

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To direct the Attorney General to make publicly available documents related to Jeffrey Epstein, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. GALLEGGO, Mr. KIM, Mr. KELLY, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WARNER, Mr. REED, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. COONS, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. BENNET) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the Attorney General to make publicly available documents related to Jeffrey Epstein, 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 “Epstein Files Trans-

5 parency Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. RELEASE OF DOCUMENTS RELATING TO JEFFREY**
2 **EPSTEIN.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (c), not
4 later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
5 the Attorney General shall make publicly available in a
6 searchable and downloadable format all unclassified
7 records, documents, communications, and investigative
8 materials in the possession of the Department of Justice,
9 including the Federal Bureau of Investigation and each
10 United States Attorney’s Office, that relate to—

11 (1) Jeffrey Epstein, including all investigations,
12 prosecutions, or custodial matters;

13 (2) Ghislaine Maxwell;

14 (3) any flight logs or travel records, including
15 manifests, itineraries, pilot records, and customs or
16 immigration documentation, for any aircraft, vessel,
17 or vehicle owned, operated, or used by Jeffrey Ep-
18 stein or any related entity;

19 (4) any individuals, including government offi-
20 cials, named or referenced in connection with the
21 criminal activities, civil settlements, immunity or
22 plea agreements, or investigatory proceedings of Jef-
23 frey Epstein;

24 (5) any corporate, nonprofit, academic, or gov-
25 ernmental entities with known or alleged ties to the
26 trafficking or financial networks of Jeffrey Epstein;

1 (6) any immunity deals, non-prosecution agree-
2 ments, plea bargains, or sealed settlements involving
3 Jeffrey Epstein or his associates;

4 (7) any internal Department of Justice commu-
5 nications, including emails, memoranda, and meeting
6 notes, concerning decisions to charge, not charge, in-
7 vestigate, or decline to investigate Jeffrey Epstein or
8 his associates;

9 (8) any communications, memoranda, direc-
10 tives, logs, or metadata concerning the destruction,
11 deletion, alteration, misplacement, or concealment of
12 documents, recordings, or electronic data related to
13 Jeffrey Epstein, his associates, his detention and
14 death, or any investigative files; or

15 (9) any documentation of the detention or
16 death of Jeffrey Epstein, including incident reports,
17 witness interviews, medical examiner files, autopsy
18 reports, and written records detailing the cir-
19 cumstances and cause of death.

20 (b) PROHIBITED GROUNDS FOR WITHHOLDING.—In
21 carrying out subsection (a), the Attorney General may not
22 withhold from publication, delay the publication of, or re-
23 dact any record, document, communication, or investiga-
24 tive material on the basis of embarrassment, reputational

1 harm, or political sensitivity, including to any government
2 official, public figure, or foreign dignitary.

3 (c) PERMITTED WITHHOLDINGS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out subsection
5 (a), the Attorney General may withhold from publi-
6 cation any record, document, communication, or in-
7 vestigative material, or redact any segregable portion
8 of any record, document, communication, or inves-
9 tigative material, that—

10 (A) contains personally identifiable infor-
11 mation from the personal or medical file of a
12 victim or child witness, including information
13 the publication of which would constitute a
14 clearly unwarranted invasion of personal pri-
15 vacy;

16 (B) depicts or contains child pornography,
17 as defined in section 2256 of title 18, United
18 States Code;

19 (C) would jeopardize an active Federal in-
20 vestigation or ongoing Federal prosecution, if
21 the withholding or redaction is narrowly tai-
22 lored and temporary;

23 (D) depicts or contains any image of the
24 death, physical abuse, or injury of any person;
25 or

1 (E) contains information that is specifi-
2 cally authorized under criteria established by an
3 Executive order to be kept secret in the interest
4 of national defense or foreign policy and is
5 properly classified pursuant to that Executive
6 order.

7 (2) REDACTIONS.—The Attorney General shall
8 publish in the Federal Register and submit to Con-
9 gress a written justification for each redaction under
10 paragraph (1).

11 (3) DECLASSIFICATION TO THE MAXIMUM EX-
12 TENT POSSIBLE.—

13 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General
14 shall declassify, to the maximum extent pos-
15 sible, any information that the Attorney Gen-
16 eral would otherwise withhold or redact as clas-
17 sified information under this section.

18 (B) UNCLASSIFIED SUMMARY.—If the At-
19 torney General determines that information de-
20 scribed in subparagraph (A) may not be declas-
21 sified and made available in a manner that pro-
22 tects the national security of the United States,
23 including methods or sources related to national
24 security, the Attorney General shall make pub-

1 licely available an unclassified summary of the
2 information.

3 (4) CLASSIFICATION OF COVERED INFORMA-
4 TION.—The Attorney General shall publish in the
5 Federal Register and submit to Congress each deci-
6 sion made after July 1, 2025, to classify any infor-
7 mation that would otherwise be required to be made
8 publicly available under subsection (a), including the
9 date of classification, the identity of the classifying
10 authority, and an unclassified summary of the jus-
11 tification for classification.

12 **SEC. 3. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

13 Not later than 15 days after making publicly avail-
14 able all records, documents, communications, and inves-
15 tigative materials under section 2(a), the Attorney General
16 shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Sen-
17 ate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of
18 Representatives a report containing—

19 (1) a list of each category of records, docu-
20 ments, communications, and investigative materials
21 made publicly available or withheld;

22 (2) a summary of the redactions made, includ-
23 ing the legal basis upon which the redactions were
24 made; and

1 (3) a list of each government official, public fig-
2 ure, or foreign dignitary named or referenced in the
3 records, documents, communications, and investiga-
4 tive materials made publicly available, without redac-
5 tion in accordance with section 2(b).