEW OF POSITION DESIGNATIONS.
- 23 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
- 24 rity, acting through the Chief Security Officer of the De-
- 25 partment of Homeland Security, shall biennially conduct

- 1 a review of all sensitivity level designations of national se-
- 2 curity positions (pursuant to part 732 of title 5, Code of
- 3 Federal Regulations, or similar successor regulation) at
- 4 the Department.
- 5 (b) Determination.—If during the course of a re-
- 6 view required under subsection (a) the Secretary of Home-
- 7 land Security determines that a change in the sensitivity
- 8 level of a position that affects the need for an individual
- 9 to obtain access to classified information is warranted,
- 10 such access shall be administratively adjusted or periodic
- 11 reinvestigation completed, as necessary.
- 12 (c) Report.—
- 13 (1) In general.—Upon completion of each re-
- view required under subsection (a), the Secretary of
- 15 Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee
- on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of
- the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Secu-
- 18 rity of the House of Representatives a report on the
- 19 number of positions by classification level and by
- 20 component of the Department of Homeland Security
- 21 that are to be redesignated in accordance with sub-
- section (b) to—
- 23 (A) require access to classified informa-
- 24 tion;

1	(B) no longer require access to classified
2	information; or
3	(C) otherwise require a different level of
4	access to classified information.
5	(2) FORM.—The report required under para-
6	graph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form
7	and be made publicly available, but may include a
8	classified annex for any sensitive or classified infor-
9	mation if necessary.
10	Subtitle B—Investigation
11	SEC. 211. INVESTIGATION SERVICES PROVIDER PERFORM-
12	ANCE.
13	(a) In General.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
14	rity, acting through the Chief Security Officer of the De-
15	partment of Homeland Security, shall annually survey the
16	head of each component or office of the Department with
17	the authority to adjudicate a current investigation file for
18	a national security position to help determine whether—
19	(1) investigation service providers are adhering
20	to Federal requirements, including requirements
21	under the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Pre-
22	vention Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–458; 118
23	Stat. 3628) and requirements promulgated by the
24	Office of Personnel Management; and

(2) records provided are adequate to conduct

2	adjudications.
3	(b) Contents.—Each survey under subsection (a)
4	shall consider the following:
5	(1) Punctuality of completed personnel security
6	investigations, including adherence to timelines re-
7	quired under section 3001 of the Intelligence Reform
8	and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (50 U.S.C.
9	3341).
10	(2) Frequency that the adjudicator must seek
11	clarifying or additional information from the inves-
12	tigation service provider.
13	(3) Frequency that the adjudicator orders a full
14	or partial reinvestigation.
15	(4) Frequency that the adjudicator finds ad-
16	verse information after the completed background
17	investigation is submitted by the investigation serv-
18	ice provider.
19	(5) Frequency that the complete investigation
20	file, including investigative notes, is provided.
21	(6) Overall performance of the investigation
22	service provider.
23	(7) Satisfaction with the overall performance of
24	the investigation service provider.

- 1 (c) Corrective Action.—If information provided
- 2 under subsection (a) identifies a pattern of performance
- 3 problems with a particular investigation service provider,
- 4 the Chief Security Officer of the Department of Homeland
- 5 Security shall make a recommendation to the Secretary
- 6 of Homeland Security and, where appropriate, to the head
- 7 of each component or office of the Department that uses
- 8 the particular investigation service provider regarding cor-
- 9 rective action, including suspension or cancellation of serv-
- 10 ices.
- 11 (d) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of Homeland Se-
- 12 curity shall publish the results of each survey under sub-
- 13 section (a) and make each such publication publicly avail-
- 14 able on the website of the Department of Homeland Secu-
- 15 rity.
- 16 SEC. 212. METRICS.
- 17 The Secretary of Homeland Security shall utilize
- 18 metrics, including, to the extent practicable, any metrics
- 19 in use by the Office of Personnel Management as of the
- 20 date of the enactment of this Act, to assess the timeliness,
- 21 completeness, and overall quality of the provision of inves-
- 22 tigative services by investigation service providers.

Subtitle C—Adjudication

2	SEC	991	TINITEODM	ADJUDICATION S	TANDADDC
Z	SEC.	221.	UNIFORM	ADJUDICATION S	STANDARDS

- 3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
- 4 rity, acting through the Chief Security Officer of the De-
- 5 partment of Homeland Security, shall issue uniform adju-
- 6 dication standards, consistent with part 147 of title 32,
- 7 Code of Federal Regulations, or similar successor regula-
- 8 tion to be utilized by Department adjudicators with re-
- 9 spect to adjudicating the eligibility of an individual for ac-
- 10 cess to classified information.

- 11 (b) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than one year after
- 12 the issuance of the uniform adjudication standards under
- 13 subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting
- 14 through the Chief Security Officer of the Department of
- 15 Homeland Security, shall require the head of each compo-
- 16 nent and office of the Department with the authority to
- 17 adjudicate access to classified information of an individual
- 18 to certify compliance with the uniform adjudication stand-
- 19 ards under subsection (a).
- 20 (c) Audit.—Not later than two years after the last
- 21 head of a component of the Department of Homeland Se-
- 22 curity certifies compliance under subsection (b) with the
- 23 uniform adjudication standards under subsection (a), the
- 24 Inspector General of the Department shall audit all such
- 25 components to verify such compliance.

Subtitle D—Denial, Suspension,

2 **Revocation, and Appeal**

- 3 SEC. 231. UNIFORM REVOCATION CRITERIA AND PROCE-
- 4 DURES.
- 5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
- 6 rity, acting through the Chief Security Officer of the De-
- 7 partment of Homeland Security, shall issue a Department-
- 8 wide directive that sets forth uniform criteria and proce-
- 9 dures, consistent with any appropriate Federal Govern-
- 10 mentwide standards, including notice requirements, for
- 11 the suspension, denial, and revocation of eligibility for ac-
- 12 cess to classified information of an individual issued by
- 13 the Department.
- 14 (b) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than one year after
- 15 issuance of the uniform criteria and procedures under sub-
- 16 section (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting
- 17 through the Chief Security Officer of the Department of
- 18 Homeland Security, shall require the head of each compo-
- 19 nent and office of the Department with the authority to
- 20 adjudicate eligibility for access to classified information of
- 21 an individual to certify compliance with such uniform cri-
- 22 teria and procedures.
- 23 SEC. 232. ANNUAL REPORTING.
- 24 (a) In General.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
- 25 rity, acting through the Chief Security Officer of the De-

- 1 partment of Homeland Security, shall annually submit to
- 2 the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental
- 3 Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland
- 4 Security of the House of Representatives a report on the
- 5 following:
- 6 (1) The number of denials, suspensions, revoca-
- 7 tions, and appeals of the eligibility for access to clas-
- 8 sified information of an individual throughout the
- 9 Department.
- 10 (2) The date and status or disposition of each
- 11 reported action under paragraph (1).
- 12 (3) The identification of the originator, whether
- by a component or headquarters, of each adverse ac-
- tion under paragraph (1), and description of the
- 15 grounds for each such action.
- 16 (4) Demographic data, including data relating
- to race, sex, national origin, and disability, of each
- individual for whom eligibility for access to classified
- information was denied, suspended, revoked, or ap-
- pealed, and the number of years that each such indi-
- vidual was eligible for access to such information.
- 22 (5) In the case of a suspension in excess of 180
- days, an explanation for the such timeframe.
- 24 (b) FORM.—The report required under subsection (a)
- 25 shall be submitted in unclassified form and be made pub-

- 1 licly available, but may include a classified annex for any
- 2 sensitive or classified information if necessary.

3 SEC. 233. FINAL APPEALS PANEL.

- 4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
- 5 rity shall establish an internal appeals 5-person panel for
- 6 final national security clearance denial and revocation de-
- 7 terminations that is comprised of designees who are ca-
- 8 reer, supervisory employees from departmental compo-
- 9 nents and headquarters.
- 10 (b) Chair.—The Chief Security Officer of the De-
- 11 partment of Homeland Security shall serve as the chair
- 12 of the panel established pursuant to subsection (a).
- 13 (c) Positions.—At least two of the positions on the
- 14 panel shall be held by non-security related supervisory em-
- 15 ployees for not more than two consecutive years, and at
- 16 least one position shall held by a security related super-
- 17 visory employee for not more than three consecutive years.
- 18 (d) Subpanels.—
- 19 (1) In general.—For each matter before the
- panel, a 3-person subpanel shall be convened by the
- 21 chair, and may include the chairman.
- 22 (2) Prohibition.—The chair may not select a
- panelist to serve on a 3-person subpanel referred to
- in paragraph (1) from the same component or office
- of the Department of Homeland Security as from

which the matter before such subpanel originated or who has a prior relationship with any of the individuals involved in such matter.

(e) Procedures.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—Each individual issued access to classified information by the Department of Homeland Security whose access is denied or revoked after a decision from a first-line deciding authority and a supervisor of such first-line deciding authority may appeal, in writing, to the 5-person appeals panel and appear, with a representative, before such panel to make a statement.
- (2) Rulings.—A simple majority of the appeals panel is required to uphold or overturn a denial or revocation.
- (3) TIMING.—All determinations of the appeals panel shall be rendered within 90 days of receipt of an appeal under this section.
- (4) FINALITY.—All determinations of the appeals panel shall be final, and no further administrative review shall be permitted.

1	Subtitle E—Miscellaneous
2	Provisions
3	SEC. 241. INTELLIGENCE REFORM AND TERRORISM PRE-
4	VENTION ACT OF 2004 REVIEW AND SECURITY
5	CLEARANCE RECIPROCITY.
6	(a) In General.—Not later than two years after the
7	date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
8	of the United States shall submit to the Committee on
9	Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Sen-
10	ate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the
11	House of Representatives a report on—
12	(1) the impact of the implementation of section
13	3001 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Pre-
14	vention Act of 2004 (50 U.S.C. 3341) on security
15	clearance processes, including—
16	(A) with respect to the quality of personnel
17	security investigations and adjudications; and
18	(B) the extent to which the timelines speci-
19	fied in such section have impacted security
20	clearance backlogs, and include recommenda-
21	tions for areas for reform; and
22	(2) the extent to which individuals with eligi-
23	bility for access to classified information, adju-
24	dicated by the Secretary of Homeland Security or
25	the head of a component or office of the Department

- 1 of Homeland Security, are granted reciprocity within
- 2 the Department and by other agencies, in accord-
- ance with subsection (d) of section 3001 of the Intel-
- 4 ligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of
- 5 2004 (50 U.S.C. 3341), including—
- 6 (A) the extent to which the lack of harmo-
- 7 nization of suitability standards is a barrier to
- 8 such reciprocity; and
- 9 (B) recommendations on whether such
- standards should be included in interagency
- 11 reciprocity agreements.
- 12 (b) FORM.—The report required under subsection (a)
- 13 shall be submitted in unclassified form and be made pub-
- 14 licly available, but may include a classified annex for any
- 15 sensitive or classified information if necessary.

16 SEC. 242. OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT.

- 17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than two years after the
- 18 date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General
- 19 of the Department of Homeland Security shall submit to
- 20 the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental
- 21 Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland
- 22 Security of the House of Representatives a report on the
- 23 implementation of responsibilities and mandates of the
- 24 Department under this Act, and the amendments made
- 25 by this Act.

- 1 (b) FORM.—The report required under subsection (a)
- 2 shall be submitted in unclassified form and be made pub-
- 3 licly available, but may include a classified annex for any
- 4 sensitive or classified information if necessary.

5 SEC. 243. PENALTIES FOR FALSIFICATION RELATING TO AN

6 **INVESTIGATION FILE.**

- 7 Section 1001(a) of title 18, United States Code, is
- 8 amended by inserting at the end the following: "If the of-
- 9 fense involves an investigation file for a national security
- 10 position (as such term is defined in section 732.102 of
- 11 title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, or similar successor
- 12 regulation), then the maximum term of imprisonment oth-
- 13 erwise authorized under this section may be increased by
- 14 one year.".

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