

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 216

To amend the Securities Act of 1933, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Investment Company Act of 1940, and the Investment Advisors Act of 1940 with respect to the determination of violations.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 2025

Mr. SESSIONS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Financial Services

---

## A BILL

To amend the Securities Act of 1933, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Investment Company Act of 1940, and the Investment Advisors Act of 1940 with respect to the determination of violations.

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 “Securities Enforcement  
5       Clarity Act of 2025” or the “SEC Act of 2025”.

6       **SEC. 2. DETERMINATION OF THE NUMBER OF VIOLATIONS.**

7       (a) SECURITIES ACT OF 1933.—The Securities Act  
8       of 1933 is amended—

1           (1) in section 8A(g) (15 U.S.C. 77h–1(g)), by  
2       adding at the end the following:

3           “(4) DETERMINATION OF NUMBER OF VIOLA-  
4       TIONS.—For purposes of determining the number of  
5       violations for which to impose penalties under para-  
6       graph (1), separate acts of noncompliance are a sin-  
7       gle violation when the acts are the result of—

8           “(A) a common or a substantially overlap-  
9       ping originating cause;

10          “(B) the same misstatement or omission;  
11       or

12          “(C) a continuing failure to comply.”; and

13          (2) in section 20(d) (15 U.S.C. 77t(d)), by add-  
14       ing at the end the following:

15          “(5) DETERMINATION OF NUMBER OF VIOLA-  
16       TIONS.—For purposes of determining the number of  
17       violations for which to impose penalties under para-  
18       graph (1), separate acts of noncompliance are a sin-  
19       gle violation when the acts are the result of—

20          “(A) a common or a substantially overlap-  
21       ping originating cause;

22          “(B) the same misstatement or omission;  
23       or

24          “(C) a continuing failure to comply.”.

1 (b) SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934.—The Se-  
2 curities Exchange Act of 1934 is amended—

3 (1) in section 21(d)(3) (15 U.S.C. 78u(d)(3)),  
4 by adding at the end the following:

5 “(E) DETERMINATION OF NUMBER OF VIOLA-  
6 TIONS.—For purposes of determining the number of  
7 violations for which to impose penalties under sub-  
8 paragraph (A)(i), separate acts of noncompliance are  
9 a single violation when the acts are the result of—

10 “(i) a common or a substantially overlap-  
11 ping originating cause;

12 “(ii) the same misstatement or omission;  
13 or

14 “(iii) a continuing failure to comply.”;

15 (2) in section 21B(a) (15 U.S.C. 78u–2(b)), by  
16 adding at the end the following:

17 “(3) DETERMINATION OF NUMBER OF VIOLA-  
18 TIONS, ACTS, OR OMISSIONS.—For purposes of de-  
19 termining the number of violations, acts, or omis-  
20 sions for which to impose penalties under this sub-  
21 section, separate acts of noncompliance are a single  
22 violation, act, or omission when the acts are the re-  
23 sult of—

24 “(A) a common or a substantially overlap-  
25 ping originating cause;

1                   “(B) the same misstatement or omission;  
2                   or

3                   “(C) a continuing failure to comply.”; and  
4                   (3) in section 32 (15 U.S.C. 78ff), by adding at  
5                   the end the following:

6                   “(d) DETERMINATION OF NUMBER OF VIOLA-  
7                   TIONS.—For purposes of determining the number of viola-  
8                   tions for which to impose penalties under subsection (c),  
9                   separate acts of noncompliance are a single violation when  
10                  the acts are the result of—

11                  “(1) a common or a substantially overlapping  
12                  originating cause;

13                  “(2) the same misstatement or omission; or

14                  “(3) a continuing failure to comply.”.

15                  (c) INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940.—The In-  
16                  vestment Company Act of 1940 is amended—

17                  (1) in section 9(d) (15 U.S.C. 80a–9(d)), by  
18                  adding at the end the following:

19                  “(5) DETERMINATION OF NUMBER OF VIOLA-  
20                  TIONS, ACTS, OR OMISSIONS.—For purposes of de-  
21                  termining the number of violations, acts, or omis-  
22                  sions for which to impose penalties under paragraph  
23                  (1), separate acts of noncompliance are a single vio-  
24                  lation, act, or omission when the acts are the result  
25                  of—

1 “(A) a common or a substantially overlap-  
 2 ping originating cause;

3 “(B) the same misstatement or omission;  
 4 or

5 “(C) a continuing failure to comply.”; and

6 (2) in section 42(e) (15 U.S.C. 80a–41(e)), by  
 7 adding at the end the following:

8 “(5) DETERMINATION OF NUMBER OF VIOLA-  
 9 TIONS.—For purposes of determining the number of  
 10 violations for which to impose penalties under para-  
 11 graph (1), separate acts of noncompliance are a sin-  
 12 gle violation when the acts are the result of—

13 “(A) a common or a substantially overlap-  
 14 ping originating cause;

15 “(B) the same misstatement or omission;  
 16 or

17 “(C) a continuing failure to comply.”.

18 (d) INVESTMENT ADVISORS ACT OF 1940.—The In-  
 19 vestment Advisers Act of 1940 is amended—

20 (1) in section 203(i) (15 U.S.C. 80b–3(i)), by  
 21 adding at the end the following:

22 “(5) DETERMINATION OF NUMBER OF VIOLA-  
 23 TIONS, ACTS, OR OMISSIONS.—For purposes of de-  
 24 termining the number of violations, acts, or omis-  
 25 sions for which to impose penalties under paragraph

(1), separate acts of noncompliance are a single violation, act, or omission when the acts are the result of—

“(A) a common or a substantially overlapping originating cause;

“(B) the same misstatement or omission;  
or

“(C) a continuing failure to comply.”; and

(2) in section 209(e) (15 U.S.C. 80b–9(e)), by adding at the end the following:

“(5) DETERMINATION OF NUMBER OF VIOLATIONS.—For purposes of determining the number of violations for which to impose penalties under paragraph (1), separate acts of noncompliance are a single violation when the acts are the result of—

“(A) a common or a substantially overlapping originating cause;

“(B) the same misstatement or omission;  
or

“(C) a continuing failure to comply.”.

○