

(aa) the procedure in the Senate shall be the same as if no joint resolution had been received from the House of Representatives; but

(bb) the vote on passage shall be on the joint resolution from the House of Representatives.

(ii) If, following passage of a joint resolution of disapproval in the Senate, the Senate receives an identical joint resolution from the House of Representatives, that joint resolution shall be placed on the appropriate Senate calendar.

(iii) If a joint resolution of disapproval is received from the House, and no companion joint resolution has been introduced in the Senate, the Senate procedures under this subsection shall apply to the House joint resolution.

(C) APPLICATION TO REVENUE MEASURES.—The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply in the House of Representatives to a joint resolution of disapproval that is a revenue measure.

(8) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE.—This subsection is enacted by Congress—

(A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and the House of Representatives, respectively, and as such is deemed a part of the rules of each House, respectively, and supersedes other rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with such rules; and

(B) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as relating to the procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.

(e) RENEWAL OF DETERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, shall review and may renew a determination under subsection (b) every 5 years.

(2) REPORT.—Upon renewing a determination under subsection (b), the Attorney General shall file a report with the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives describing—

(A) the reasons for the renewal;

(B) any substantive changes to the agreement or to the relevant laws or procedures of the foreign government since the original determination or, in the case of a second or subsequent renewal, since the last renewal; and

(C) how the agreement has been implemented and what problems or controversies, if any, have arisen as a result of the agreement or its implementation.

(3) NONRENEWAL.—If a determination is not renewed under paragraph (1), the agreement shall no longer be considered to satisfy the requirements of this section.

(f) REVISIONS TO AGREEMENT.—A revision to an agreement under this section shall be treated as

a new agreement for purposes of this section and shall be subject to the certification requirement under subsection (b), and to the procedures under subsection (d), except that for purposes of a revision to an agreement—

(1) the applicable time period under paragraphs (2), (4)(A)(i), (4)(B), and (4)(C) of subsection (d) shall be 90 days after the date notice is provided under subsection (d)(1); and

(2) the applicable time period under paragraphs (5) and (6)(B) of subsection (d) shall be 60 days after the date notice is provided under subsection (d)(1).

(g) PUBLICATION.—Any determination or certification under subsection (b) regarding an executive agreement under this section, including any termination or renewal of such an agreement, shall be published in the Federal Register as soon as is reasonably practicable.

(h) MINIMIZATION PROCEDURES.—A United States authority that receives the content of a communication described in subsection (b)(4)(H) from a foreign government in accordance with an executive agreement under this section shall use procedures that, to the maximum extent possible, meet the definition of minimization procedures in section 101 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (50 U.S.C. 1801) to appropriately protect nonpublicly available information concerning United States persons.

(Added Pub. L. 115-141, div. V, §105(a), Mar. 23, 2018, 132 Stat. 1217.)

#### CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS

Pub. L. 115-141, div. V, §102, Mar. 23, 2018, 132 Stat. 1213, provided that: “Congress finds the following:

“(1) Timely access to electronic data held by communications-service providers is an essential component of government efforts to protect public safety and combat serious crime, including terrorism.

“(2) Such efforts by the United States Government are being impeded by the inability to access data stored outside the United States that is in the custody, control, or possession of communications-service providers that are subject to jurisdiction of the United States.

“(3) Foreign governments also increasingly seek access to electronic data held by communications-service providers in the United States for the purpose of combating serious crime.

“(4) Communications-service providers face potential conflicting legal obligations when a foreign government orders production of electronic data that United States law may prohibit providers from disclosing.

“(5) Foreign law may create similarly conflicting legal obligations when chapter 121 of title 18, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘Stored Communications Act’), requires disclosure of electronic data that foreign law prohibits communications-service providers from disclosing.

“(6) International agreements provide a mechanism for resolving these potential conflicting legal obligations where the United States and the relevant foreign government share a common commitment to the rule of law and the protection of privacy and civil liberties.”

#### CHAPTER 121—STORED WIRE AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSACTIONAL RECORDS ACCESS

Sec.  
2701.  
2702.

Unlawful access to stored communications.  
Voluntary disclosure of customer communications or records.

Sec.	
2703.	Required disclosure of customer communications or records.
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## AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-141, div. V, §103(a)(2), Mar. 23, 2018, 132 Stat. 1214, added item 2713.

2002—Pub. L. 107-273, div. B, title IV, §4005(b), Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1812, made technical correction to directory language of Pub. L. 107-56, title II, §223(c)(2), Oct. 26, 2001, 115 Stat. 295, effective Oct. 26, 2001. See 2001 Amendment note below.

2001—Pub. L. 107-56, title II, §§223(c)(2), 224, Oct. 26, 2001, 115 Stat. 295, as amended by Pub. L. 107-273, div. B, title IV, §4005(b), Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1812, temporarily added item 2712.

Pub. L. 107-56, title II, §§212(a)(2), (b)(2), 224, Oct. 26, 2001, 115 Stat. 285, 295, temporarily substituted “Voluntary disclosure of customer communications or records” for “Disclosure of contents” in item 2702 and “Required disclosure of customer communications or records” for “Requirements for governmental access” in item 2703.

1988—Pub. L. 100-690, title VII, §7067, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4405, which directed amendment of item 2710 by inserting “for chapter” after “Definitions” was executed by making the insertion in item 2711 to reflect the probable intent of Congress and the intervening re-designation of item 2710 as 2711 by Pub. L. 100-618, see below.

Pub. L. 100-618, §2(b), Nov. 5, 1988, 102 Stat. 3197, added item 2710 and redesignated former item 2710 as 2711.

### § 2701. Unlawful access to stored communications

(a) OFFENSE.—Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section whoever—

- (1) intentionally accesses without authorization a facility through which an electronic communication service is provided; or
- (2) intentionally exceeds an authorization to access that facility;

and thereby obtains, alters, or prevents authorized access to a wire or electronic communication while it is in electronic storage in such system shall be punished as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

(b) PUNISHMENT.—The punishment for an offense under subsection (a) of this section is—

- (1) if the offense is committed for purposes of commercial advantage, malicious destruction or damage, or private commercial gain, or in furtherance of any criminal or tortious act in violation of the Constitution or laws of the United States or any State—

(A) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than 5 years, or both, in the case of a first offense under this subparagraph; and

(B) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than 10 years, or both, for any subsequent offense under this subparagraph; and

(2) in any other case—

(A) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than 1 year or both, in the case of a first offense under this paragraph; and

(B) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than 5 years, or both, in the case of an offense under this subparagraph that occurs after a conviction of another offense under this section.

(c) EXCEPTIONS.—Subsection (a) of this section does not apply with respect to conduct authorized—

(1) by the person or entity providing a wire or electronic communications service;

(2) by a user of that service with respect to a communication of or intended for that user; or

(3) in section 2703, 2704 or 2518 of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 99-508, title II, §201[(a)], Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 1860; amended Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, §330016(1)(K), (U), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2147, 2148; Pub. L. 104-294, title VI, §601(a)(3), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3498; Pub. L. 107-296, title XXII, §2207(j)(2), formerly title II, §225(j)(2), Nov. 25, 2002, 116 Stat. 2158, renumbered §2207(j)(2), Pub. L. 115-278, §2(g)(2)(I), Nov. 16, 2018, 132 Stat. 4178.)

## AMENDMENTS

2002—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 107-296, §2207(j)(2)(A), formerly §225(j)(2)(A), as renumbered by Pub. L. 115-278, §2(g)(2)(I), in introductory provisions, inserted “, or in furtherance of any criminal or tortious act in violation of the Constitution or laws of the United States or any State” after “commercial gain”.

Subsec. (b)(1)(A). Pub. L. 107-296, §2207(j)(2)(B), formerly §225(j)(2)(B), as renumbered by Pub. L. 115-278, §2(g)(2)(I), substituted “5 years” for “one year”.

Subsec. (b)(1)(B). Pub. L. 107-296, §2207(j)(2)(C), formerly §225(j)(2)(C), as renumbered by Pub. L. 115-278, §2(g)(2)(I), substituted “10 years” for “two years”.

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 107-296, §2207(j)(2)(D), formerly §225(j)(2)(D), as renumbered by Pub. L. 115-278, §2(g)(2)(I), added par. (2) and struck out former par. (2) which read as follows: “a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both, in any other case.”

1996—Subsec. (b)(1)(A), (2). Pub. L. 104-294 substituted “fine under this title” for “fine of under this title”.

1994—Subsec. (b)(1)(A). Pub. L. 103-322, §330016(1)(U), substituted “under this title” for “not more than \$250,000”.

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 103-322, §330016(1)(K), substituted “under this title” for “not more than \$5,000”.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 107-296 effective 60 days after Nov. 25, 2002, see section 4 of Pub. L. 107-296, set out as an Effective Date note under section 101 of Title 6, Domestic Security.

## EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 99-508, title II, §202, Oct. 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 1868, provided that: “This title and the amendments made by this title [enacting this chapter] shall take effect ninety days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 21, 1986] and shall, in the case of conduct pursuant to a court order or extension, apply only with respect to court orders or extensions made after this title takes effect.”

## SHORT TITLE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 100-618, §1, Nov. 5, 1988, 102 Stat. 3195, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 2710 of this title