

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8962

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the publication of personal information of public servants on the internet, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

Mr. GOHMERT (for himself and Mrs. MILLER of Illinois) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the publication of personal information of public servants on the internet, 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 “Public Servant Anti-
5 Intimidation Act of 2022”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON DISCLOSING PERSONAL INFOR-**
2 **MATION OF PUBLIC SERVANTS ON THE**
3 **INTERNET.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 93 of title 18, United
5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing:

7 **“§ 1925. Publication of personal information of public**
8 **servants**

9 “(a) OFFENSE.—Except as provided in subsection
10 (b), whoever, in or affecting interstate or foreign com-
11 merce, knowingly publishes on the Internet or otherwise
12 makes publicly available, the personal information of a
13 public servant or the immediate family member of a public
14 servant, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not
15 more than one year, or both.

16 “(b) EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply
17 with respect to personal information—

18 “(1) published on the Internet or otherwise
19 made publicly available before an individual became
20 a public servant; or

21 “(2) published on the Internet or otherwise
22 made publicly available with the consent of the pub-
23 lic servant or the immediate family member of a
24 public servant.

25 “(c) CIVIL ACTION.—A public servant or immediate
26 family member of a public servant who is a victim of an

1 offense under subsection (a) may bring a civil action in
2 an appropriate United States district court for equitable
3 relief, damages in an amount that is presumed to be not
4 less than \$10,000, and attorney's fees.

5 “(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Section 230 of the
6 Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230) does not
7 apply to a provider of any type of interactive computer
8 service with respect to liability under this section.

9 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 “(1) The term ‘public servant’ means—

11 “(A) an officer or employee of the Execu-
12 tive, Legislative, or Judicial branch of the Fed-
13 eral Government;

14 “(B) the President; and

15 “(C) a Member of Congress (as such term
16 is defined in section 2106 of title 5).

17 “(2) The term ‘personal information’ means a
18 person’s home address, home phone number, per-
19 sonal cell phone number, Social Security Number, or
20 other personal identification number.

21 “(3) The term ‘interactive computer service’
22 has the meaning given the term in section 230(f) of
23 the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C.
24 230(f)).

1 “(4) The term ‘immediate family member’
2 means a spouse, child, parent, or sibling.”.

3 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
4 for chapter 93 of title 18, United States Code, is amended
5 by adding at the end the following:

“1925. Publication of personal information of public servants.”.

