

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9679

To provide a private cause of action for exposure of personally identifiable information of victims or victims' personal or medical files or similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy in releasing documents under the Epstein Files Transparency Act.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 14, 2026

Ms. JAYAPAL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide a private cause of action for exposure of personally identifiable information of victims or victims' personal or medical files or similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy in releasing documents under the Epstein Files Transparency Act.

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 “Recovery, Enforce-
5 ment, and Damages to Assure Confidential Treatment
6 Act” or as the “REDACT Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PRIVATE CAUSE OF ACTION FOR EXPOSURE OF**
2 **PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION**
3 **OF VICTIMS OR VICTIMS' PERSONAL OR MED-**
4 **ICAL FILES OR SIMILAR FILES THE DISCLO-**
5 **SURE OF WHICH WOULD CONSTITUTE A**
6 **CLEARLY UNWARRANTED INVASION OF PER-**
7 **SONAL PRIVACY IN RELEASING DOCUMENTS**
8 **UNDER THE EPSTEIN FILES TRANSPARENCY**
9 **ACT.**

10 Section 2 of the Epstein Files Transparency Act
11 (Public Law 119–38; 139 Stat. 656) is amended by add-
12 ing at the end the following:

13 “(d) PRIVATE CAUSE OF ACTION.—

14 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

15 “(A) INSTANCE.—The term ‘instance’,
16 with respect to a violation of this section,
17 means each discrete act constituting a violation
18 of this section.

19 “(B) VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.—The
20 term ‘violation of this section’ means a failure,
21 in releasing documents under this Act, to with-
22 hold or redact personally identifiable informa-
23 tion of a victim or a personal or medical file of
24 a victim or another similar file of a victim the
25 disclosure of which would constitute a clearly
26 unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

1 “(2) CAUSE OF ACTION.—Any person aggrieved
2 by a violation of this section may bring a civil action
3 against the United States if the violation of this sec-
4 tion was committed by an officer, employee, or agent
5 of the United States or of any Federal department
6 or agency.

7 “(3) RELIEF.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If a person prevails on
9 a claim under this subsection, the court shall
10 award—

11 “(i) for each instance of a violation of
12 this section, the greater of statutory dam-
13 ages of \$50,000 or the amount of compen-
14 satory damages, including damages for
15 pain and suffering and emotional distress;

16 “(ii) reasonable attorney’s fees and
17 costs of litigation; and

18 “(iii) such injunctive or declaratory
19 relief as may be appropriate.

20 “(B) PRELIMINARY RELIEF.—Upon mo-
21 tion by a person bringing a claim under this
22 subsection, a court may award such preliminary
23 injunctive relief as the court determines appro-
24 priate with respect to the claim.

1 “(4) WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY.—The
2 United States expressly waives sovereign immunity
3 with respect to actions brought under this sub-
4 section.

5 “(5) PERIOD OF LIMITATIONS.—A civil action
6 under this subsection may not be commenced later
7 than—

8 “(A) 5 years after the applicable person
9 first obtains actual notice of the violation of
10 this section; or

11 “(B) for a violation of this section with re-
12 spect to which the applicable person first ob-
13 tained actual notice of the violation of this sec-
14 tion before the date of enactment of this sub-
15 section, 5 years after such date of enactment.

16 “(6) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection shall
17 apply to any violation of this section occurring on or
18 after November 19, 2025.”.

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