116TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. 1468

To promote the economic security and safety of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 28, 2019

Ms. Roybal-Allard (for herself, Mr. Aguilar, Ms. Barragán, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. Brownley of California, Mr. Cicilline, Ms. Clark of Massachusetts, Ms. Clarke of New York, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Correa, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Defazio, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DEUTCH, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. FRANKEL, Mr. Gallego, Mr. Hastings, Ms. Jackson Lee, Ms. Johnson of Texas, Ms. Kaptur, Mr. Khanna, Mr. Kilmer, Ms. Kuster of New Hampshire, Ms. Lee of California, Mrs. Carolyn B. Maloney of New York, Ms. Matsui, Ms. McCollum, Mr. McGovern, Mr. McNerney, Mr. Meeks, Ms. Moore, Mrs. Napolitano, Ms. Norton, Ms. Omar, Mr. Pocan, Mr. Quigley, Mr. Richmond, Mr. Ruiz, Mr. Rush, Mr. RYAN, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. Takano, Ms. Titus, Mrs. Torres of California, Ms. Velázquez, Ms. Wasserman Schultz, Mrs. Watson COLEMAN, Ms. WILD, and Mr. SOTO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To promote the economic security and safety of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
- 5 "Security And Financial Empowerment Act of 2019" or
- 6 the "SAFE Act of 2019".
- 7 (b) Table of Contents for
- 8 this Act is as follows:
 - Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
 - Sec. 2. Findings.
 - TITLE I—REAUTHORIZATION OF NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER GRANTS ON WORKPLACE RESPONSES TO ASSIST SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE
 - Sec. 101. Grant program reauthorization.
 - TITLE II—SAFE LEAVE FOR ADDRESSING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING
 - Sec. 201. Definitions.
 - Sec. 202. Entitlement to safe leave for addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
 - Sec. 203. Existing leave usable for addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
 - Sec. 204. Emergency benefits.
 - Sec. 205. Rule of construction.
 - Sec. 206. Regulations.

TITLE III—SURVIVORS' EMPLOYMENT SUSTAINABILITY

- Sec. 301. Short title.
- Sec. 302. Prohibited discriminatory acts.
- Sec. 303. Enforcement.
- Sec. 304. Regulations.
- Sec. 305. Attorney's fees.
- TITLE IV—ENTITLEMENT TO UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FOR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING
- Sec. 401. Unemployment compensation and training provisions.
- TITLE V—INSURANCE PROTECTIONS AND SUPPORT FOR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING

Subtitle A—Insurance Protections

- Sec. 501. Definitions.
- Sec. 502. Discriminatory acts prohibited.
- Sec. 503. Insurance protocols for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
- Sec. 504. Reasons for adverse actions.
- Sec. 505. Life insurance.
- Sec. 506. Subrogation without consent prohibited.
- Sec. 507. Enforcement.
- Sec. 508. Applicability.

Subtitle B—Supporting and Empowering Survivors

- Sec. 511. Study and reports on barriers to survivors' economic security access.
- Sec. 512. Domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking education and information programs for survivors.
- Sec. 513. Investing in public health infrastructure to improve support for survivors.
- Sec. 514. Financial literacy and advocacy for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

TITLE VI—SEVERABILITY

Sec. 601. Severability.

1 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

- 2 Congress finds the following:
- 3 (1) Over 1 in 3 women experience sexual vio-
- lence, and 1 in 5 women have survived completed or
- 5 attempted rape. Such violence has a devastating im-
- 6 pact on women's physical and emotional health, fi-
- 7 nancial security, and ability to maintain their jobs,
- 8 and thus impacts interstate commerce and economic
- 9 security.
- 10 (2) The Office on Violence Against Women of
- 11 the Department of Justice defines domestic violence
- as a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship
- that is used by one intimate partner to gain or
- maintain power and control over another intimate
- partner. Domestic violence can include physical, sex-

- ual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person. Domestic violence includes any behaviors that intimidate, manipulate, humiliate, isolate, frighten, terrorize, coerce, threaten, blame, hurt, injure, or wound an individual.
 - (3) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that domestic violence or intimate partner violence is a serious public health issue for millions of individuals in the United States. Nearly 1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men in the United States have suffered sexual violence, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner.
 - (4) Homicide is one of the leading causes of death for women on the job. Domestic partners or relatives commit 43 percent of workplace homicides against women. One study found that intimate partner violence resulted in 142 homicides among women at work in the United States from 2003 to 2008, a figure which represents 22 percent of the 648 workplace homicides among women during the period. In fact, in 2010, homicides against women at work increased by 13 percent despite continuous declines in overall workplace homicides in recent years.

- (5) Women in the United States are 11 times more likely to be murdered with guns than women in other high-income countries. Female intimate partners are more likely to be murdered with a firearm than all other means combined. The presence of a gun in domestic violence situations increases the risk of homicide for women by 500 percent.
 - (6) Violence can have a dramatic impact on the survivor of such violence. Studies indicate that 44 percent of surveyed employed adults experienced the effect of domestic violence in the workplace, and 64 percent indicated their workplace performance was affected. Another recent survey found that 78 percent of offenders used workplace resources to express anger, check up on, pressure, or threaten a survivor of sexual assault, whether occurring in or out of the workplace, can impair an employee's work performance, require time away from work, and undermine the employee's ability to maintain a job. Nearly 50 percent of sexual assault survivors lose their jobs or are forced to quit in the aftermath of the assaults.
 - (7) In a study commission by the Office on Violence Against Women of the Department of Justice, 66 percent of respondents said an abusive partner

- had disrupted their ability to complete education or training through tactics such as not allowing them access to money to pay for school, socially isolating the survivor, controlling or monitoring their mobility, using physical or sexual violence, and damaging or destroying personal property.
 - (8) Studies find that 60 percent of single women lack economic security and 81 percent of households with single mothers live in economic insecurity. Significant barriers survivors confront include housing, transportation, and child care. Ninety-two percent of homeless women have experienced domestic violence, and more than 50 percent cite domestic violence as the direct cause for homelessness. Survivors are deprived of their autonomy, liberty, and security, and face tremendous threats to their health and safety.
 - (9) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that survivors of severe intimate partner violence lose nearly 8,000,000 days of paid work, which is the equivalent of more than 32,000 full-time jobs and almost 5,600,000 days of household productivity each year. Therefore, women disproportionately need time off to care for their health or to find safety solutions, such as obtaining a restraining

order or finding housing, to avoid or prevent further violence.

(10) Annual costs of intimate partner violence are estimated over \$8,300,000,000. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the costs of intimate partner violence against women in 1995 exceeded an estimated \$5,800,000,000. These costs included nearly \$4,100,000,000 in the direct costs of medical and mental health care and nearly \$1,800,000,000 in the indirect costs of lost productivity. These statistics are generally considered to be underestimated because the costs associated with the criminal justice system are not included.

(11) Fifty-five percent of senior executives recently surveyed said domestic violence has a harmful effect on their company's productivity, and more than 70 percent said domestic violence negatively affects attendance. Seventy-eight percent of human resources professionals consider partner violence a workplace issue. However, more than 70 percent of United States workplaces have no formal program or policy that addresses workplace violence, let alone domestic violence. In fact, only four percent of employers provided training on domestic violence.

- (12) Studies indicate that one of the best predictors of whether a survivor will be able to stay away from his or her abuser is the degree of his or her economic independence. However, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking often negatively impact a survivor's ability to maintain employment.
 - (13) Abusers frequently seek to exert financial control over their partners by actively interfering with their ability to work, including preventing their partners from going to work, harassing their partners at work, limiting their partners' access to cash or transportation, and sabotaging their partners' child care arrangements.
 - (14) Economic abuse refers to behaviors that control an intimate partner's ability to acquire, use, and maintain access to, money, credit, ownership of assets, or access to governmental or private financial benefits, including, to defaulting on joint obligations (e.g. school loans, credit card debt, mortgage, or rent). Other forms may include preventing someone from attending school, threatening to or actually terminating employment, controlling or withholding access to cash, checking, or credit accounts, attempts to damage or sabotage an intimate partner's credit-

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- worthiness, including forcing a survivor to write bad checks, including forcing a survivor to default on payments related to household needs, such as housing, or forcing a survivor into bankruptcy.
 - (15) The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111–148), and the amendments made by such Act, ensures that most health plans must cover preventive services, including screening and counseling for domestic violence, at no additional cost. In addition, it prohibits insurance companies from discriminating against patients for preexisting conditions, like domestic violence.
 - (16) Yet, more can be done to help survivors. Federal law in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act does not explicitly—
 - (A) authorize survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to take leave from work to seek legal assistance and redress, counseling, or assistance with safety planning activities;
 - (B) address the eligibility of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking for unemployment compensation;

1	(C) provide job protection to survivors of
2	domestic violence, dating violence, sexual as-
3	sault, or stalking;
4	(D) prohibit insurers and employers who
5	self-insure employee benefits from discrimi-
6	nating against survivors of domestic violence
7	dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and
8	those who help them in determining eligibility
9	rates charged, and standards for payment or
10	claims; or
11	(E) prohibit insurers from disclosing infor-
12	mation about abuse and the location of the sur-
13	vivors through insurance databases and other
14	means.
15	(17) October is National Domestic Violence
16	Awareness Month.
17	(18) This Act aims to empower survivors of do-
18	mestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or
19	stalking to be free from violence, hardship, and con-
20	trol, which restrains basic human rights to freedom

and safety in the United States.

1 TITLE I—REAUTHORIZATION OF

- 2 NATIONAL RESOURCE CEN-
- 3 TER GRANTS ON WORKPLACE
- 4 RESPONSES TO ASSIST SUR-
- 5 VIVORS OF DOMESTIC AND
- 6 **SEXUAL VIOLENCE**
- 7 SEC. 101. GRANT PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION.
- 8 (a) Information and Assistance to Survivor
- 9 Service Providers and Community Organiza-
- 10 Tions.—Section 41501(a) of the Violence Against Women
- 11 Act of 1994 (34 U.S.C. 12501(a)) is amended by striking
- 12 the period at the end and inserting ", and to survivor serv-
- 13 ices organizations (as defined in section 201 of the Secu-
- 14 rity And Financial Empowerment Act of 2019) (including
- 15 community based organizations) and tribal, State, and ter-
- 16 ritorial domestic violence or sexual assault coalitions to en-
- 17 able the organizations and coalitions to provide resource
- 18 materials or other assistance to employers, labor organiza-
- 19 tions, or employees.".
- 20 (b) Administrative Provisions.—Section 41501
- 21 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (34 U.S.C.
- 22 14043f) is amended by adding at the end the following:
- 23 "(g) Administrative Costs.—
- 24 "(1) In general.—From the amount appro-
- priated pursuant to subsection (e) for each fiscal

1	year, the Attorney General shall not use more than
2	2.5 percent for the administration and monitoring of
3	grants made available under this section.
4	"(2) Evaluations.—From the amount appro-
5	priated pursuant to subsection (e) for each fiscal
6	year, the Director shall not use more than 5 percent
7	to award contracts or cooperative agreements to en-
8	tities with demonstrated expertise in program eval-
9	uation, to evaluate programs under this section.".
10	TITLE II—SAFE LEAVE FOR AD-
11	DRESSING DOMESTIC VIO-
12	LENCE, DATING VIOLENCE,
13	SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALK-
14	ING
15	SEC. 201. DEFINITIONS.
16	As used in this title, the following definitions apply
17	(1) Domestic violence; dating violence
18	SEXUAL ASSAULT; STALKING.—The terms "domestic
19	violence", "dating violence", "sexual assault", and
20	"stalking" have the meanings given the terms in sec-
21	tion 40002 of the Violence Against Women Act of
22	1994 (34 U.S.C. 12291).
23	(2) Domestic Partner.—
24	(A) In general.—The term "domestic
25	partner", with respect to an individual, means

another individual with whom the first individual is in a committed relationship.

- (B) COMMITTED RELATIONSHIP DE-FINED.—The term "committed relationship" means a relationship between two individuals, each at least 18 years of age, in which each individual is the other individual's sole domestic partner and both individuals share responsibility for a significant measure of each other's common welfare. The term includes any such relationship between two individuals, including individuals of the same sex, that is granted legal recognition by a State or political subdivision of a State as a marriage or analogous relationship, including a civil union or domestic partnership.
- (3) EMPLOY; STATE.—The terms "employ" and "State" have the meanings given the terms in section 3 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 203).

(4) Employee.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "employee" means any person employed by an employer. In the case of an individual employed by a public agency, such term means an individual em-

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ployed as described in section 3(e)(2) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 3 203(e)(2)).

(B) Basis.—The term includes a person employed as described in subparagraph (A) on a full- or part-time basis, for a fixed time period, on a temporary basis, pursuant to a detail, or as a participant in a work assignment as a condition of receipt of Federal or State incomebased public assistance.

(5) Employer.—The term "employer"—

- (A) means any person engaged in commerce or in any industry or activity affecting commerce who employs 15 or more individuals; and
- (B) includes any person acting directly or indirectly in the interest of an employer in relation to an employee, and includes a public agency that employs individuals as described in section 3(e)(2) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, but does not include any labor organization (other than when acting as an employer) or anyone acting in the capacity of officer or agent of such labor organization.

- (6) Employment benefits.—The term "em-1 2 ployment benefits" means all benefits provided or 3 made available to employees by an employer, includ-4 ing group life insurance, health insurance, disability 5 insurance, sick leave, annual leave, educational bene-6 fits, and pensions, regardless of whether such bene-7 fits are provided by a practice or written policy of 8 an employer or through an "employee benefit plan", 9 as defined in section 3(3) of the Employee Retire-10 ment Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 11 1002(3)).
 - (7) Family or household member", used with respect to a person, means an individual who—
 - (A) is a son or daughter, parent, spouse, domestic partner, or any other individual related by blood or affinity whose close association with the person is the equivalent of a family relationship; and
 - (B) is not the abuser (as defined in section 501) involved.
 - (8) Person.—The term "person" has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 203).

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1	(9) Public agency.—The term "public agen-
2	cy" has the meaning given the term in section 3 of
3	the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C.
4	203).
5	(10) Public Assistance.—The term "public
6	assistance" includes cash, benefits issued under a
7	supplement nutrition assistance program under sec-
8	tion 4 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7
9	U.S.C. 2013), medical assistance, housing assist-
10	ance, and other benefits provided on the basis of in-
11	come by a public agency.
12	(11) Survivor of domestic violence, dat-
13	ING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING.—
14	The term "survivor of domestic violence, dating vio-
15	lence, sexual assault, or stalking" includes—
16	(A) a person who has experienced or is ex-
17	periencing domestic violence, dating violence,
18	sexual assault, or stalking; and
19	(B) a person whose family or household
20	member has experienced or is experiencing do-
21	mestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault
22	or stalking.
23	(12) Survivor services organization.—The
24	term "survivor services organization" means a non-

profit, nongovernmental organization that provides

assistance to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or to advocates for such survivors, including a rape crisis center, an organization carrying out a domestic violence program, an organization operating a shelter or providing counseling services, an organization providing assistance through the legal process, or another entity that provides assistance to such survivors.

9 SEC. 202. ENTITLEMENT TO SAFE LEAVE FOR ADDRESSING

10 **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE,**11 **SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING.**

12 (a) SAFE LEAVE GENERALLY.—An employer shall provide each employee employed by the employer not less than 30 days of safe leave in a 12-month period to be 14 15 used as described in subsection (c). The 30 days of safe leave may be unpaid leave, except that the employee may 17 elect to substitute the leave earned by the employee under 18 subsection (b)(1) or under section 203. An employee may take not more than a total of 30 days of unpaid safe leave, 19 20 and 56 hours of paid safe leave earned by the employee 21 under subsection (b)(1), in a 12-month period under this 22 section (which may be taken intermittently or on a re-23 duced leave schedule), in addition to any leave taken under title I of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29)

1 U.S.C. 2611 et seq.), or subchapter V of chapter 63 of2 title 5, United States Code.

(b) Safe Leave.—

(1) In General.—In addition to the 30 days of safe leave described in subsection (a), the employer shall provide each employee employed by the employer not less than one hour of earned paid safe leave for every 30 hours worked, to be used as described in subsection (c). An employer shall not be required to permit an employee to earn, under this subsection, more than 56 hours of paid safe leave in a year, unless the employer chooses to set a higher limit.

(2) Exempt employees.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), for purposes of this subsection, an employee who is exempt from overtime requirements under section 13(a)(1) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 213(a)(1)) shall be assumed to work 40 hours in each workweek.

(B) Shorter Normal workweek.—If the normal workweek of such an employee is less than 40 hours, the employee shall earn paid safe leave based upon that normal workweek.

(3) Dates for Beginning to Earn Paid safe Leave and use.—Employees shall begin to earn paid safe leave under this subsection at the commencement of their employment. An employee shall be entitled to use the earned paid safe leave beginning on the 60th calendar day following commencement of the employee's employment. After that 60th calendar day, the employee may use the paid safe leave as the leave is earned. An employer may, at the discretion of the employer, loan paid safe leave to an employee for use by such employee in advance of the employee earning such safe leave as provided in this subsection and may permit use before the 60th day of employment.

(4) Carryover.—

- (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), paid safe leave earned under this subsection shall carry over from one year to the next.
- (B) Construction.—This title shall not be construed to require an employer to permit an employee to earn more than 56 hours of earned paid safe leave at a given time.

- Any employer with a paid leave policy who makes available an amount of paid leave that is sufficient to meet the requirements of this subsection and that may be used for the same purposes and under the same conditions as the purposes and conditions outlined in subsection (c) shall not be required to permit an employee to earn additional paid safe leave under this subsection.
 - (6) Construction.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring financial or other reimbursement to an employee from an employer upon the employee's termination, resignation, retirement, or other separation from employment for earned paid safe leave that has not been used.
 - (7) Reinstatement.—If an employee is separated from employment with an employer and is rehired, within 12 months after that separation, by the same employer, the employer shall (in addition to providing unpaid safe leave in accordance with subsection (a)) reinstate the employee's previously earned paid safe leave. The employee shall be entitled to use the earned paid safe leave and earn additional paid safe leave at the recommencement of employment with the employer.

1	(c) Uses.—Safe leave earned under this section may
2	be used by an employee for an absence resulting from do-
3	mestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalk-
4	ing, if the leave is to—
5	(1) seek medical attention for the employee or
6	the employee's family or household member, to re-
7	cover from physical or psychological injury or dis-
8	ability caused by domestic violence, dating violence,
9	sexual assault, or stalking;
10	(2) obtain or assist a family or household mem-
11	ber in obtaining services from a survivor services or-
12	ganization;
13	(3) obtain or assist a family or household mem-
14	ber in obtaining behavioral health services or coun-
15	seling;
16	(4) participate in safety planning, temporary or
17	permanent relocation, or taking other actions, to in-
18	crease the safety of the employee or family or house-
19	hold member; or
20	(5) take legal action, including preparing for or
21	participating in any civil or criminal legal proceeding
22	related to or resulting from domestic violence, dating
23	violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

(d) Procedures.—

1	(1) Request.—Safe leave shall be provided
2	upon the oral or written request of an employee.
3	Such request shall—
4	(A) include the expected duration of the
5	period of such leave; and
6	(B) be provided as soon as practicable
7	after the employee is aware of the need for such
8	period.
9	(2) Scheduling.—An employee shall make a
10	reasonable effort to schedule a period of safe leave
11	under this title in a manner that does not unduly
12	disrupt the operations of the employer, unless sched-
13	uling the period of leave in that manner is not prac-
14	ticable.
15	(3) Certification.—
16	(A) IN GENERAL.—An employer may re-
17	quire that a request for safe leave under this
18	section for a purpose described in subsection (c)
19	be supported—
20	(i) by any form of certification (but
21	the employer may not specify the par-
22	ticular form of certification to be provided)
23	consisting of—

1	(I) a sworn statement of the em-
2	ployee or the family or household
3	member, as the case may be;
4	(II) a police report indicating
5	that the employee, or a family or
6	household member of the employee,
7	was a survivor of domestic violence,
8	dating violence, sexual assault, or
9	stalking;
10	(III) a court order protecting or
11	separating the employee or a family or
12	household member of the employee
13	from the perpetrator of an act of do-
14	mestic violence, dating violence, sexual
15	assault, or stalking, or other evidence
16	from the court or prosecuting attorney
17	that the employee or family or house-
18	hold member has appeared in court or
19	is scheduled to appear in court in a
20	proceeding related to domestic vio-
21	lence, dating violence, sexual assault,
22	or stalking;
23	(IV) documentation from an em-
24	ployee or volunteer working for a sur-
25	vivor services organization, an attor-

1	ney, a police officer, a medical profes-
2	sional, a social worker, an antiviolence
3	counselor, a member of the clergy, or
4	another professional, affirming that
5	the employee or a family or household
6	member of the employee is a survivor
7	of domestic violence, dating violence,
8	sexual assault, or stalking; or
9	(V) other corroborating evidence
10	concerning the employee or family or
11	household member; and
12	(ii) if the survivor is the employee's
13	family or household member, in order to
14	verify the employee's relationship with the
15	survivor, by information that may include
16	a sworn statement of the employee, a birth
17	certificate, a court document, or other cor-
18	roborating evidence.
19	(B) Survivor information protec-
20	TIONS.—
21	(i) In GENERAL.—The certification
22	shall state the reason that the safe leave is
23	required with the facts to be disclosed lim-
24	ited to the minimum necessary to establish
25	a need for the employee to be absent from

1	work, and the employee shall not be re-
2	quired to explain the details of the domes-
3	tic violence, dating violence, sexual assault,
4	or stalking involved.
5	(ii) Limitation on information re-
6	QUIREMENTS.—An employer may not re-
7	quire an employee, in order to obtain leave
8	under this section, to produce, discuss with
9	the employer, or provide—
10	(I) any additional information,
11	beyond the information enumerated in
12	this subsection that establishes that
13	the employee is eligible for leave
14	under this section; or
15	(II) any information that would
16	compromise the safety of the employee
17	or family or household member in any
18	way.
19	(C) Timeliness.—The employee shall pro-
20	vide a copy of such certification to the employer
21	in a timely manner, not later than 30 days
22	after the first day of the period of leave to the
23	extent possible. The employer shall not delay
24	the commencement of the period of leave on the

1	basis that the employer has not yet received the
2	certification.
3	(4) Prohibition.—An employer may not re-
4	quire, as a condition of providing safe leave under
5	this title, that the employee involved search for or
6	find a replacement employee to cover the hours dur-
7	ing which the employee is using safe leave.
8	(e) Confidentiality; Nondisclosure for Sur-
9	VIVORS.—
10	(1) Confidentiality.—All information pro-
11	vided to the employer pursuant to subsection (c) or
12	(d), and the facts that the employee or family or
13	household member is a survivor of domestic violence,
14	dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and the
15	employee has requested or obtained safe leave pursu-
16	ant to this section, shall be retained in the strictest
17	confidence by the employer, except to the extent that
18	disclosure is—
19	(A) requested or consented to by the em-
20	ployee in writing; or
21	(B) otherwise required by applicable Fed-
22	eral or State law.
23	(2) Confidential communications.—The
24	provision of any information under this section does
25	not waive or diminish the confidential or privileged

1	nature of communications between a survivor of do-
2	mestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or
3	stalking with one or more of the individuals or enti-
4	ties providing information under subclause (II),
5	(III), (IV), or (V) of clause (i), or clause (ii), of sub-
6	section $(d)(3)(A)$.
7	(3) Nondisclosure.—If an employer pos-
8	sesses health information about an employee or an
9	employee's family or household member, such infor-
10	mation shall—
11	(A) be maintained on a separate form and
12	in a separate file from other personnel informa-
13	tion;
14	(B) be treated as a confidential medical
15	record; and
16	(C) not be disclosed except to the affected
17	employee or with the written permission of the
18	affected employee.
19	(f) Employment and Benefits.—
20	(1) Restoration to Position.—
21	(A) In general.—Except as provided in
22	paragraph (2), any employee who takes leave
23	under this section for the intended purpose of
24	the leave shall be entitled, on return from such
25	leave—

1	(i) to be restored by the employer to
2	the position of employment held by the em-
3	ployee when the leave commenced; or
4	(ii) to be restored to an equivalent po-
5	sition with equivalent employment benefits
6	pay, and other terms and conditions of em-
7	ployment.
8	(B) Loss of Benefits.—The taking of
9	leave under this section shall not result in the
10	loss of any employment benefit accrued prior to
11	the date on which the leave commenced.
12	(C) Limitations.—Nothing in this sub-
13	section shall be construed to entitle any re-
14	stored employee to any accrual, right, benefit
15	or position described in section 104(a)(3) of the
16	Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29
17	U.S.C. 2614(a)(3)).
18	(D) Construction.—Nothing in this
19	paragraph shall be construed to prohibit an em-
20	ployer from requiring an employee on leave
21	under this section to report periodically to the
22	employer on the status and intention of the em-
23	ployee to return to work.
24	(2) Exemption concerning certain highly
25	COMPENSATED EMPLOYEES.—

I	(A) DENIAL OF RESTORATION.—An em-
2	ployer may deny restoration under paragraph
3	(1) to any employee described in subparagraph
4	(B) if—
5	(i) such denial is necessary to prevent
6	substantial and grievous economic injury to
7	the operations of the employer;
8	(ii) the employer notifies the employee
9	of the intent of the employer to deny res-
10	toration on such basis at the time the em-
11	ployer determines that such injury would
12	occur; and
13	(iii) in any case in which the leave has
14	commenced, the employee elects not to re-
15	turn to employment after receiving such
16	notice.
17	(B) AFFECTED EMPLOYEES.—An employee
18	referred to in subparagraph (A) is a salaried
19	employee who is among the highest paid 10 per-
20	cent of the employees employed by the employer
21	within 75 miles of the facility at which the em-
22	ployee is employed.
23	(3) Maintenance of Health Benefits.—
24	(A) Coverage.—Except as provided in
25	subparagraph (B), during any period that an

1	employee takes leave under this section, the em-
2	ployer shall maintain coverage under any group
3	health plan (meaning a group health plan as
4	defined in section 5000(b)(1) of the Internal
5	Revenue Code of 1986 or an employee welfare
6	benefit plan as defined in section 3(1) of the
7	Employee Retirement Income Security Act of
8	1974 (29 U.S.C. 1002(1))) for the duration of
9	such leave at the level and under the conditions
10	coverage would have been provided if the em-
11	ployee had continued in employment continu-
12	ously for the duration of such leave.
13	(B) Failure to return from leave.—
14	The employer may recover the premium that
15	the employer paid for maintaining coverage for
16	the employee under such group health plan dur-
17	ing any period of leave under this section if—
18	(i) the employee fails to return from
19	leave under this section after the period of
20	leave to which the employee is entitled has
21	expired; and
22	(ii) the employee fails to return to
23	work for a reason other than—
24	(I) the continuation of, recur-
25	rence of, or onset of an episode of do-

1	mestic violence, dating violence, sexual
2	assault, or stalking, that entitles the
3	employee to leave pursuant to this
4	section; or
5	(II) other circumstances beyond
6	the control of the employee.
7	(C) CERTIFICATION.—
8	(i) Issuance.—An employer may re-
9	quire an employee who claims that the em-
10	ployee is unable to return to work because
11	of a reason described in subclause (I) or
12	(II) of subparagraph (B)(ii) to provide,
13	within a reasonable period after making
14	the claim, certification to the employer
15	that the employee is unable to return to
16	work because of the circumstances that
17	formed the basis for that claim.
18	(ii) Contents.—An employee may
19	satisfy the certification requirement of
20	clause (i) by providing to the employer—
21	(I) a sworn statement of the em-
22	ployee;
23	(II) documentation from an em-
24	ployee, agent, or volunteer of a sur-
25	vivor services organization, an attor-

1	ney, a member of the clergy, or a
2	medical or other professional, from
3	whom the employee's
4	family or household member has
5	sought assistance in addressing do-
6	mestic violence, dating violence, sexual
7	assault, or stalking, including the ef-
8	fects of domestic violence, dating vio-
9	lence, sexual assault, or stalking;
10	(III) a police or court record; or
11	(IV) other corroborating evi-
12	dence.
13	(D) LIMITATION ON INFORMATION RE-
14	QUIREMENTS.—An employer may not require
15	an employee, under subparagraph (C), to
16	produce, discuss with the employer, or pro-
17	vide—
18	(i) any additional information, beyond
19	the information enumerated in this para-
20	graph that establishes that the employee is
21	unable to return as described in subpara-
22	graph (C)(i); or
23	(ii) any information that would com-
24	promise the safety of the employee or fam-
25	ily or household member in any way.

1	(E) Confidentiality.—All information
2	provided to the employer pursuant to subpara-
3	graph (C), including a statement of the em-
4	ployee or any other documentation, record, or
5	corroborating evidence, and the fact that the
6	employee is not returning to work because of a
7	reason described in subclause (I) or (II) of sub-
8	paragraph (B)(ii), shall be retained in the
9	strictest confidence by the employer, except to
10	the extent that disclosure is—
11	(i) requested or consented to by the
12	employee in writing; or
13	(ii) otherwise required by applicable
14	Federal or State law.
15	(F) Confidential communications.—
16	The provision of any information under this
17	paragraph does not waive or diminish the con-
18	fidential or privileged nature of communications
19	between a survivor of domestic violence, dating
20	violence, sexual assault, or stalking with one or
21	more of the individuals or entities providing in-
22	formation under subclause (II), (III), or (IV) of
23	subparagraph (C)(ii).
24	(g) Prohibited Acts.—

1	(1) Interference with rights.—Section
2	105(a) of the Family and Medical Leave Act of
3	1993 (29 U.S.C. 2615(a)) shall apply with respect
4	to this title.
5	(2) Interference with proceedings or in-
6	QUIRIES.—Section 105(b) of the Family and Medical
7	Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. 2615(b)) shall apply
8	with respect to this title.
9	(3) Public agency sanctions.—It shall be
10	unlawful for any public agency to deny, reduce, or
11	terminate the benefits of, or otherwise sanction any
12	individual, or otherwise discriminate (including har-
13	assment or retaliation in any form or manner)
14	against any individual with respect to the amount,
15	terms, or conditions of public assistance of the indi-
16	vidual, because the individual—
17	(A) exercised or attempted to exercise any
18	right provided under this section for the indi-
19	vidual or the individual's family or household
20	member; or
21	(B) opposed any practice made unlawful by
22	this section.
23	(h) Enforcement.—
24	(1) CIVIL ACTION BY AFFECTED INDIVID-
25	UALS.—

1	(A) Liability.—Any employer that vio-
2	lates subsection (g) shall be liable to any indi-
3	vidual affected—
4	(i) for damages equal to—
5	(I) the amount of—
6	(aa) any wages, salary, em-
7	ployment benefits, or other com-
8	pensation denied or lost to such
9	individual by reason of the viola-
10	tion; or
11	(bb) in a case in which
12	wages, salary, employment bene-
13	fits, or other compensation has
14	not been denied or lost to the in-
15	dividual, any actual monetary
16	losses sustained by the individual
17	as a direct result of the violation;
18	(II) the interest on the amount
19	described in subclause (I) calculated
20	at the prevailing rate; and
21	(III) an additional amount as liq-
22	uidated damages equal to the sum of
23	the amount described in subclause (I)
24	and the interest described in sub-
25	clause (II), except that if an employer

1	that has violated subsection (g) proves
2	to the satisfaction of the court that
3	the act or omission that violated sub-
4	section (g) was in good faith and that
5	the employer had reasonable grounds
6	for believing that the act or omission
7	was not a violation of subsection (g),
8	such court may, in the discretion of
9	the court, reduce the amount of the li-
10	ability to the amount and interest de-
11	termined under subclauses (I) and
12	(II), respectively; and
13	(ii) for such equitable relief as may be
14	appropriate, including employment, rein-
15	statement, and promotion.
16	(B) RIGHT OF ACTION.—An action to re-
17	cover the damages or equitable relief prescribed
18	in subparagraph (A) may be maintained against
19	any employer in any Federal or State court of
20	competent jurisdiction by any one or more af-
21	fected individuals for and on behalf of—
22	(i) the individuals; or
23	(ii) the individuals and other individ-
24	uals similarly situated.

1	(C) FEES AND COSTS.—The court in such
2	an action shall, in addition to any judgment
3	awarded to the plaintiff, allow a reasonable at-
4	torney's fee, reasonable expert witness fees, and
5	other costs of the action to be paid by the de-
6	fendant.
7	(D) LIMITATIONS.—The right provided by
8	subparagraph (B) to bring an action by or on
9	behalf of any affected individual shall termi-
10	nate—
11	(i) on the filing of a complaint by the
12	Secretary of Labor in an action under
13	paragraph (4) in which restraint is sought
14	of any further delay in the payment of the
15	amount described in subparagraph (A)(i)
16	to such individual by an employer respon-
17	sible under subparagraph (A) for the pay-
18	ment; or
19	(ii) on the filing of a complaint by the
20	Secretary of Labor in an action under
21	paragraph (2) in which a recovery is
22	sought of the damages described in sub-
23	paragraph (A)(i) owing to an affected indi-
24	vidual by an employer liable under sub-

paragraph (A),

unless the action described in clause (i) or (ii)
is dismissed without prejudice on motion of the
Secretary of Labor.

(2) ACTION BY THE SECRETARY OF LABOR.—

- (A) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION.—The Secretary of Labor shall receive, investigate, and attempt to resolve complaints of violations of subsection (g) in the same manner as the Secretary of Labor receives, investigates, and attempts to resolve complaints of violations of sections 6 and 7 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206 and 207).
- (B) CIVIL ACTION.—The Secretary of Labor may bring an action in any court of competent jurisdiction to recover the damages described in paragraph (1)(A)(i).
- (C) SUMS RECOVERED.—Any sums recovered by the Secretary of Labor pursuant to subparagraph (B) shall be held in a special deposit account and shall be paid, on order of the Secretary, directly to each individual affected. Any such sums not paid to such an individual because of inability to do so within a period of three years shall be deposited into the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

1 (3) Limitation.— 2 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), an action may be brought 3 4 under this subsection not later than two years after the date of the last event constituting the 6 alleged violation for which the action is brought. 7 (B) WILLFUL VIOLATION.—In the case of such action brought for a willful violation of 8 9 subsection (g), such action may be brought within three years after the date of the last 10 11 event constituting the alleged violation for 12 which such action is brought. 13 (\mathbf{C}) COMMENCEMENT.—In determining 14 when an action is commenced by the Secretary 15 of Labor under this subsection for the purposes 16 of this paragraph, it shall be considered to be 17 commenced on the date when the complaint is 18 filed. 19 (4) ACTION FOR INJUNCTION BY SECRETARY 20 OF LABOR.—The district courts of the United States 21 shall have jurisdiction, for cause shown, in an action 22 brought by the Secretary of Labor— 23 (A) to restrain violations of subsection (g), 24 including the restraint of any withholding of

payment of wages, salary, employment benefits,

1	or other compensation, plus interest, found by
2	the court to be due to affected individuals; or
3	(B) to award such other equitable relief as
4	may be appropriate, including employment, re-
5	instatement, and promotion.
6	(5) Solicitor of Labor.—The Solicitor of
7	Labor may appear for and represent the Secretary
8	of Labor on any litigation brought under this sub-
9	section.
10	(6) Employer liability under other
11	LAWS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to
12	limit the liability of an employer or public agency to
13	an individual, for harm suffered relating to the indi-
14	vidual's experience of domestic violence, dating vio-
15	lence, sexual assault, or stalking, pursuant to any
16	other Federal or State law, including a law providing
17	for a legal remedy.
18	(7) Library of congress.—Notwithstanding
19	any other provision of this subsection, in the case of
20	the Library of Congress, the authority of the Sec-
21	retary of Labor under this subsection shall be exer-
22	cised by the Librarian of Congress.
23	(8) CERTAIN PUBLIC AGENCY EMPLOYERS.—
24	(A) Agencies.—Notwithstanding any
25	other provision of this subsection, in the case of

a public agency that employs individuals as described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of section 3(e)(2) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 203(e)(2)) (other than an entity of the legislative branch of the Federal Government), subparagraph (B) shall apply.

- (B) AUTHORITY.—In the case described in subparagraph (A), the powers, remedies, and procedures provided in the case of a violation of chapter 63 of title 5, United States Code, in that title to an employing agency, in chapter 12 of that title to the Merit Systems Protection Board, or in that title to any person alleging a violation of chapter 63 of that title, shall be the powers, remedies, and procedures this subsection provides in the case of a violation of subsection (g) to that agency, that Board, or any person alleging a violation of subsection (g), concerning an employee who is an individual described in subparagraph (A).
- (9) Public agencies providing public assistance.—Consistent with regulations prescribed under section 206(d), the President shall ensure that any public agency that violates subsection (g)(3), or subsection (g)(2) by discriminating as described in

1	subsection (g)(3), shall provide to any individual who
2	receives a less favorable amount, term, or condition
3	of public assistance as a result of the violation—
4	(A)(i) the amount of any public assistance
5	denied or lost to such individual by reason of
6	the violation; and
7	(ii) the interest on the amount described in
8	clause (i), calculated at the prevailing rate; and
9	(B) such equitable relief as may be appro-
10	priate.
11	SEC. 203. EXISTING LEAVE USABLE FOR ADDRESSING DO-
12	MESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEX-
13	UAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING.
14	An employee who is entitled to take paid or unpaid
15	lears (including family medical sick annual personal on
IJ	leave (including family, medical, sick, annual, personal, or
16	similar leave) from employment, pursuant to State or local
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16 17	similar leave) from employment, pursuant to State or local
16 17	similar leave) from employment, pursuant to State or local law, a collective bargaining agreement, or an employment benefits program or plan, may elect to substitute any pe-
16 17 18	similar leave) from employment, pursuant to State or local law, a collective bargaining agreement, or an employment benefits program or plan, may elect to substitute any period of such leave for an equivalent period of leave pro-
16 17 18	similar leave) from employment, pursuant to State or local law, a collective bargaining agreement, or an employment benefits program or plan, may elect to substitute any period of such leave for an equivalent period of leave pro-
16 17 18 19 20	similar leave) from employment, pursuant to State or local law, a collective bargaining agreement, or an employment benefits program or plan, may elect to substitute any period of such leave for an equivalent period of leave provided under section 202.
16 17 18 19 20 21	similar leave) from employment, pursuant to State or local law, a collective bargaining agreement, or an employment benefits program or plan, may elect to substitute any period of such leave for an equivalent period of leave provided under section 202. SEC. 204. EMERGENCY BENEFITS.
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	similar leave) from employment, pursuant to State or local law, a collective bargaining agreement, or an employment benefits program or plan, may elect to substitute any period of such leave for an equivalent period of leave provided under section 202. SEC. 204. EMERGENCY BENEFITS. (a) IN GENERAL.—A State may use funds provided

- 1 of leave the individual takes pursuant to section 202 of 2 this Act.
- 3 (b) Eligibility.—
- (1) IN GENERAL.—An individual who is eligible for assistance under the State program funded under that part and for leave under section 202 shall be eligible for such emergency benefits, except as provided in paragraph (2).
- 9 (2) CALCULATION.—In calculating eligibility for 10 such emergency benefits, the State shall count only 11 the cash available or accessible to the individual.
- 12 (c) Timing.—
- 13 (1) APPLICATIONS.—An individual seeking 14 emergency benefits under subsection (a) from a 15 State shall submit an application to the State.
- 16 (2) BENEFITS.—The State shall provide bene-17 fits to an eligible applicant under paragraph (1) on 18 an expedited basis, and not later than seven days 19 after the applicant submits an application under 20 paragraph (1).
- 21 SEC. 205. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.
- 22 (a) More Protective Laws, Agreements, Pro-
- 23 GRAMS, AND PLANS.—Nothing in this title shall be con-
- 24 strued to supersede any provision of any Federal, State,

1	or local law, collective bargaining agreement, or employ-
2	ment benefits program or plan that provides—
3	(1) greater leave rights for survivors of domes-
4	tic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalk-
5	ing than the rights established under this Act; or
6	(2) leave benefits for a larger population of sur-
7	vivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual
8	assault, or stalking (as defined in such law, agree-
9	ment, program, or plan) than the survivors of do-
10	mestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or
11	stalking covered under this Act.
12	(b) Less Protective Laws, Agreements, Pro-
13	GRAMS, AND PLANS.—The rights established for survivors
14	of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or
15	stalking under this Act shall not be diminished by any
16	State or local law, collective bargaining agreement, or em-
17	ployment benefits program or plan.
18	SEC. 206. REGULATIONS.
19	(a) In General.—
20	(1) Authority to issue regulations.—Ex-
21	cept as provided in subsections (b), (c), and (d), the
22	Secretary of Labor shall issue regulations to carry
23	out this title.
24	(2) REGULATIONS REGARDING NOTICES.—The
25	regulations described in paragraph (1) shall include

- 1 regulations requiring every employer to post and
- 2 keep posted, in conspicuous places on the premises
- 3 of the employer where notices to employees are cus-
- 4 tomarily placed, a notice, to be prepared or approved
- 5 by the Secretary of Labor, summarizing the provi-
- 6 sions of this title and providing information on pro-
- 7 cedures for filing complaints. The Secretary of
- 8 Labor shall develop such a notice and provide copies
- 9 to employers upon request without charge.
- 10 (b) Library of Congress.—The Librarian of Con-
- 11 gress shall prescribe the regulations described in sub-
- 12 section (a) with respect to employees of the Library of
- 13 Congress. The regulations prescribed under this sub-
- 14 section shall, to the extent appropriate, be consistent with
- 15 the regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Labor under
- 16 subsection (a).
- 17 (c) CERTAIN PUBLIC AGENCY EMPLOYERS.—The Of-
- 18 fice of Personnel Management shall prescribe the regula-
- 19 tions described in subsection (a) with respect to individ-
- 20 uals described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of section
- 21 3(e)(2) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29
- 22 U.S.C. 203(e)(2)) (other than an individual employed by
- 23 an entity of the legislative branch of the Federal Govern-
- 24 ment). The regulations prescribed under this subsection
- 25 shall, to the extent appropriate, be consistent with the reg-

- 1 ulations prescribed by the Secretary of Labor under sub-
- 2 section (a).
- 3 (d) Public Agencies Providing Public Assist-
- 4 ANCE.—The President shall prescribe the regulations de-
- 5 scribed in subsection (a) with respect to applicants for and
- 6 recipients of public assistance, in the case of violations of
- 7 section 202(g)(3), or section 202(g)(2) due to discrimina-
- 8 tion described in section 202(g)(3). The regulations pre-
- 9 scribed under this subsection shall, to the extent appro-
- 10 priate, be consistent with the regulations prescribed by the
- 11 Secretary of Labor under subsection (a).

12 TITLE III—SURVIVORS'

13 EMPLOYMENT SUSTAINABILITY

- 14 SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.
- This title may be cited as the "Survivors' Employ-
- 16 ment Sustainability Act".
- 17 SEC. 302. PROHIBITED DISCRIMINATORY ACTS.
- 18 (a) IN GENERAL.—It shall be unlawful for an em-
- 19 ployer to fail or refuse to hire or discharge any individual,
- 20 or otherwise discriminate (including harassment or retalia-
- 21 tion in any form or manner) against any individual with
- 22 respect to the compensation, terms, conditions, or privi-
- 23 leges of employment of the individual, and it shall be un-
- 24 lawful for a public agency to deny, reduce, or terminate
- 25 the benefits of, or otherwise sanction any individual, or

- 1 otherwise discriminate (including harassment or retalia-
- 2 tion in any form or manner) against any individual with
- 3 respect to the amount, terms, or conditions of public as-
- 4 sistance of the individual, because—

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- (1) the individual involved is or the employer or public agency involved perceives that individual to be a survivor of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or a survivor of communication of an intimate image of the individual;
 - (2) that individual attended, participated in, prepared for, or requested leave to attend, participate in, or prepare for, a criminal or civil court proceeding relating to an incident that caused the individual to be a survivor of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or a survivor of communication of an intimate image of the individual;
 - (3) that individual, in response to actual or threatened domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or actual or threatened communication of an intimate image of the individual, requested that the employer or public agency implement a reasonable safety procedure or a job-related modification to enhance the security of that individual or safeguard the workplace involved; or

1 (4) the workplace is disrupted or threatened by
2 the action of a person whom that individual states
3 has committed or threatened to commit an act that
4 caused or would cause the individual to be a survivor
5 of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault,
6 or stalking, or a survivor of communication of an in7 timate image of the individual.

(b) Definitions.—In this section:

- (1) Communication of an intimate IMAGE.—The term "communication of an intimate image", used with respect to an individual, includes a transmission, dissemination, or receipt through electronic or other communication containing at least one intimate image of the individual that appears to have been transmitted or disseminated by a person who—
 - (A) obtained the image under circumstances in which a reasonable person would know or understand that the image was to remain private;
 - (B) knows or should have known that the depicted individual has not consented to the disclosure of the image; and

- 1 (C) knows or reasonably should know that
 2 the disclosure would cause harm to the depicted
 3 individual.
 - (2) DISCRIMINATE.—The term "discriminate", used with respect to the terms, conditions, or privileges of employment or with respect to the terms or conditions of public assistance, includes failing to implement, on request from an individual, in response to actual or threatened domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or actual or threatened communication of an intimate image of the individual, a reasonable safety procedure or a job-related modification to enhance the security of that individual or safeguard the workplace involved (such as installation of a lock, change of a telephone number or seating assignment, provision of a transfer, provision of leave, modification of a schedule, or adjustment of a work requirement), unless the employer or public agency can demonstrate that granting the request would impose an undue hardship on the operation of the employer or public agency.
 - (3) Domestic violence; dating violence; sexual assault; stalking.—The terms "domestic violence", "dating violence", "sexual assault", and "stalking" have the meanings given the terms in sec-

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1	tion 40002 of the Violence Against Women Act of
2	1994 (34 U.S.C. 12291).
3	(4) Intimate image.—The term "intimate
4	image" means any photograph, motion picture film,
5	videotape, digital image, image from social media, or
6	any other recording or other image of an individual
7	(other than the person taking the image) who is
8	identifiable from the image itself or from informa-
9	tion displayed with or otherwise connected to the
10	image, that—
11	(A) was taken in a private setting;
12	(B) does not depict a matter of public con-
13	cern; and
14	(C) depicts—
15	(i) sexual activity, including sexual
16	intercourse or masturbation; or
17	(ii) a person's intimate body parts,
18	whether nude or visible through less than
19	opaque clothing.
20	(5) Safe leave terms.—The terms "employ",
21	"employee", "employer", "employment benefits",
22	"person", "public agency", "public assistance",
23	"State", and "survivor of domestic violence, dating
24	violence, sexual assault, or stalking" have the mean-
25	ings given the terms in section 201.

1	(6) Undue Hardship.—The term "undue
2	hardship" means an action requiring significant dif-
3	ficulty or expense.
4	SEC. 303. ENFORCEMENT.
5	(a) Civil Action by Individuals.—
6	(1) Liability.—Any employer that violates sec-
7	tion 302 shall be liable to any individual affected
8	for—
9	(A) damages equal to the amount of any
10	wages, salary, employment benefits, or other
11	compensation denied or lost to such individual
12	by reason of the violation, and the interest on
13	that amount calculated at the prevailing rate;
14	(B) compensatory damages, including dam-
15	ages for future pecuniary losses, emotional
16	pain, suffering, inconvenience, mental anguish,
17	loss of enjoyment or life, and other nonpecu-
18	niary losses;
19	(C) such punitive damages, up to three
20	times the amount of actual damages sustained,
21	as the court described in paragraph (2) shall
22	determine to be appropriate; and
23	(D) such equitable relief as may be appro-
24	priate, including employment, reinstatement,
25	and promotion.
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- 1 (2) RIGHT OF ACTION.—An action to recover 2 the damages or equitable relief prescribed in para-3 graph (1) may be maintained against any employer in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdic-4 5 tion by any one or more affected individuals de-6 scribed in section 302. 7 (b) ACTION BY SECRETARY OF LABOR.—The Sec-8 retary of Labor may bring a civil action in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdiction to recover the 10 damages or equitable relief described in subsection (a)(1). 11 (c) Library of Congress.—Notwithstanding any 12 other provision of this section, in the case of the Library 13 of Congress, the authority of the Secretary of Labor under this section shall be exercised by the Librarian of Con-14 15 gress. (d) CERTAIN PUBLIC AGENCY EMPLOYERS.— 16 17 AGENCIES.—Notwithstanding any 18 provision of this section, in the case of a public 19 agency that employs individuals as described in sub-
- Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 203(e)(2))

 (other than an entity of the legislative branch of the Federal Government), paragraph (2) shall apply.

paragraph (A) or (B) of section 3(e)(2) of the Fair

24 (2) AUTHORITY.—In the case described in 25 paragraph (1), the powers, remedies, and procedures

- 1 provided (in the case of a violation of section
- 2 2302(b)(1)(A) of title 5, United States Code) in title
- 5, United States Code, to an employing agency, the
- 4 Office of Special Counsel, the Merit Systems Protec-
- 5 tion Board, or any person alleging a violation of
- 6 such section 2302(b)(1)(A), shall be the powers,
- 7 remedies, and procedures this section provides in the
- 8 case of a violation of section 302 to that agency,
- 9 that Office, that Board, or any person alleging a vio-
- lation of section 302, respectively, concerning an em-
- 11 ployee who is an individual described in paragraph
- 12 (1).
- 13 (e) Public Agencies Providing Public Assist-
- 14 ANCE.—Consistent with regulations prescribed under sec-
- 15 tion 304(d), the President shall ensure that any public
- 16 agency that violates section 302(a) by taking an action
- 17 prohibited under section 302(a) with respect to the
- 18 amount, terms, or conditions of public assistance, shall
- 19 provide to any individual who receives a less favorable
- 20 amount, term, or condition of public assistance as a result
- 21 of the violation—
- 22 (1)(A) the amount of any public assistance de-
- 23 nied or lost to such individual by reason of the viola-
- 24 tion; and

- 1 (B) the interest on the amount described in
- 2 subparagraph (A), calculated at the prevailing rate;
- 3 and
- 4 (2) such equitable relief as may be appropriate.

5 SEC. 304. REGULATIONS.

- 6 (a) In General.—Except as provided in subsections
- 7 (b), (c), and (d), the Secretary of Labor shall issue regula-
- 8 tions to carry out this title.
- 9 (b) Library of Congress.—The Librarian of Con-
- 10 gress shall prescribe the regulations described in sub-
- 11 section (a) with respect to employees of the Library of
- 12 Congress. The regulations prescribed under this sub-
- 13 section shall, to the extent appropriate, be consistent with
- 14 the regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Labor under
- 15 subsection (a).
- 16 (c) CERTAIN PUBLIC AGENCY EMPLOYERS.—The Of-
- 17 fice of Personnel Management, after consultation with the
- 18 Office of Special Counsel and the Merit Systems Protec-
- 19 tion Board, shall prescribe the regulations described in
- 20 subsection (a) with respect to individuals described in sub-
- 21 paragraph (A) or (B) of section 3(e)(2) of the Fair Labor
- 22 Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 203(e)(2)) (other than
- 23 an individual employed by an entity of the legislative
- 24 branch of the Federal Government). The regulations pre-
- 25 scribed under this subsection shall, to the extent appro-

- 1 priate, be consistent with the regulations prescribed by the
- 2 Secretary of Labor under subsection (a).
- 3 (d) Public Agencies Providing Public Assist-
- 4 ANCE.—The President shall prescribe the regulations de-
- 5 scribed in subsection (a) with respect to applicants for and
- 6 recipients of public assistance, in the case of violations of
- 7 section 302(a) by a public agency due to taking an action
- 8 prohibited under section 302(a) with respect to the
- 9 amount, terms, or conditions of public assistance. The reg-
- 10 ulations prescribed under this subsection shall, to the ex-
- 11 tent appropriate, be consistent with the regulations pre-
- 12 scribed by the Secretary of Labor under subsection (a).
- 13 SEC. 305. ATTORNEY'S FEES.
- Section 722(b) of the Revised Statutes (42 U.S.C.
- 15 1988(b)) is amended by inserting "the Survivors' Employ-
- 16 ment Sustainability Act," after "title VI of the Civil
- 17 Rights Act of 1964,".

1	TITLE IV—ENTITLEMENT TO UN-
2	EMPLOYMENT COMPENSA-
3	TION FOR SURVIVORS OF DO-
4	MESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING
5	VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT,
6	OR STALKING
7	SEC. 401. UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION AND TRAINING
8	PROVISIONS.
9	(a) Unemployment Compensation.—Section 3304
10	of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to approval
11	of State unemployment compensation laws) is amended—
12	(1) in subsection (a)—
13	(A) in paragraph (18), by striking "and"
14	at the end;
15	(B) by redesignating paragraph (19) as
16	paragraph (20); and
17	(C) by inserting after paragraph (18) the
18	following new paragraph:
19	"(19) compensation shall not be denied where
20	an individual is separated from employment due to
21	circumstances resulting from the individual being a
22	survivor of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual
23	assault, or stalking, nor shall States impose addi-
24	tional conditions that restrict the individual's eligi-
25	bility for or receipt of benefits beyond those required

1	of other individuals who are forced to leave their
2	jobs or are deemed to have good cause for volun-
3	tarily separating from a job in the State; and"; and
4	(2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
5	section:
6	"(g) Construction.—For purposes of subsection
7	(a)(19)—
8	"(1) Documentation.—In determining eligi-
9	bility for compensation due to circumstances result-
10	ing from an individual being a survivor of domestic
11	violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalk-
12	ing—
13	"(A) States shall adopt, or have adopted,
14	by statute, regulation, or policy a list of forms
15	of documentation that may be presented to
16	demonstrate eligibility; and
17	"(B) presentation of any one of such forms
18	of documentation shall be sufficient to dem-
19	onstrate eligibility, except that a State may re-
20	quire the presentation of a form of identifica-
21	tion in addition to the sworn statement of appli-
22	cant described in paragraph (2)(A).
23	"(2) List of forms of documentation.—
24	The list referred to in paragraph (1)(A) shall, at a

1	minimum, include the following forms of documenta-
2	tion:
3	"(A) A sworn statement of the applicant.
4	"(B) A police or court record concerning
5	the applicant.
6	"(C) Documentation from an employee or
7	volunteer working for a survivor services organi-
8	zation, an attorney, a police officer, a medical
9	professional, a social worker, an antiviolence
10	counselor, a member of the clergy, or another
11	professional, affirming that the applicant is a
12	survivor of domestic violence, dating violence,
13	sexual assault, or stalking.
14	"(3) Definitions.—The terms 'domestic vio-
15	lence', 'dating violence', 'sexual assault', 'stalking',
16	'survivor of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual
17	assault, or stalking', and 'survivor services organiza-
18	tion' have the meanings given such terms in section
19	201 of the Security And Financial Empowerment
20	Act of 2019.".
21	(b) Unemployment Compensation Personnel
22	Training.—Section 303(a) of the Social Security Act (42
23	U.S.C. 503(a)) is amended—

1	(1) by redesignating paragraphs (4) through
2	(12) as paragraphs (5) through (13), respectively;
3	and
4	(2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-
5	lowing new paragraph:
6	"(4) Such methods of administration as will en-
7	sure that—
8	"(A) applicants for unemployment com-
9	pensation and individuals inquiring about such
10	compensation are adequately notified of the
11	provisions of subsections (a)(19) and (g) of sec-
12	tion 3304 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986
13	(relating to the availability of unemployment
14	compensation for survivors of domestic violence,
15	dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking); and
16	"(B) claims reviewers and hearing per-
17	sonnel are adequately trained in—
18	"(i) the nature and dynamics of do-
19	mestic violence, dating violence, sexual as-
20	sault, or stalking (as such terms are de-
21	fined in section 201 of the Security And
22	Financial Empowerment Act of 2019); and
23	"(ii) methods of ascertaining and
24	keeping confidential information about pos-
25	sible experiences of domestic violence, dat-

1	ing violence, sexual assault, or stalking (as
2	so defined) to ensure that—
3	"(I) requests for unemployment
4	compensation based on separations
5	stemming from domestic violence, dat-
6	ing violence, sexual assault, or stalk-
7	ing (as so defined) are reliably
8	screened, identified, and adjudicated;
9	and
10	"(II) full confidentiality is pro-
11	vided for the individual's claim and
12	submitted evidence; and".
13	(c) TANF Personnel Training.—Section 402(a)
14	of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 602(a)) is amended
15	by adding at the end the following new paragraph:
16	"(8) CERTIFICATION THAT THE STATE WILL
17	PROVIDE INFORMATION TO SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC
18	VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR
19	STALKING.—A certification by the chief officer of
20	the State that the State has established and is en-
21	forcing standards and procedures to—
22	"(A) ensure that applicants for assistance
23	under the program and individuals inquiring
24	about such assistance are adequately notified
25	of—

1	"(i) the provisions of subsections
2	(a)(19) and (g) of section 3304 of the In-
3	ternal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to
4	the availability of unemployment com-
5	pensation for survivors of domestic vio-
6	lence, dating violence, sexual assault, or
7	stalking); and
8	"(ii) assistance made available by the
9	State to survivors of domestic violence,
10	dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking
11	(as defined in section 201 of the Security
12	And Financial Empowerment Act of
13	2019);
14	"(B) ensure that case workers and other
15	agency personnel responsible for administering
16	the State program funded under this part are
17	adequately trained in—
18	"(i) the nature and dynamics of do-
19	mestic violence, dating violence, sexual as-
20	sault, or stalking (as such terms are de-
21	fined in section 201 of the Security And
22	Financial Empowerment Act of 2019);
23	"(ii) State standards and procedures
24	relating to the prevention of, and assist-
25	ance for individuals who are survivors of.

1	domestic violence, dating violence, sexual
2	assault, or stalking (as so defined); and
3	"(iii) methods of ascertaining and
4	keeping confidential information about pos-
5	sible experiences of domestic violence, dat-
6	ing violence, sexual assault, or stalking (as
7	so defined);
8	"(C) if a State has elected to establish and
9	enforce standards and procedures regarding the
10	screening for, and identification of, domestic vi-
11	olence pursuant to paragraph (7), ensure
12	that—
13	"(i) applicants for assistance under
14	the program and individuals inquiring
15	about such assistance are adequately noti-
16	fied of options available under such stand-
17	ards and procedures; and
18	"(ii) case workers and other agency
19	personnel responsible for administering the
20	State program funded under this part are
21	provided with adequate training regarding
22	such standards and procedures and options
23	available under such standards and proce-
24	dures; and

1	"(D) ensure that the training required
2	under subparagraphs (B) and, if applicable,
3	(C)(ii) is provided through a training program
4	operated by an eligible entity (as defined in sec-
5	tion 401(d)(2) of the Security And Financial
6	Empowerment Act of 2019).".
7	(d) Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sex-
8	UAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING TRAINING GRANT PRO-
9	GRAM.—
10	(1) Grants authorized.—The Secretary of
11	Labor (in this subsection referred to as the "Sec-
12	retary'') is authorized to award—
13	(A) a grant to a national survivor services
14	organization in order for such organization to—
15	(i) develop and disseminate a model
16	training program (and related materials)
17	for the training required under section
18	303(a)(4)(B) of the Social Security Act, as
19	added by subsection (b), and under sub-
20	paragraphs (B) and, if applicable, (C)(ii)
21	of section 402(a)(8) of such Act, as added
22	by subsection (e); and
23	(ii) provide technical assistance with
24	respect to such model training program;
25	and

1	(B) grants to State, tribal, or local agen-
2	cies in order for such agencies to contract with
3	eligible entities to provide State, tribal, or local
4	case workers and other State, tribal, or local
5	agency personnel responsible for administering
6	the temporary assistance to needy families pro-
7	gram established under part A of title IV of the
8	Social Security Act in a State or Indian res-
9	ervation with the training required under sub-
10	paragraphs (B) and, if applicable, (C)(ii) of
11	such section 402(a)(8).
12	(2) Eligible entity defined.—For purposes
13	of paragraph (1)(B), the term "eligible entity"
14	means an entity—
15	(A) that is—
16	(i) a State or tribal domestic violence
17	coalition or sexual assault coalition;
18	(ii) a State or local survivor services
19	organization with recognized expertise in
20	the dynamics of domestic violence, dating
21	violence, sexual assault, or stalking whose
22	primary mission is to provide services to
23	survivors of domestic violence, dating vio-

lence, sexual assault, or stalking, such as

1	a rape crisis center or domestic violence
2	program; or
3	(iii) an organization with dem-
4	onstrated expertise in State or county wel-
5	fare laws and implementation of such laws
6	and experience with disseminating informa-
7	tion on such laws and implementation, but
8	only if such organization will provide the
9	required training in partnership with an
10	entity described in clause (i) or (ii); and
11	(B) that—
12	(i) has demonstrated expertise in the
13	dynamics of both domestic violence and
14	sexual assault, such as a joint domestic vi-
15	olence and sexual assault coalition; or
16	(ii) will provide the required training
17	in partnership with an entity described in
18	clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) in
19	order to comply with the dual domestic vio-
20	lence and sexual assault expertise require-
21	ment under clause (i).
22	(3) APPLICATION.—An entity seeking a grant
23	under this subsection shall submit an application to
24	the Secretary at such time, in such form and man-

1	ner, and containing such information as the Sec-
2	retary specifies.
3	(4) Reports.—
4	(A) Reports to congress.—The Sec-
5	retary shall annually submit a report to Con-
6	gress on the grant program established under
7	this subsection.
8	(B) Reports available to public.—
9	The Secretary shall establish procedures for the
10	dissemination to the public of each report sub-
11	mitted under subparagraph (A). Such proce-
12	dures shall include the use of the Internet to
13	disseminate such reports.
14	(5) Authorization of appropriations.—
15	(A) Authorization.—There are author-
16	ized to be appropriated—
17	(i) $$1,000,000$ for fiscal year 2020 to
18	carry out the provisions of paragraph
19	(1)(A); and
20	(ii) \$12,000,000 for each of fiscal
21	years 2021 through 2024 to carry out the
22	provisions of paragraph (1)(B).
23	(B) THREE-YEAR AVAILABILITY OF GRANT
24	FUNDS.—Each recipient of a grant under this
25	subsection shall return to the Secretary any un-

used portion of such grant not later than 3
years after the date the grant was awarded, together with any earnings on such unused portion.

(C) AMOUNTS RETURNED.—Any amounts returned pursuant to subparagraph (B) shall be available without further appropriation to the Secretary for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of paragraph (1)(B).

(e) Effect on Existing Laws, etc.—

- (1) More protective laws, agreements, Programs, and plans.—Nothing in this title shall be construed to supersede any provision of any Federal, State, or local law, collective bargaining agreement, or employment benefits program or plan that provides greater unemployment insurance benefits for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking than the rights established under this title.
- (2) Less protective laws, agreements, programs, and plans.—The rights established for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking under this title shall not be diminished by any more restrictive State or local

1	law, collective bargaining agreement, or employment
2	benefits program or plan.
3	(f) Effective Date.—
4	(1) Unemployment amendments.—
5	(A) In general.—Except as provided in
6	subparagraph (B) and paragraph (2), the
7	amendments made by this section shall apply in
8	the case of compensation paid for weeks begin-
9	ning on or after the expiration of 180 days
10	from the date of enactment of this Act.
11	(B) Extension of effective date for
12	STATE LAW AMENDMENT.—
13	(i) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of
14	Labor identifies a State as requiring a
15	change to its statutes, regulations, or poli-
16	cies in order to comply with the amend-
17	ments made by this section (excluding the
18	amendment made by subsection (c)), such
19	amendments shall apply in the case of
20	compensation paid for weeks beginning
21	after the earlier of—
22	(I) the date the State changes its
23	statutes, regulations, or policies in
24	order to comply with such amend-
25	ments; or

1	(II) the end of the first session of
2	the State legislature which begins
3	after the date of enactment of this
4	Act or which began prior to such date
5	and remained in session for at least
6	25 calendar days after such date,
7	except that in no case shall such amend-
8	ments apply before the date that is 180
9	days after the date of enactment of this
10	Act.
11	(ii) Session defined.—In this sub-
12	paragraph, the term "session" means a
13	regular, special, budget, or other session of
14	a State legislature.
15	(2) TANF AMENDMENT.—
16	(A) In general.—Except as provided in
17	subparagraph (B), the amendment made by
18	subsection (c) shall take effect on the date of
19	enactment of this Act.
20	(B) Extension of effective date for
21	STATE LAW AMENDMENT.—In the case of a
22	State plan under part A of title IV of the Social
23	Security Act which the Secretary of Health and
24	Human Services determines requires State ac-

tion (including legislation, regulation, or other

1 administrative action) in order for the plan to 2 meet the additional requirements imposed by 3 the amendment made by subsection (c), the 4 State plan shall not be regarded as failing to 5 comply with the requirements of such amend-6 ment on the basis of its failure to meet these 7 additional requirements before the first day of 8 the first calendar quarter beginning after the 9 close of the first regular session of the State 10 legislature that begins after the date of enact-11 ment of this Act. For purposes of the previous 12 sentence, in the case of a State that has a two-13 year legislative session, each year of the session 14 is considered to be a separate regular session of 15 the State legislature.

16 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms "do17 mestic violence", "dating violence", "sexual assault",
18 "stalking", "survivor of domestic violence, dating violence,
19 sexual assault, or stalking", and "survivor services organi20 zation" have the meanings given such terms in section
21 201.

TITLE V—INSURANCE PROTEC-**SUPPORT** TIONS AND 2 FOR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VI-3 OLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, 4 SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALK-5 ING 6 **Subtitle A—Insurance Protections** 7 SEC. 501. DEFINITIONS. 9 In this title: (1) Abuser.—The term "abuser" means the 10 11 person who commits an act of domestic violence, 12 dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against a 13 survivor of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. 14 15 (2) Dating violence; domestic violence; SEXUAL ASSAULT; STALKING.—The terms "dating 16 17 violence", "domestic violence", "sexual assault", and 18 "stalking" have the meanings given such terms in 19 section 201. 20 (3) Insured.—The term "insured" means a 21 party named on a policy, certificate, or health ben-22 efit plan, including an individual, a corporation, a

partnership, an association, an unincorporated orga-

nization, or any similar entity, as the person with

legal rights to the benefits provided by the policy,

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- certificate, or health benefit plan. For group insurance, the term includes a person who is a beneficiary covered by a group policy, certificate, or health benefit plan. For life insurance, the term refers to the person whose life is covered under an insurance policy.
 - (4) INSURER.—The term "insurer" means any person, reciprocal exchange, inter insurer, Lloyds insurer, fraternal benefit society, or other legal entity engaged in the business of insurance, including agents, brokers, adjusters, and third-party administrators. The term includes employers who provide or make available employment benefits through an employee benefit plan, as defined in section 3(3) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1002(3)). The term also includes health insurance issuers, as defined by section 2791 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg–91), health benefit plans, and life, disability, and property and casualty insurers.
 - (5) Policy.—The term "policy" means a contract of insurance, certificate, indemnity, suretyship, or annuity issued, proposed for issuance, or intended for issuance by an insurer, including endorsements or riders to an insurance policy or contract.

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1	(6) Survivor of domestic violence, dating
2	VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING.—The
3	term "survivor of domestic violence, dating violence
4	sexual assault, or stalking" has the meaning given
5	such term in section 201.
6	(7) Survivor services organization.—The
7	term "survivor services organization" has the mean-
8	ing given such term in section 201.
9	SEC. 502. DISCRIMINATORY ACTS PROHIBITED.
10	(a) In General.—No insurer may, directly or indi-
11	rectly, engage in any of the following acts or practices or
12	the basis that the applicant or insured, or any person em-
13	ployed by the applicant or insured or with whom the appli-
14	cant or insured is known to have a relationship or associa-
15	tion, is, has been, or may be a survivor of domestic vio-
16	lence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking or has
17	incurred or may incur claims related to domestic violence
18	dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking:
19	(1) Denying, refusing to issue, renew, or re-
20	issue, or canceling or otherwise terminating an in-
21	surance policy or health benefit plan.
22	(2) Restricting, excluding, or limiting insurance
23	coverage for losses or denying a claim, except as oth-

erwise permitted or required by State laws relating

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to life insurance beneficiaries.

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- 1 (3) Adding a premium differential to any insur-2 ance policy or health benefit plan.
- 3 (b) Prohibition on Limitation of Claims.—No
- 4 insurer may, directly or indirectly, deny or limit payment
- 5 to an insured who is a survivor of domestic violence, dat-
- 6 ing violence, sexual assault, or stalking if the claim for
- 7 payment is a result of such violence, assault, or stalking.
 - (c) Prohibition on Termination.—

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- 9 (1) In General.—No insurer may terminate 10 health coverage for a survivor of domestic violence, 11 dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking because 12 coverage was originally issued in the name of the 13 abuser and the abuser has divorced, separated from, 14 or lost custody of the survivor or the survivor's cov-15 erage has terminated voluntarily or involuntarily and 16 the survivor does not qualify for an extension of cov-17 erage under part 6 of subtitle B of title I of the Em-18 ployee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29) 19 U.S.C. 1161 et seq.) or section 4980B of the Inter-20 nal Revenue Code of 1986.
 - (2) Payment of premiums.—Nothing in paragraph (1) shall be construed to prohibit the insurer from requiring that the survivor of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking pay the full premium for the survivor's coverage under

- the health plan if the requirements are applied to all
 insured of the insurer.
 - (3) EXCEPTION.—An insurer may terminate group coverage to which this subsection applies after the continuation coverage period required by this subsection has been in force for 18 months if it offers conversion to an equivalent individual plan.
 - (4) Continuation coverage.—The continuation of health coverage required by this subsection shall be satisfied by any extension of coverage under part 6 of subtitle B of title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1161 et seq.) or section 4980B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 provided to a survivor of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and is not intended to be in addition to any extension of coverage otherwise provided for under such part 6 or section 4980B.

(d) Use of Information.—

(1) Limitation.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In order to protect the safety and privacy of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, no person employed by or contracting with

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an insurer or health benefit plan may (without the consent of the survivor)—

> (i) use, disclose, or transfer information relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking status, acts of such violence, assault, or stalking, medical conditions related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, or the applicant's or insured's status as a family member, employer, associate, or person in a relationship with a survivor of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking for any purpose unrelated to the direct provision of health care services unless such use, disclosure, or transfer is required by an order of an entity with authority to regulate insurance or an order of a court of competent jurisdiction; or

> (ii) disclose or transfer information relating to an applicant's or insured's mailing address or telephone number or the mailing address and telephone number of a shelter for survivors of domestic violence,

1	dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking,
2	unless such disclosure or transfer—
3	(I) is required in order to provide
4	insurance coverage; and
5	(II) does not have the potential
6	to endanger the safety of a survivor of
7	domestic violence, dating violence, sex-
8	ual assault, or stalking.
9	(B) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in
10	this paragraph may be construed to limit or
11	preclude a survivor of domestic violence, dating
12	violence, sexual assault, or stalking from obtain-
13	ing the survivor's own insurance records from
14	an insurer.
15	(2) Authority of Survivors.—A survivor of
16	domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or
17	stalking, at the absolute discretion of the survivor,
18	may provide evidence of domestic violence, dating vi-
19	olence, sexual assault, or stalking to an insurer for
20	the limited purpose of facilitating treatment of a
21	condition related to such violence, assault, or stalk-
22	ing or demonstrating that a condition is related to
23	such violence, assault, or stalking. Nothing in this
24	paragraph shall be construed as authorizing an in-
25	surer to disregard such provided evidence.

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1	SEC. 503. INSURANCE PROTOCOLS FOR SURVIVORS OF DO-
2	MESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEX-
3	UAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING.
4	Insurers shall develop and adhere to written policies
5	specifying procedures to be followed by employees, con-
6	tractors, producers, agents, and brokers for the purpose
7	of protecting the safety and privacy of a survivor of do-
8	mestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking
9	and otherwise implementing this subtitle when taking an
10	application, investigating a claim, or taking any other ac-
11	tion relating to a policy or claim involving a survivor of
12	domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalk-
13	ing.
14	SEC. 504. REASONS FOR ADVERSE ACTIONS.
15	An insurer that takes an action that adversely affects
16	a survivor of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual as-
17	sault, or stalking shall advise the applicant or insured who
18	is the survivor of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual
19	assault, or stalking of the specific reasons for the action
20	in writing. For purposes of this section, reference to gen-
21	eral underwriting practices or guidelines shall not con-
22	stitute a specific reason.
23	SEC. 505. LIFE INSURANCE.
24	Nothing in this subtitle shall be construed to prohibit
25	a life insurer from declining to issue a life insurance policy
26	if the applicant or prospective owner of the policy is or

- 1 would be designated as a beneficiary of the policy, and
- 2 if—
- 3 (1) the applicant or prospective owner of the
- 4 policy lacks an insurable interest in the insured; or
- 5 (2) the applicant or prospective owner of the
- 6 policy is known, on the basis of police or court
- 7 records, to have committed an act of domestic vio-
- 8 lence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking
- 9 against the proposed insured.

10 SEC. 506. SUBROGATION WITHOUT CONSENT PROHIBITED.

- 11 Subrogation of claims resulting from domestic vio-
- 12 lence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking is prohib-
- 13 ited without the informed consent of the survivor of do-
- 14 mestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalk-
- 15 ing.

16 SEC. 507. ENFORCEMENT.

- 17 (a) Federal Trade Commission.—Any act or
- 18 practice prohibited by this subtitle shall be treated as an
- 19 unfair and deceptive act or practice pursuant to section
- 20 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 45)
- 21 and the Federal Trade Commission shall enforce this sub-
- 22 title in the same manner, by the same means, and with
- 23 the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all ap-
- 24 plicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Com-
- 25 mission Act were incorporated into and made a part of

- 1 this subtitle, including issuing a cease and desist order
- 2 granting any individual relief warranted under the cir-
- 3 cumstances, including temporary, preliminary, and perma-
- 4 nent injunctive relief and compensatory damages.

(b) Private Cause of Action.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—An applicant or insured who believes that the applicant or insured has been adversely affected by an act or practice of an insurer in violation of this subtitle may maintain an action against the insurer in a Federal or State court of original jurisdiction.
- (2) Relief.—Upon proof of such conduct by a preponderance of the evidence in an action described in paragraph (1), the court may award appropriate relief, including temporary, preliminary, and permanent injunctive relief and compensatory and punitive damages, as well as the costs of suit and reasonable fees for the aggrieved individual's attorneys and expert witnesses.
- (3) STATUTORY DAMAGES.—With respect to compensatory damages in an action described in paragraph (1), the aggrieved individual may elect, at any time prior to the rendering of final judgment, to recover in lieu of actual damages, an award of statu-

- 1 tory damages in the amount of \$5,000 for each vio-
- 2 lation.
- 3 SEC. 508. APPLICABILITY.
- 4 This subtitle shall apply with respect to any action
- 5 taken after the enactment of this Act.

6 Subtitle B—Supporting and

7 Empowering Survivors

- 8 SEC. 511. STUDY AND REPORTS ON BARRIERS TO SUR-
- 9 VIVORS' ECONOMIC SECURITY ACCESS.
- 10 (a) HHS STUDY.—The Secretary of Health and
- 11 Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of
- 12 Labor, shall conduct a study on the barriers that survivors
- 13 of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or
- 14 stalking throughout the United States experience in main-
- 15 taining economic security as a result of issues related to
- 16 domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalk-
- 17 ing.
- 18 (b) Reports.—Not later than January 1, 2021, and
- 19 every five years thereafter, the Secretary of Health and
- 20 Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of
- 21 Labor, shall submit a report to Congress on the study con-
- 22 ducted under subsection (a).
- (c) Contents.—The study and reports under this
- 24 section shall include—

1	(1) identification of geographic areas in which
2	State laws, regulations, and practices have a strong
3	impact on the ability of survivors of domestic vio-
4	lence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to
5	exercise—

- (A) any rights under this Act without compromising personal safety or the safety of others, including family members and excluding the abuser; and
 - (B) other components of economic security;
- (2) identification of geographic areas with shortages in resources for such survivors, with an accompanying analysis of the extent and impact of such shortage;
- (3) analysis of factors related to industries, workplace settings, employer practices, trends, and other elements that impact the ability of such survivors to exercise any rights under this Act without compromising personal safety or the safety of others, including family members;
- (4) the recommendations of the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Labor with respect to resources, oversight, and enforcement tools to ensure successful implementation of the provisions of this Act in order to support the

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- economic security and safety of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; and
- 4 (5) best practices for States, employers, health 5 carriers, insurers, and other private entities in ad-6 dressing issues related to domestic violence, dating 7 violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
- 8 (d) GAO STUDY.—Not later than 18 months after 9 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller 10 General of the United States shall submit to Congress a 11 report that examines, with respect to survivors of domestic 12 violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who 13 are or were enrolled at institutions of higher education and 14 have Federal student loan debt, each of the following:
 - (1) The implications of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking on a borrower's ability to repay their Federal student loans.
 - (2) The adequacy of current policies and procedures regarding Federal loan deferment, forbearance, and grace periods when a survivor has to suspend or terminate their enrollment at an educational institution due to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
- 24 (3) The adequacy of current institutional poli-25 cies and practices regarding retention or transfer of

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- credits when a survivor has to suspend or terminate their enrollment at an educational institution due to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
 - (4) The availability or any options for a survivor of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who attended institutions of higher education that committed unfair, deceptive, or abusive acts or practices, or otherwise substantially misrepresented information to students, to be able to seek a defense to repayment of their loan.
- 12 (5) The limitations faced by a survivor of do-13 mestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or 14 stalking to obtain any relief or restitution on their 15 student loan debt due to the use of forced arbitra-16 tion, gag orders, or bans on class actions.
- 17 SEC. 512. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEX-
- 18 UAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING EDUCATION
- 19 AND INFORMATION PROGRAMS FOR SUR-
- vivors.

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- 21 (a) Definitions.—In this section, the terms "em-
- 22 ploy", "employee", "employer", and "State" have the
- 23 meanings given such terms in section 201.
- 24 (b) Public Education Program.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Labor, in conjunction with the Secretary of Health and Human Services (through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the grant recipient carrying out the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence) and the Attorney General (through the Principal Deputy Director of the Office on Violence Against Women), shall coordinate and provide for a national public outreach and education campaign to raise public awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including outreach and education for employers, service providers, teachers, and other key partners.

(2) DISSEMINATION.—The Secretary of Labor, in conjunction with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Attorney General, as described in paragraph (1), may disseminate information through the public outreach and education campaign on the resources and rights referred to in this subsection directly or through arrangements with health agencies, professional and nonprofit organizations, consumer groups, labor organizations, institutions of higher education, clinics, the media, and Federal, State, and local agencies.

1	(3) Information.—The information dissemi-
2	nated under paragraph (2) shall include, at a min-
3	imum, a description of—
4	(A) the resources and rights that are—
5	(i) available to survivors of domestic
6	violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or
7	stalking; and
8	(ii) established in this Act and the Vi-
9	olence Against Women Act of 1994 (34
10	U.S.C. 13925 et seq.);
11	(B) guidelines and best practices on pre-
12	vention of domestic violence, dating violence,
13	stalking, and sexual assault;
14	(C) resources that promote healthy rela-
15	tionships and communication skills;
16	(D) resources that encourage bystander
17	intervention in a situation involving domestic vi-
18	olence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual as-
19	sault;
20	(E) resources that promote workplace poli-
21	cies that support and help maintain the eco-
22	nomic security of survivors of domestic violence,
23	dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; and

1	(F) resources and rights that the heads of
2	Federal agencies described in paragraph (2) de-
3	termine are appropriate to include.
4	(c) Information Program for Employers.—
5	(1) In General.—The Secretary of Labor and
6	the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in
7	consultation with major women's advocacy groups
8	and medical and public health organizations, shall
9	develop and disseminate to employers information on
10	the entitlement of survivors of domestic violence,
11	dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to safe
12	leave under title II.
13	(2) Information.—The information dissemi-
14	nated under paragraph (1) shall include, at a min-
15	imum—
16	(A) information describing employers' re-
17	sponsibilities and employees' rights under title
18	II;
19	(B) recommendations for carrying out
20	those responsibilities and providing for those
21	rights;
22	(C) recommendations for supporting em-
23	ployees when the employees seek safe leave
24	under title II;

- 1 (D) information on best practices for sup-2 porting survivors of domestic violence, dating 3 violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
 - (E) information on best practices for preventing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and
 - (F) information explaining how to obtain additional copies of the information developed under paragraph (1) for distribution to the employees.
- 11 (d) STUDY ON WORKPLACE RESPONSES.—The Sec12 retary of Labor, in conjunction with the Secretary of
 13 Health and Human Services, shall conduct a study on the
 14 status of workplace responses to employees who experience
 15 domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalk16 ing while employed, in each State and nationally, to im17 prove the access of survivors of domestic violence, dating
 18 violence, sexual assault, or stalking to supportive resources
 19 and economic security.
- 20 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There 21 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, 22 such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 23 2020 through 2024.

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1	SEC. 513. INVESTING IN PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE
2	TO IMPROVE SUPPORT FOR SURVIVORS.
3	Section 303(c) of the Family Violence Prevention and
4	Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10403(c)) is amended by striking
5	"314" and all that follows and inserting "314
6	\$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024.".
7	SEC. 514. FINANCIAL LITERACY AND ADVOCACY FOR SUR-
8	VIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VI-
9	OLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR STALKING.
10	(a) Eligible Entity Defined.—In this section,
11	the term "eligible entity" means an entity that is—
12	(1) a State or tribal domestic violence coalition
13	or sexual assault coalition, consistent with this Act;
14	(2) a State or local survivor services organiza-
15	tion; or
16	(3) an organization with demonstrated expertise
17	in providing financial literacy support and advocacy
18	services, but only if such organization will provide
19	such support and services in partnership with an en-
20	tity described in paragraph (1) or (2).
21	(b) Grants Authorized.—The Secretary of Health
22	and Human Services is authorized to award competitive
23	grants to eligible entities to—
24	(1) develop and disseminate a model program,
25	and related materials, for providing financial literacy
26	support and advocacy services to survivors of domes-

- 1 tic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalk-
- 2 ing, and such support and services shall take place
- 3 in national resource centers, established and oper-
- 4 ated under section 41501 of the Violence Against
- 5 Women Act of 1994 (34 U.S.C. 12501); and
- 6 (2) provide technical assistance with respect to
- 7 such model program.
- 8 (c) Applications.—An eligible entity seeking a
- 9 grant under this section shall submit an application to the
- 10 Secretary of Health and Human Services at such time,
- 11 in such form and manner, and containing such informa-
- 12 tion as the Secretary specifies.
- 13 (d) Reports to Congress.—The Secretary of
- 14 Health and Human Services shall annually submit a re-
- 15 port to Congress on the grant program established under
- 16 this section.
- (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
- 18 (1) AUTHORIZATION.—There is authorized to
- be appropriated \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2020 to
- 20 carry out this section.
- 21 (2) Three-year availability of grant
- 22 FUNDS.—Not later than three years after the date
- on which a grant is awarded under this section, the
- recipient of such grant shall return to the Secretary
- of Health and Human Services any unused portion

- 1 of such grant, together with any earnings on such
- 2 unused portion.

3 TITLE VI—SEVERABILITY

- 4 SEC. 601. SEVERABILITY.
- 5 If any provision of this Act, any amendment made
- 6 by this Act, or the application of such provision or amend-
- 7 ment to any person or circumstance is held to be unconsti-
- 8 tutional, the remainder of the provisions of this Act, the
- 9 amendments made by this Act, and the application of such
- 10 provisions or amendments to any person or circumstance
- 11 shall not be affected.

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