pus, Jeanne

from:

Dawson, Rachel Miller

Sent:

Friday, July 11, 2014 3:58 PM

To: Subject: Bumpus, Jeanne leahy foia bill

Attachments:

links to foia bills and leahy hearing; FW: (Amendment Text) LRM [AMS-113-7] JUSTICE

Comments on HR1211 FOIA Oversight and Implementation Act of 2013 #661426660#;

FW: (Amendment Text) LRM [AMS-113-7] JUSTICE Comments on HR1211 FOIA Oversight and Implementation Act of 2013 #661426660#; FW: (Amendment Text) LRM

[AMS-113-7] JUSTICE Comments on HR1211 FOIA Oversight and Implementation Act of 2013 #661426660#; FW: FOIA legis

dave shonka and I talked to heather who is quite in favor of us talking to leahy's staff. I started some bullets but haven't been able to complete them. Here are some background materials on the bill.

in the interim, we got the new Irm on doj talking points, with a summary of the meeting doj had w leahy staff and a revised set of proposals. Among other things it says that leahy wants to work w doj, and that he wants to bring the bill to a vote before the august recess. We may have some concerns with doj's new proposals, and may want to discuss the issue w doj very soon.

I will be out most or all of next week and all the following week. Sarah mackey oversees foia, and she and dione stearns (foia chief) will be working w ocr on this.



From:

Dawson, Rachel Miller

Sent:

Friday, July 11, 2014 3:32 PM

To:

Mackey, Sarah D.; Stearns, Dione J.

Subject:

FW: (Amendment Text) LRM [AMS-113-7] JUSTICE Comments on HR1211 FOIA

Oversight and Implementation Act of 2013 #661426660#

more re Irm on house foia bill

From: Zullow, Evan

Sent: Tuesday, April 02, 2013 10:19 AM

To: Patton, Andrew

Cc: Bumpus, Jeanne; Dawson, Rachel Miller; Hippsley, Heather

Subject: FW: (Amendment Text) LRM [AMS-113-7] JUSTICE Comments on HR1211 FOIA Oversight and Implementation

Act of 2013 #661426660#

Hi Andrew-

We are fine with OGC's proposed response below. Thank you for the helpful summary.

Evan

Evan R. Zullow Attorney Advisor to Chairwoman Edith Ramirez Federal Trade Commission 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington D.C. 20580 (p) 202.326.2914 (f) 202.326.2396

From: FTC-LRM

Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 3:26 PM

To: Dawson, Rachel Miller; Bumpus, Jeanne; Vandecar, Kim; Bruno, Marian; Averitt, Neil W.; Balbach, Jeanine; Watts, Marianne R.; Bloom, Michael J.; Simons, Claudia A.; Baker, James D.; Runco, Philip; Feinstein, Richard; Bak, Patricia; Callison, J. Elizabeth; Harwood, Charles A.; Armstrong, Norman; Fisher, Steven A.; DeMartino, Laura; Kaufman, Daniel; Patton, Andrew; Gavil, Andrew I.; Zullow, Evan; Kimmel, Lisa; Kestenbaum, Janis; Nathan, Jon J.

Subject: FW: (Amendment Text) LRM [AMS-113-7] JUSTICE Comments on HR1211 FOIA Oversight and Implementation

Act of 2013 #661426660#

From: Dawson, Rachel Miller

Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 3:25:34 PM

To: FTC-LRM

Subject: RE: (Amendment Text) LRM [AMS-113-7] JUSTICE Comments on HR1211 FOIA Oversight and Implementation

Act of 2013 #661426660# Auto forwarded by a Rule

GC does not have any concerns with the DOJ draft letter that need to be addressed, and recommends the following esponse:
0)(5)
)(5)
From: FTC-LRM Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2013 11:28 AM Fo: Dawson, Rachel Miller; Bumpus, Jeanne; Vandecar, Kim; Bruno, Marian; Averitt, Neil W.; Balbach, Jeanine; Watts, Marianne R.; Bloom, Michael J.; Simons, Claudia A.; Lupovitz, Joni; Baker, James D.; Runco, Philip; Matties, Deborah J.;
DeSanti, Susan; Feinstein, Richard; Bak, Patricia; Callison, J. Elizabeth; Vladeck, David; Bailey, Judith; Harwood, Charles A.; Armstrong, Norman; DeLorme, Christine Lee; Fisher, Steven A.; DeMartino, Laura; Lehner, Mary; Renner, Christophe (Aufman, Daniel; Patton, Andrew Subject: FW: (Amendment Text) LRM [AMS-113-7] JUSTICE Comments on HR1211 FOIA Oversight and Implementation
Act of 2013 #661426660#
From: Simms, Angela M.[SMTP:ANGELA M. SIMMS@OMB.EOP.GOV]

esponse:
)(5)
rom: FTC-LRM ent: Thursday, March 28, 2013 11:28 AM
o: Dawson, Rachel Miller; Bumpus, Jeanne; Vandecar, Kim; Bruno, Marian; Averitt, Neil W.; Balbach, Jeanine; Watts,
larianne R.; Bloom, Michael J.; Simons, Claudia A.; Lupovitz, Joni; Baker, James D.; Runco, Philip; Matties, Deborah J.;
eSanti, Susan; Feinstein, Richard; Bak, Patricia; Callison, J. Elizabeth; Vladeck, David; Bailey, Judith; Harwood, Charles .; Armstrong, Norman; DeLorme, Christine Lee; Fisher, Steven A.; DeMartino, Laura; Lehner, Mary; Renner, Christopher;
aufman, Daniel; Patton, Andrew
subject: FW: (Amendment Text) LRM [AMS-113-7] JUSTICE Comments on HR1211 FOIA Oversight and Implementation ct of 2013 #661426660#
rom: Simms, Angela M.[SMTP:ANGELA M. SIMMS@OMB.EOP.GOV]

OGC does not have any concerns with the DOJ draft letter that need to be addressed, and recommends the following

From: Shonka, David C.

Sent: Friday, November 21, 2014 9:59 AM

To: Bumpus, Jeanne; Mackey, Sarah D.; Stearns, Dione J.

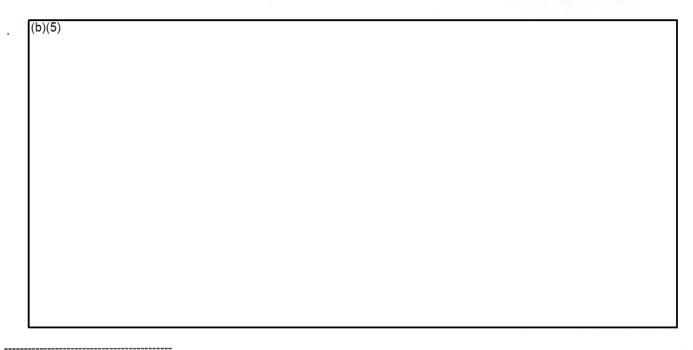
Cc: Nuechterlein, Jon

In light of the FOIA amendment requiring agencies to process 50,000 pages within 30 days, I asked a friend about DOJ's experience in reviewing documents in the tobacco case a few years ago. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Bumpus, Jeanne

Runco, Philip From: Sent: Wednesday, November 26, 2014 2:26 PM Shonka, David C.; Nuechterlein, Jon; Mackey, Sarah D.; Dawson, Rachel Miller; Stearns, To: Dione J.; Hippsley, Heather Cc: Bumpus, Jeanne FW: LRM [CMB-113-255] OMB Request for Views on S2520 - FOIA Improvement Act of Subject: 2014 #768606405# Here's the final. Thanks for all your time in crafting this. Hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving! Phil From: Runco, Philip Sent: Wednesday, November 26, 2014 2:22 PM To: Gonzalez, Oscar (Oscar_Gonzalez@omb.eop.gov) Cc: Bumpus, Jeanne; Oxford, Clinton P. Subject: RE: LRM [CMB-113-255] OMB Request for Views on S2520 - FOIA Improvement Act of 2014 #768606405# FTC staff offers the following comment on "LRM [CMB-113-255] OMB Request for Views on S2520 - FOIA Improvement Act of 2014 #768606405#": (b)(5)



From: Gonzalez, Oscar[SMTP:OSCAR GONZALEZ@OMB.EOP.GOV]

Sent: Monday, November 24, 2014 11:03:37 AM

To: JUSTICE (justice.lrm@usdoj.gov); ODNI; AGRICULTURE; COMMERCE; DEFENSE; EDUCATION; ENERGY; EPA; EEOC; FMSHRC; FTC-LRM; GSA; HHS; DHS; HUD; INTERIOR; LABOR; NASA; NARA; DL-NSS-LRM; OGE; DL-ONDCP-LRM; OPM; DL-OSTP-LRM; SBA; SMITHSONIAN; SSA; STATE; TRANSPORTATION; TREASURY;

USAID; DL-USTR-LRM; VA

Cc: Mayock, Andrew; Torres, Rosanna; Haun, David J.; Weatherly, Mark A.;

Boden, James; Williams, Monique C.; Page, Ben; Miller, Kimberly A.;

FN-OMB-NSD-MILOPS; Mancini, Dominic J.; Fraser, Nicholas A.; Hunt, Alex;

Seehra, Jasmeet; Liberante, Wendy L.; Mar, Sharon; Herms, Kevin;

Ahmed, Shagufta; Schlosser, Lisa; Renda, Scott; Theroux, Rich;

Lallemand, Chad A.; Brown, Dustin S.; Bussow, Mark; Washington, Geovette;

Simpkins, John; Aitken, Steven D.; Hitter, Thomas E.; Walsh, Heather V.;

Neill, Allie; Menter, Jessica; DL-OVP-LRM; DL-NSS-CYBER; DL-NSS-LEGAL;

DL-WHO-WHGC-LRM; Dominguez, Daniel; DL-WHO-DPC-Justice-LRM;

Asen, Jonathan; Pollack, Joshua; Bronack, Candice M.; Burnim, John D.;

Vaeth, Matt; Green, Richard.

Subject: LRM [CMB-113-255] OMB Request for Views on S2520 - FOIA Improvement Act of 2014 #768606405#

Importance: High

Auto forwarded by a Rule

DEADLINE: 12:00 P.M. Wednesday, November 26, 2014

S. 2520, a bill that would make several amendments to the Freedom of Information Act, was reported as amended by the Senate Judiciary Committee on November 20th. The manager's amendment is attached for your review and comment. Please send any comments by the deadline above. Thank you.

LRM ID: CMB-113-255

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL MEMORANDUM Monday, November 24, 2014

TO: Legislative Liaison Officer - See Distribution

FROM: Green, Richard (for) Assistant Director for Legislative Reference

SUBJECT: LRM [CMB-113-255] OMB Request for Views on S2520 FOIA Improvement Act of 2014

OMB CONTACT: Oscar Gonzalez
E-Mail: Oscar Gonzalez@omb.eop.gov
PHONE (b)(6)
FAX: (b)(6)

In accordance with OMB Circular A-19, OMB requests the views of your agency on the above subject before advising on its relationship to the program of the President. By the deadline above, please reply by e-mail or telephone, using the OMB Contact information above.

Please advise us if this item will affect direct spending or receipts for the purposes of the Statutory Pay-as-You-Go Act of 2010.

Thank you.

From:

Bumpus, Jeanne

Sent:

Wednesday, November 19, 2014 5:52 PM

To:

 $lauren_barlow@judiciary-rep.senate.gov; April_Carson@judiciary-dem.senate.gov$

Subject:

FTC staff concerns with revised S. 2520

Lauren and April,

Thank you both for talking to us about our FTC staff concerns with S.2520. Lauren, you asked how the provision dealing with automatic fee forfeiture could be revised to adjust the number of pages. We believe that for the FTC's purposes, an appropriate number of pages is 3500 that are necessary to be reviewed in order to respond to a request (not necessarily that we'd produce 3500 pages).

If the legislation retains a codification of the foreseeable harm test, our GC's Office opined that having courts review an agency's determination for abuse of discretion, could limit the harmful unintended consequences of this provision.

Thank you again for talking with us.

Jeanne Bumpus Office of Congressional Relations Federal Trade Commission 326-2946

From:

Williams, John (Commerce) < John_Williams@commerce.senate.gov>

Sent:

Friday, December 05, 2014 6:41 PM

To:

Bumpus, Jeanne

Subject:

FW: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Rockefeller, Press (Rockefeller) < Press@rockefeller.senate.gov >

Sent: Friday, December 5, 2014 6:27 PM

Subject: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 5, 2014

http://rockefeller.senate.gov



Contact: Jenny Rosenberg 202-224-6101

ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA **IMPROVEMENT ACT**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Senator Jay Rockefeller today issued the following statement regarding the hold he placed on S. 2520, the FOIA Improvement Act.

"I have a long record of support for open government and the FOIA process. I am concerned that provisions in this bill will have the unintended consequence of harming our ability to enforce the many important federal laws that protect American consumers from financial fraud and other abuses. According to experts across the federal government, these provisions would make it harder for federal agency attorneys to prepare their cases, and they would potentially give defendants new ways to obstruct and delay investigations into their conduct. I hope there is a way to address these concerns and pass the bill."

###

From:

Dawson, Rachel Miller

Sent:

Friday, July 11, 2014 3:32 PM

To:

Mackey, Sarah D.; Stearns, Dione J.

Subject:

FW: (Amendment Text) LRM [AMS-113-7] JUSTICE Comments on HR1211 FOIA

Oversight and Implementation Act of 2013 #661426660#

more re Irm on house foia bill

From: Zullow, Evan

Sent: Tuesday, April 02, 2013 10:19 AM

To: Patton, Andrew

Cc: Bumpus, Jeanne; Dawson, Rachel Miller; Hippsley, Heather

Subject: FW: (Amendment Text) LRM [AMS-113-7] JUSTICE Comments on HR1211 FOIA Oversight and Implementation

Act of 2013 #661426660#

Hi Andrew-

We are fine with OGC's proposed response below. Thank you for the helpful summary.

Evan

Evan R. Zullow Attorney Advisor to Chairwoman Edith Ramirez Federal Trade Commission 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington D.C. 20580 (p) 202.326.2914 (f) 202.326.2396

From: FTC-LRM

Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 3:26 PM

To: Dawson, Rachel Miller; Bumpus, Jeanne; Vandecar, Kim; Bruno, Marian; Averitt, Neil W.; Balbach, Jeanine; Watts, Marianne R.; Bloom, Michael J.; Simons, Claudia A.; Baker, James D.; Runco, Philip; Feinstein, Richard; Bak, Patricia; Callison, J. Elizabeth; Harwood, Charles A.; Armstrong, Norman; Fisher, Steven A.; DeMartino, Laura; Kaufman, Daniel; Patton, Andrew; Gavil, Andrew I.; Zullow, Evan; Kimmel, Lisa; Kestenbaum, Janis; Nathan, Jon J.

Subject: FW: (Amendment Text) LRM [AMS-113-7] JUSTICE Comments on HR1211 FOIA Oversight and Implementation

Act of 2013 #661426660#

From: Dawson, Rachel Miller

Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 3:25:34 PM

To: FTC-LRM

Subject: RE: (Amendment Text) LRM [AMS-113-7] JUSTICE Comments on HR1211 FOIA Oversight and Implementation

Act of 2013 #661426660# Auto forwarded by a Rule To: Bumpus, Jeanne[JBumpus@ftc.gov]
From: Benway, Kathleen (Commerce)
Sent: Fri 12/5/2014 7:49:27 PM

Importance: Normal

Subject: Re: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

MAIL_RECEIVED: Fri 12/5/2014 7:49:30 PM

Sure

---- Original Message -----

From: Bumpus, Jeanne [mailto:JBumpus@ftc.gov] Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 06:47 PM

To: Benway, Kathleen (Commerce)

Subject: RE: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

Thanks Kathleen.

----Original Message-----

From: Benway, Kathleen (Commerce) [mailto:Kathleen_Benway@commerce.senate.gov]

Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 6:42 PM

To: Bumpus, Jeanne

Subject: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 5, 2014

Contact: Jenny Rosenberg December 202-224-6101

http://rockefeller.senate.gov

ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT WASHINGTON, D.C. – Senator Jay Rockefeller today issued the following statement regarding the hold he placed on S. 2520, the FOIA Improvement Act.

"I have a long record of support for open government and the FOIA process. I am concerned that provisions in this bill will have the unintended consequence of harming our ability to enforce the many important federal laws that protect American consumers from financial fraud and other abuses. According to experts across the federal government, these provisions would make it harder for federal agency attorneys to prepare their cases, and they would potentially give defendants new ways to obstruct and delay investigations into their conduct. I hope there is a way to address these concerns and pass the bill."

To: 'Benway, Kathleen (Commerce)'[Kathleen_Benway@commerce.senate.gov]

From: Bumpus, Jeanne

Sent: Fri 12/5/2014 7:47:30 PM

Importance: Normal

Subject: RE: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

MAIL_RECEIVED: Fri 12/5/2014 7:47:00 PM

Thanks Kathleen.

----Original Message----

From: Benway, Kathleen (Commerce) [mailto:Kathleen_Benway@commerce.senate.gov]

Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 6:42 PM

To: Bumpus, Jeanne

Subject: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 5, 2014

http://rockefeller.senate.gov

Contact: Jenny Rosenberg December 202-224-6101

ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT WASHINGTON, D.C. – Senator Jay Rockefeller today issued the following statement regarding the hold he placed on S. 2520, the FOIA Improvement Act.

"I have a long record of support for open government and the FOIA process. I am concerned that provisions in this bill will have the unintended consequence of harming our ability to enforce the many important federal laws that protect American consumers from financial fraud and other abuses. According to experts across the federal government, these provisions would make it harder for federal agency attorneys to prepare their cases, and they would potentially give defendants new ways to obstruct and delay investigations into their conduct. I hope there is a way to address these concerns and pass the bill."

To: 'Benway, Kathleen (Commerce)'[Kathleen_Benway@commerce.senate.gov]

From: Bumpus, Jeanne

Sent: Fri 12/5/2014 7:52:31 PM

Importance: Normal

Subject: RE: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

MAIL_RECEIVED: Fri 12/5/2014 7:52:00 PM

Are you still in the office? Left VM for Christian.

----Original Message-----

From: Benway, Kathleen (Commerce) [mailto:Kathleen_Benway@commerce.senate.gov]

Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 6:49 PM

To: Bumpus, Jeanne

Subject: Re: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

Sure

---- Original Message -----

From: Bumpus, Jeanne [mailto:JBumpus@ftc.gov] Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 06:47 PM

To: Benway, Kathleen (Commerce)

Subject: RE: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

Thanks Kathleen.

----Original Message-----

From: Benway, Kathleen (Commerce) [mailto:Kathleen_Benway@commerce.senate.gov]

Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 6:42 PM

To: Bumpus, Jeanne

Subject: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jenny Rosenberg December 202-224-6101

5, 2014

http://rockefeller.senate.gov

ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT WASHINGTON, D.C. – Senator Jay Rockefeller today issued the following statement regarding the hold he placed on S. 2520, the FOIA Improvement Act.

"I have a long record of support for open government and the FOIA process. I am concerned that provisions in this bill will have the unintended consequence of harming our ability to enforce the many important federal laws that protect American consumers from financial fraud and other abuses. According to experts across the federal government, these provisions would make it harder for federal agency attorneys to prepare their cases, and they would potentially give defendants new ways to obstruct and delay investigations into their conduct. I hope there is a way to address these concerns and pass the bill."

###

To: Reid, James (Rockefeller)[James_Reid@rockefeller.senate.gov]

From: Bumpus, Jeanne

Sent: Sat 12/6/2014 2:50:17 PM Importance: Normal

Subject: Re: Leahy FOIA bill

MAIL_RECEIVED: Sat 12/6/2014 2:50:17 PM

James,

It's not a bother and I understand that the Senator is taking a lot of heat. Our staff does have fundamental reservations about the bill. Our Chairwoman is aware of these and shares them. I don't have the email I sent to John and Christian summarizing our staff's concerns with the measure following my conversation with Christian, but can recreate the contents and send it to you shortly. We admittedly were not very engaged on this until quite recently as it is a government wide bill. I do not believe that the other independent agencies like ours were realy focused or engaged on the measures either. Although we saw ourselves as small fry on a bill of this scope, because of concerns with the measure's possible impact on our agency's work, FTC staff did meet with SJC Majority staff in late Summer, I think, to express our worries. One change in the SJC Committee amendment we thought was helpful, but I informed SJC staff before and after markup that we continued to have serious concerns even with the amendment. I will call you.

Jeanne	
(b)(6)	

"Reid, James (Rockefeller)" <James_Reid@rockefeller.senate.gov> wrote:

Jeanne:

According to the Commerce staff, the FTC has fundamental reservations with this bill. Please send me all the correspondence you had with them re this bill. Also, did the FTC relay its concerns to Energy and Commerce during House consideration? Did you offer formal comments to SJC?

The Senator is holding up a bill that is widely supported by a broad coalition of good govt groups so I am inclined to tell the world that the Chairwoman has formally asked JDR to object to this bill and let her explain to folks the FTCs issues. If that is not the case, please let me know.

Sorry to bother you on the weekend, but this issue has really interfered with mine as well. I look forward to the information. Please feel free to call. (b)(6) f you have any questions

James

To: Bumpus, Jeanne[JBumpus@ftc.gov]

From: Williams, John (Commerce)
Sent: Fri 12/5/2014 7:41:16 PM

Importance: Normal

Subject: Fw: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

MAIL_RECEIVED: Fri 12/5/2014 7:41:20 PM

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 5, 2014 202-224-6101

http://rockefeller.senate.gov



ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

Contact: Jenny Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Senator Jay Rockefeller today issued the following statement regarding the hold he placed on S. 2520, the FOIA Improvement Act.

"I have a long record of support for open government and the FOIA process. I am concerned that provisions in this bill will have the unintended consequence of harming our ability to enforce the many important federal laws that protect American consumers from financial fraud and other abuses. According to experts across the federal government, these provisions would make it harder for federal agency attorneys to prepare their cases, and they would potentially give defendants new ways to obstruct and delay investigations into their conduct. I hope there is a way to address these concerns and pass the bill."

####



To: Bumpus, Jeanne[JBumpus@ftc.gov]
From: Benway, Kathleen (Commerce)
Sent: Fri 12/5/2014 11:26:52 PM

Importance: Normal

Subject: Re: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

MAIL_RECEIVED: Fri 12/5/2014 11:26:55 PM

We had left. I'll catch up to Christian.

---- Original Message -----

From: Bumpus, Jeanne [mailto:JBumpus@ftc.gov] Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 06:52 PM

To: Benway, Kathleen (Commerce)

Subject: RE: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

Are you still in the office? Left VM for Christian.

----Original Message-----

From: Benway, Kathleen (Commerce) [mailto:Kathleen_Benway@commerce.senate.gov]

Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 6:49 PM

To: Bumpus, Jeanne

Subject: Re: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

Sure

---- Original Message -----

From: Bumpus, Jeanne [mailto:JBumpus@ftc.gov] Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 06:47 PM

To: Benway, Kathleen (Commerce)

Subject: RE: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

Thanks Kathleen.

----Original Message-----

From: Benway, Kathleen (Commerce) [mailto:Kathleen_Benway@commerce.senate.gov]

Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 6:42 PM

To: Bumpus, Jeanne

Subject: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

5, 2014 202-224-6101

http://rockefeller.senate.gov

ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT WASHINGTON, D.C. – Senator Jay Rockefeller today issued the following statement regarding the hold he placed on S. 2520, the FOIA Improvement Act.

Contact: Jenny Rosenberg December

"I have a long record of support for open government and the FOIA process. I am concerned that provisions in this bill will have the unintended consequence of harming our ability to enforce the many important federal laws that protect American consumers from financial fraud and other abuses. According to experts across the federal government, these provisions would make it harder for federal agency attorneys to prepare their cases, and they would potentially give defendants new ways to obstruct and delay investigations into their conduct. I hope there is a way to address these concerns and pass the bill."

###

To: 'Williams, John (Commerce)'[John_Williams@commerce.senate.gov]

Cc: Fjeld, Christian (Commerce)[Christian_Fjeld@commerce.senate.gov]; Benway, Kathleen

(Commerce)[Kathleen_Benway@commerce.senate.gov]; Doneski, Ellen (Commerce)[Ellen_Doneski@commerce.senate.gov]

From: Bumpus, Jeanne

Sent: Mon 12/8/2014 10:28:27 AM

Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: urgent need for review

MAIL_RECEIVED: Mon 12/8/2014 10:28:00 AM

Thanks John,

I will consult ASAP with our FOIA office and OGC who will know this much better than I do. My initial impression is that report language is often ignored, and Ms. Nisbet's statement says nothing about "abuse of discretion" standard. The FOIA statute in fact mentions "de novo" review, but I need to talk to our lawyers. In addition to making agencies articulate foreseeable harm, the bill also prohibits withholding just because material falls under an exemption, or because of speculative or abstract concerns. These latter prohibitions seem to invite challenges to the exemptions and it's not clear to me how they relate to foreseeable harm. Will consult with our folks and get back to you.

Jeanne

From: Williams, John (Commerce) [mailto:John_Williams@commerce.senate.gov]

Sent: Monday, December 08, 2014 9:06 AM

To: Bumpus, Jeanne

Cc: Fjeld, Christian (Commerce); Benway, Kathleen (Commerce); Doneski, Ellen (Commerce)

Subject: urgent need for review

Hi Jeanne. Judiciary sent us some proposed report language. Can you take a look at it and get back to us quickly? They also sent a quote from a prominent FOIA expert your FOIA people might have hear of. Both are below.

Report Language

It is the intent of Congress that agency decisions to withhold information under the foreseeable harm standard be subject to judicial review for abuse of discretion, consistent with current case law in other areas where courts have recognized the need for deference to federal agencies on "issues requiring agency expertise."[1]

[1] See, e.g., California ex rel. Imperial County Air Pollution Control Dist. v. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 767 F.3d 781, 792 (9th Cir. 2014) (applying abuse of discretion standard to Interior Department decision on Environmental Impact Statement) (quoting Marsh v. Or. Natural Res. Council, 490 U.S. 360, 377 (1989), and Kleppe v. Sierra Club, 427 U.S. 390, 412 (1976)).

Statement

Below is a statement from Miriam Nisbet, founding Director of the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS, the Federal FOIA ombudsman), National Archives and Records Administration (2009-2014). Miriam was a FOIA litigator for many years and now in her capacity as OGIS Director mediates disputes between agencies and requestors. She is very measured and independent.

"For the past 40 years, the government -- if sued by a person seeking disclosure of government records under the FOIA -- has been required to demonstrate that withheld information falls within one of the statutory exemptions. Under the FOIA Improvement Act of 2014, a government attorney's burden of defending a FOIA lawsuit would be the same as it is today under the Attorney General's FOIA Guidelines that have been in effect since 2009 and under those that were in effect during the Clinton Administration. That judicial review framework has worked remarkably well and is one of the reasons that our Freedom of Information Act is a model for other countries.

"At the same time, the Act would encourage greater use of dispute resolution as an alternative to litigation, as the law has provided since 2007. Preventing and resolving FOIA disputes through mediation in just this short time has proven to benefit FOIA requesters and agencies alike, making the FOIA process less adversarial, more transparent, and less costly."

(b)(6)		

To: 'Benway, Kathleen (Commerce)'[Kathleen_Benway@commerce.senate.gov]; Williams, John

(Commerce)[John_Williams@commerce.senate.gov]

Cc: Fjeld, Christian (Commerce)[Christian_Fjeld@commerce.senate.gov]; Doneski, Ellen

(Commerce)[Ellen_Doneski@commerce.senate.gov]

From: Bumpus, Jeanne

Sent: Mon 12/8/2014 11:29:34 AM

Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: urgent need for review

MAIL_RECEIVED: Mon 12/8/2014 11:29:00 AM

Will do, thanks.

From: Benway, Kathleen (Commerce) [mailto:Kathleen_Benway@commerce.senate.gov]

Sent: Monday, December 08, 2014 10:05 AM **To:** Bumpus, Jeanne; Williams, John (Commerce)

Cc: Fjeld, Christian (Commerce); Doneski, Ellen (Commerce)

Subject: Re: urgent need for review

Jeanne,

John says yes, ok to share.

Kathleen

From: Bumpus, Jeanne [mailto:]Bumpus@ftc.gov]
Sent: Monday, December 08, 2014 09:49 AM

To: Williams, John (Commerce)

Cc: Fjeld, Christian (Commerce); Benway, Kathleen (Commerce); Doneski, Ellen (Commerce)

Subject: RE: urgent need for review

John,

May I share with other agencies? Tried to call but your VM is full.

Jeanne

From: Williams, John (Commerce) [mailto:John Williams@commerce.senate.gov]

Sent: Monday, December 08, 2014 9:06 AM

To: Bumpus, Jeanne

Cc: Fjeld, Christian (Commerce); Benway, Kathleen (Commerce); Doneski, Ellen (Commerce)

Subject: urgent need for review

Hi Jeanne. Judiciary sent us some proposed report language. Can you take a look at it and get back to us quickly? They also sent a quote from a prominent FOIA expert your FOIA people might have hear of. Both are below.

To: Fjeld, Christian (Commerce)[Christian_Fjeld@commerce.senate.gov]

From:

Bumpus, Jeanne Wed 12/10/2014 2:51:57 PM Sent:

Importance: Normal Subject: Report language

MAIL_RECEIVED: Wed 12/10/2014 2:51:00 PM

Christian,

Thanks for directing us to the colloquy in CR between Sens Rockefeller and Leahy. Do you have, or are you able to get, the report filed the SJC Monday night, Senate Report 113-287? I've tried Thomas, which says text is not yet received. Thanks,

Jeanne

To: Bumpus, Jeanne[JBumpus@ftc.gov]

Cc: Fjeld, Christian (Commerce)[Christian_Fjeld@commerce.senate.gov]; Shantz, Joe

(Commerce)[Joe_Shantz@commerce.senate.gov]

From: Williams, John (Commerce)
Sent: Mon 12/1/2014 2:45:12 PM

Importance: Normal

Subject: reported version of FOIA reform bill MAIL_RECEIVED: Mon 12/1/2014 2:45:16 PM S2520 FOIA reform - reported version.pdf

Hi Jeanne. Christian let me know that you all were concerned about the Judiciary Committee's FOIA reform bill. Attached is the version of the bill as the Committee recently reported it. They are now seeking to hotline it. It looks like some of the pieces that concerned you have been removed, but overall it still creates a new standard of foreseeable harm that the agencies will have to deal with when they withhold information. Please let us know if you have any thoughts about it. As you can imagine, this is pretty time sensitive. Best Wishes, JW

To: Bumpus, Jeanne[JBumpus@ftc.gov]
From: Benway, Kathleen (Commerce)
Sent: Fri 12/5/2014 7:41:57 PM

Importance: Normal

Subject: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

MAIL_RECEIVED: Fri 12/5/2014 7:42:00 PM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 5, 2014 http://rockefeller.senate.gov Contact: Jenny Rosenberg

(b)(6)

ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Senator Jay Rockefeller today issued the following statement regarding the hold he placed on S. 2520, the FOIA Improvement Act.

"I have a long record of support for open government and the FOIA process. I am concerned that provisions in this bill will have the unintended consequence of harming our ability to enforce the many important federal laws that protect American consumers from financial fraud and other abuses. According to experts across the federal government, these provisions would make it harder for federal agency attorneys to prepare their cases, and they would potentially give defendants new ways to obstruct and delay investigations into their conduct. I hope there is a way to address these concerns and pass the bill."

To: 'Williams, John (Commerce)'[John_Williams@commerce.senate.gov]

From: Bumpus, Jeanne
Sent: Fri 12/5/2014 7:47:07 PM
Importance: Normal

Subject: RE: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

MAIL_RECEIVED: Fri 12/5/2014 7:47:00 PM

Thanks John.

From: Williams, John (Commerce) [mailto:John_Williams@commerce.senate.gov]

Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 6:41 PM

To: Bumpus, Jeanne

Subject: Fw: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Rockefeller, Press (Rockefeller) < Press@rockefeller.senate.gov >

Sent: Friday, December 5, 2014 6:27 PM

Subject: ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jenny Rosenberg

December 5, 2014

202-224-6101

http://rockefeller.senate.gov



ROCKEFELLER STATEMENT ON FOIA IMPROVEMENT ACT

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Senator Jay Rockefeller today issued the following statement regarding the hold he placed on S. 2520, the FOIA Improvement Act.

"I have a long record of support for open government and the FOIA process. I am concerned that provisions in this bill will have the unintended consequence of harming our ability to enforce the many important federal laws that protect American consumers from financial fraud and other abuses. According to experts across the federal government, these provisions would make it harder for federal agency attorneys to prepare their cases, and they would potentially give defendants new ways to obstruct and delay investigations into their conduct. I hope there is a way to address these concerns and pass the bill."

HHH



To: Bumpus, Jeanne[JBumpus@ftc.gov] From: Williams, John (Commerce) Thur 12/4/2014 11:24:22 PM Sent:

Importance: Normal
Subject: Twitter activity
MAIL_RECEIVED: Thur 12/4/2014 11:24:25 PM

Hi Jeanne. Go to #FOIA on Twitter and check it out.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.