

Hanabusa	Maloney, Carolyn B.	Ryan (OH)	Bishop (UT)	Handel	Pittenger	Green, Gene	Lujan Grisham, M.	Ruppersberger
Hastings	Maloney, Sean	Sánchez	Black	Harper	Poe (TX)	Grijalva	Rush	
Heck	Maloney, Sean	Sarbanes	Blackburn	Harris	Poliquin	Gutiérrez	Lujan, Ben Ray	Ryan (OH)
Higgins (NY)	Massie	Schakowsky	Blum	Hartzler	Posey	Hanabusa	Lynch	Sánchez
Himes	Matsui	Schiff	Bost	Hensarling	Ratcliffe	Hastings	Maloney, Carolyn B.	Sarbanes
Hoyer	McCullum	Schneider	Brady (TX)	Herrera Beutler	Reed	Heck	Schakowsky	
Huffman	McEachin	Schrader	Brat	Hice, Jody B.	Reichert	Higgins (NY)	Maloney, Sean	Schiff
Jackson Lee	McGovern	Scott (VA)	Bridenstine	Higgins (LA)	Renacci	Himes	Massie	Schneider
Jayapal	McNerney	Scott, David	Brooks (AL)	Hill	Rice (SC)	Hoyer	Matsui	Schrader
Jeffries	Meeks	Serrano	Brooks (IN)	Holding	Roby	Huffman	McCullum	Scott (VA)
Johnson (GA)	Meng	Sewell (AL)	Buchanan	Hudson	Roe (TN)	Jackson Lee	McEachin	Scott, David
Johnson, E. B.	Moore	Shea-Porter	Buck	Huizenga	Rogers (AL)	Jayapal	McGovern	Serrano
Jones	Moulton	Sherman	Bucson	Hultgren	Rogers (KY)	Jeffries	McNerney	Sewell (AL)
Kaptur	Murphy (FL)	Sinema	Budd	Hunter	Rohrabacher	Johnson (GA)	Meeks	Shea-Porter
Keating	Nadler	Sires	Burgess	Hurd	Rokita	Johnson, E. B.	Meng	Sherman
Kelly (IL)	Neal	Slaughter	Byrne	Issa	Rooney, Francis	Jones	Moore	Sires
Kennedy	Nolan	Smith (WA)	Calvert	Jenkins (KS)	Rooney, Thomas	Kaptur	Moulton	Slaughter
Khanna	Norcross	Soto	Carter (GA)	Jenkins (WV)	J.	Keating	Murphy (FL)	Smith (WA)
Kihuen	O'Halleran	Speier	Carter (TX)	Johnson (LA)	Ros-Lehtinen	Kelly (IL)	Nadler	Soto
Kildee	O'Rourke	Suozzi	Chabot	Johnson (OH)	Roskam	Neal	Speier	
Kilmer	Pallone	Swalwell (CA)	Cheney	Johnson, Sam	Ross	Kennedy	Norcross	
Kind	Panetta	Takano	Coffman	Jordan	Rothfus	Khanna	O'Halleran	
Krishnamoorthi	Pascarella	Thompson (CA)	Cole	Joyce (OH)	Rouzer	Kihuen	O'Rourke	
Langevin	Payne	Thompson (MS)	Collins (GA)	Katko	Royce (CA)	Kildee	Pallone	
Larsen (WA)	Pelosi	Titus	Collins (NY)	Kelly (MS)	Russell	Kilmer	Panetta	
Larson (CT)	Perlmutter	Tonko	Comer	Kelly (PA)	Rutherford	Kind	Pascarella	
Lawrence	Peters	Torres	Comstock	King (IA)	Sanford	Krishnamoorthi	Titus	
Lawson (FL)	Peterson	Tsangas	Conaway	King (NY)	Schweikert	Kuster (NH)	Payne	
Lee	Pingree	Vargas	Cook	Kinzinger	Scott, Austin	Pelosi	Tonko	
Levin	Pocan	Veasey	Costello (PA)	Knight	Sensenbrenner	Lawrence	Torres	
Lewis (GA)	Polis	Vela	Cramer	Kustoff (TN)	Sessions	Langevin	Tsangas	
Lieu, Ted	Price (NC)	Velázquez	Crawford	Shimkus	Lawrence	Larsen (WA)	Peters	
Lipinski	Quigley	Visclosky	Culberson	Shuster	Levy	Pocan	Vargas	
Loebssack	Raskin	Walz	Curbelo (FL)	LaHood	Levin	Price (NC)	Veasey	
Lofgren	Rice (NY)	Wasserman	Davidson	LaMalfa	Lieu, Ted	Lipinski	Wasserman	
Lowenthal	Richmond	Schultz	Davis, Rodney	Lamborn	Lipinski	Rice (NY)	Waters, Maxine	
Lowey	Rosen	Waters, Maxine	Denham	Lance	Smith (MO)	Loebssack	Richmond	
Lujan Grisham, M.	Royal-Allard	Watson Coleman	Dent	Latta	Smith (NE)	Lofgren	Watson Coleman	
Lujan, Ben Ray	Ruppersberger	Wilson (FL)	DeSantis	DeSantis	Smith (NJ)	Rosen	Welch	
Lynch	Rush	Yarmuth	DesJarlais	DeLoBiondo	Smith (TX)	Lowenthal	Royal-Allard	
NOT VOTING—10								
Brat	Hollingsworth	Scalise	Duncan (SC)	Luettichmeyer	Taylor	NOT VOTING—9		
Comstock	Kuster (NH)	Westerman	Duncan (TN)	Marchant	Tenney	Cummings	Hollingsworth	Nolan
Cummings	Napolitano		Dunn	Marino	Thompson (PA)	Franks (AZ)	MacArthur	Palmer
Graves (MO)	Palmer		Emmer	Marshall	Thornberry	Graves (MO)	Napolitano	Scalise

□ 1355

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. BRAT. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 414.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was delayed in returning to the floor. If present, I would have voted “yea.”

Stated against:

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 414.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 232, noes 192, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 415]

AYES—232

Abraham	Babin	Barton
Aderholt	Bacon	Bergman
Allen	Banks (IN)	Biggs
Amodei	Barletta	Bilirakis
Arrington	Barr	Bishop (MI)

Bishop (UT)	Handel	Pittenger	Green, Gene	Lujan Grisham, M.	Ruppersberger
Black	Harper	Poe (TX)	Grijalva	Rush	
Sánchez	Blackburn	Harris	Gutiérrez	Lujan, Ben Ray	Ryan (OH)
Massie	Schakowsky	Hartzler	Hanabusa	Lynch	Sánchez
Matsui	Schiff	Bost	Hensarling	Maloney, Carolyn B.	Sarbanes
McCullum	Schneider	Brady (TX)	Herrera Beutler	Reed	Schakowsky
McEachin	Schrader	Brat	Hice, Jody B.	Reichert	
McGovern	Scott (VA)	Bridenstine	Higgins (LA)	Renacci	
McNerney	Scott, David	Brooks (AL)	Hill	Rice (SC)	
Meeks	Serrano	Brooks (IN)	Holding	Roby	
Meng	Sewell (AL)	Buchanan	Hudson	Roe (TN)	
Moore	Shea-Porter	Buck	Huizenga	Rogers (AL)	
Moulton	Sherman	Bucson	Hultgren	Rogers (KY)	
Murphy (FL)	Sinema	Budd	Hunter	Rohrabacher	
Nadler	Sires	Burgess	Hurd	Rokita	
Neal	Slaughter	Calvert	Byrne	Rooney, Francis	
Nolan	Smith (WA)	Carter (GA)	Jenkins (KS)	Rooney, Thomas	
Norcross	Soto	Carter (TX)	Jenkins (WV)	J.	
O'Halleran	Speier	Cole	Jordan	Ros-Lehtinen	
O'Rourke	Suozzi	Chabot	Jenkins (OH)	Roskam	
Pallone	Swalwell (CA)	Cheney	Johnson, Sam	Ross	
Panetta	Takano	Coffman	Jordan	Rothfus	
Pascarella	Thompson (CA)	Cole	Joyce (OH)	Rouzer	
Payne	Thompson (MS)	Collins (GA)	Katko	Royce (CA)	
Pelosi	Titus	Collins (NY)	Kelly (MS)	Russell	
Perlmutter	Tonko	Comer	Kelly (PA)	Rutherford	
Price (NC)	Velázquez	Crawford	Labrador	Shimkus	
Quigley	Visclosky	Culberson	LaHood	Shuster	
Loebssack	Raskin	Curbelo (FL)	LaMalfa	Simpson	
Lofgren	Rice (NY)	Davidson	Lamborn	Sinema	
Lowenthal	Richmond	Schultz	Davis, Rodney	Smith (MO)	
Lowey	Rosen	Wasserman	Denham	Smith (NE)	
Lujan Grisham, M.	Royal-Allard	Watson Coleman	Dent	Smith (NJ)	
Lujan, Ben Ray	Ruppersberger	Wilson (FL)	DeSantis	Smith (TX)	
Lynch	Rush	Yarmuth	DesJarlais	Smucker	

NOES—192

Brady (PA)	Castor (FL)	DeLauro	Cumings	Hollingsworth	Nolan
Bishop (GA)	Castro (TX)	DelBene	Franks (AZ)	MacArthur	Palmer
Blumenauer	Chu, Judy	Demings	Graves (MO)	Napolitano	Scalise
Blunt Rochester	Cicilline	DeSaulnier			
Bonamici	Bass	Deutch			
Boyle, Brendan F.	Beatty	Dingell			
Brady (PA)	Bera	Doyle, Michael F.			
Brown (MD)	Beyer	Dreier			
Brownley (CA)	Cleaver	Fitzgerald			
Bustos	Clyburn	Garcia			
Butterfield	Cohen	Grijalva			
Cárdenas	Connolly	Green			
Carson (IN)	Conyers	Hastings			
Cartwright	Cooper	Herrera Beutler			
Capuano	Correa	Herrera Beutler			
Biggs	Courtney	Hicks Beal			
Bilirakis	Crist	Hicks Beal			
Barr	Bustos	Holmes			
Bishop (MI)	Butterfield	Hoyer			
	Capuano	Hudson			
	Biggs	Hudson			
	Bilirakis	Hicks Beal			
	Barr	Hoyer			
	Bishop (MI)	Hoyer			

PERMISSION TO MODIFY INSTRUCTIONS IN AMENDMENT NOS. 60, 61, AND 66 PRINTED IN HOUSE REPORT 115-259

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the instructions in each of the amendments numbered 60, 61, and 66 printed in House Report 115-259 be modified by striking “the division” and inserting “division D”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOST). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

SECURELY EXPEDITING CLEARANCES THROUGH REPORTING TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2017

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3210) to require the Director of the National Background Investigations Bureau to submit a report on the backlog of personnel security clearance investigations, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3210

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Securely Expediting Clearances Through Reporting Transparency Act of 2017” or the “SECRET Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. REPORT ON BACKLOG OF PERSONNEL SECURITY CLEARANCE INVESTIGATIONS.

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter for 5 years, the Director of the National Background Investigations Bureau of the Office of Personnel Management shall submit to Congress a report on the backlog of security clearance investigations that includes—

(1) the size of the personnel security clearance investigation process backlog; and
(2) the average length of time, for each sensitivity level, to carry out an initial investigation and a periodic investigation.

SEC. 3. REPORT ON SECURITY CLEARANCE INVESTIGATIONS OF PERSONNEL OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the National Background Investigations Bureau of the Office of Personnel Management shall submit to Congress a report that explains the process for conducting and adjudicating security clearance investigations for personnel of the Executive Office of the President, including White House personnel.

SEC. 4. REPORT ON DUPLICATIVE COSTS.

Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the National Background Investigations Bureau of the Office of Personnel Management shall submit to Congress a report on the cost of duplicating resources under the control or direction of the National Background Investigations Bureau for implementation of the plan referenced in section 951(a)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (10 U.S.C. 1564 note).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MITCHELL) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 3210, the SECRET Act of 2017, introduced by my colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. KNIGHT).

Mr. Speaker, the backlog of security clearance investigations causes tremendous waste for Federal employees and contractors and jeopardizes our national security.

There are thousands of jobs waiting to be filled in important national security positions and at least as many qualified Americans eagerly ready to fill them, but they can't, because they are waiting on their background investigation.

As of June 2017, the backlog stood at 650,000 clearances for employees, new hires, and contractors waiting either for an investigation or a reinvestigation. Many of those people are unable to perform their jobs while waiting, leading to contract delays and a pure waste of time.

Mr. Speaker, in order to fix the problem, you have to start by understanding the problem. Fixing the background investigation backlog requires information on the size, scope, and nature of the problem.

Currently, Congress receives information about the size of the backlog through briefings—only through briefings. We receive no regular data on the backlog and have no way to track progress over time.

My colleagues from California and Virginia, Representative KNIGHT and Representative GERALD CONNOLLY, authored this bipartisan bill to provide Congress the information it needs to assess these backlog investigations.

H.R. 3210, Securely Expediting Clearances Through Reporting Transparency Act, requires a simple quarterly report from the National Background Investigations Bureau known as NBIB.

The report will disclose the size of the backlog and the average length of an investigation broken down by level of clearance. Additionally, this bill requires two nonpartisan reports to help Congress plan potential reforms to the background investigation security clearance process.

NBIB will be required to issue a report describing the general security clearance procedure in the Executive Office of the President. The bill also requires NBIB to issue a report on the duplicative costs that would likely arise from transferring responsibility for background investigations to the Department of Defense.

Like the quarterly backlog report, this report will help Congress determine whether proposed options to reduce the backlog would do so or actually would increase it.

This bill is an important first step in addressing the security clearance investigation backlog, thereby reducing waste and increasing our Nation's security.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan good government bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Michigan for his remarks. Congressman STEVE KNIGHT and I introduced H.R. 3210, the Securely Expediting Clearances Through Reporting Transparency Act, or SECRET, to enable Congress to monitor the efficiency of the background investigation process. This bipartisan bill was passed unanimously by the Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

H.R. 3210 imposes a commonsense requirement on the National Background Investigations Bureau to report to Congress on backlogs that develop in the background investigation process.

Backlogs have plagued us in the past, as my friend from Michigan just said. In 2004, when the Department of Defense was the lead agency performing background investigations, the Government Accountability Office determined the backlog was 375 days, more than 1 year. Over 100,000 new investigations or reinvestigations were delayed by that backlog.

In response, Congress transferred responsibility for those investigations to the Office of Personnel Management, and more recently, created the National Background Investigations Bureau within the Office of Personnel Management.

H.R. 3210 will provide Congress with the transparency needed to conduct oversight of the National Background Investigations Bureau and to help prevent backlogs like that in the future.

I am also pleased that the bill includes an amendment I offered in committee to require a report to Congress on duplicative costs to assist us in making decisions that protect taxpayers.

Last year, a provision in the National Defense Authorization Act asked the Department of Defense to develop a separate plan, to transfer responsibility for those background investigations of DOD personnel to the Pentagon instead of the National Background Investigations Bureau.

The Bureau would continue to perform other background investigations for all the other government agencies, except the Pentagon. If that plan were implemented, resources and capabilities that are currently under the direction of the Bureau would have to be duplicated by the Department of Defense.

H.R. 3210 would require a report to Congress on the cost of those duplicative resources and efforts. For Congress