

#### 116TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

# S. 3766

To prohibit the President from blocking Inspectors General from reporting to Congress and to require a report to Congress if the Department of the Treasury or the White House does not provide timely access to records, documents, and other materials relating to the implementation and execution of the CARES Act, and for other purposes.

#### IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

May 19, 2020

Mr. Tester introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

## A BILL

To prohibit the President from blocking Inspectors General from reporting to Congress and to require a report to Congress if the Department of the Treasury or the White House does not provide timely access to records, documents, and other materials relating to the implementation and execution of the CARES Act, 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 "Seeking Inspector Gen-
- 5 eral's Honest Testimony Act" or the "SIGHT Act".

### SEC. 2. COMPLIANCE WITH ACCESS TO RECORDS UNDER 2 THE CARES ACT. 3 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section— 4 (1) the term "Committee" means the Pandemic 5 Response Accountability Committee established 6 under section 15010 of division B of the Coronavi-7 rus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public 8 Law 116–136); (2) the term "covered records" 9 means all 10 records, documents, and other materials in the cus-11 tody or possession of the Department or the White House, as applicable, relating to the implementation 12 13 and execution of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and 14 Economic Security Act (Public Law 116–136); 15 (3) the term "Department" means the Depart-16 ment of the Treasury; and 17 (4) the term "Special Inspector General" means 18 the Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recov-19 ery appointed under section 4018 of the Coronavirus 20 Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public Law 21 116–136). 22 (b) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—If the Inspector 23 General of the Department, the Committee, or the Special 24 Inspector General determines that the Department or the White House has not complied with the requirement to

26 provide timely access to covered records or has prevented

- 1 or impeded the access of the Inspector General of the De-
- 2 partment, the Committee, or the Special Inspector General
- 3 to those covered records—
- 4 (1) the Inspector General of the Department,
- 5 the Committee, or the Special Inspector General, as
- 6 applicable, shall submit to Congress a report on the
- 7 noncompliance or lack of access not later than 5
- 8 days after the date on which the Department or the
- 9 White House, as applicable, does not comply with
- the requirement or prevents such access; and
- 11 (2) if the Department has not complied with
- the requirement or has prevented or impeded such
- access, there shall be rescinded from the Office of
- the Secretary of the Department any amounts ap-
- propriated to that Office for the fiscal year and de-
- posited into the general fund of the Treasury until
- the Department complies with the requirement.
- 18 SEC. 3. REPORTING ON CARES ACT.
- 19 (a) Definition of Inspector General.—In this
- 20 section, the term "Inspector General" means—
- 21 (1) an Inspector General of an establishment or
- a designated Federal entity (as defined in sections
- 23 12 and 8G of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5
- 24 U.S.C. App.)), respectively; and

- 1 (2) the Special Inspector General for Pandemic
  2 Recovery established under section 4018 of the
  3 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act
  4 (Public Law 116–136).
  5 (b) PROHIBITION.—The President shall not block or
  6 otherwise prevent an Inspector General from reporting to
- 7 Congress on issues related to the implementation of the

8 CARES Act (Public Law 116–136).

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