

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4977

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 SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 14, 2026

Mr. BOOKER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and 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 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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