

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4137

To require the Secretary of State to report annually on adverse security clearance adjudications, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 25, 2025

Mr. LIEU (for himself and Mr. CASTRO of Texas) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To require the Secretary of State to report annually on adverse security clearance adjudications, 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 “Transparency in Secu-
5 rity Clearance Denials Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ANNUAL REPORT BY SECRETARY OF STATE ON CER-**
7 **TAIN ADVERSE SECURITY CLEARANCE ADJU-**
8 **DICATIONS.**

9 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date
10 of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the

1 Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on For-
2 eign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Com-
3 mittee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report that
4 contains, with respect to the 1-year period ending on the
5 date of the submission of the report, the following:

6 (1) For each type of covered adjudicative out-
7 come, the number of individuals who received such
8 outcome from the Assistant Secretary of State for
9 Diplomatic Security.

10 (2) The number of individuals who submitted to
11 the Assistant Secretary of State for Diplomatic Se-
12 curity an appeal with respect to a covered adjudica-
13 tive outcome, disaggregated by whether the appeal
14 related to assignment restrictions or assignment re-
15 views.

16 (3) The success rate of such appeals.

17 (4) A description of the considerations and cri-
18 teria used by such employees to determine whether
19 a covered adjudicative outcome is warranted.

20 (b) DISAGGREGATION OF DATA.—The data specified
21 in paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (a) shall also
22 be disaggregated by the following:

23 (1) Position held by the individual, including by
24 the following:

25 (A) Foreign Service officer.

1 (B) Civil service employee.

2 (C) Other position.

3 (2) Ethnicity, national origin, and race, to the
4 extent such information is available.

5 (3) Gender, to the extent such information is
6 available.

7 (c) INITIAL REPORT SCOPE.—Notwithstanding the
8 1-year period described in subsection (a), the first report
9 submitted pursuant to the requirements of that section
10 shall be with respect to the period beginning on January
11 1, 2024, and ending on the date of the submission of such
12 first report.

13 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14 (1) CONTINUOUS VETTING.—The term “contin-
15 uous vetting” has the meaning given that term in
16 section 6601 of the Damon Paul Nelson and Mat-
17 thew Young Pollard Intelligence Authorization Act
18 for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020 (50 U.S.C.
19 3352).

20 (2) COVERED ADJUDICATIVE OUTCOME.—The
21 term “covered adjudicative outcome” means the fol-
22 lowing:

23 (A) With respect to an initial security
24 clearance background investigation, an adju-
25 dication that was unfavorable and resulted in a

1 denial, suspension, or revocation of a security
2 clearance.

3 (B) With respect to a periodic reinvestiga-
4 tion, an adjudication that was unfavorable and
5 resulted in a denial, suspension, or revocation
6 of a security clearance.

7 (C) With respect to a program of contin-
8 uous vetting, a denial, suspension, or revocation
9 of a security clearance taken by an authorized
10 adjudicative agency as a result of such contin-
11 uous vetting.

12 (3) PERIODIC REINVESTIGATION.—The term
13 “periodic reinvestigation” has the meaning given
14 that terms in section 3001 of the Intelligence Re-
15 form and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (50
16 U.S.C. 3341).

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