TITLE VIII—PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

SEC. 801. MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITIES RELATING TO PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD.

(a) Modification of Authorities.—Section 1061 of the National Security Intelligence Reform Act of 2004 (5 U.S.C. 601 note) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 1061. PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD.

"(a) In general.—There is established as an independent agency within the executive branch a Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board (referred to in this section as the ‘Board’).

"(b) Findings.—Consistent with the report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States, Congress makes the following findings:

"(1) In conducting the war on terrorism, the Government may need additional powers and may need to enhance the use of its existing powers.

"(2) This shift of power and authority to the Government calls for an enhanced system of checks and balances to protect the precious liberties that are vital to our way of life and to ensure that the Government uses its powers for the purposes for which the powers were given.

"(3) The National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States correctly concluded that ‘The choice between security and liberty is a false choice, as nothing is more likely to endanger America’s liberties than the success of a terrorist attack at home. Our history has shown us that insecurity threatens liberty. Yet, if our liberties are curtailed, we lose the values that we are struggling to defend.’.

"(c) Purpose.—The Board shall—

"(1) analyze and review actions the executive branch takes to protect the Nation from terrorism, ensuring that the need for such actions is balanced with the need to protect privacy and civil liberties; and

"(2) ensure that liberty concerns are appropriately considered in the development and implementation of laws, regulations, and policies related to efforts to protect the Nation against terrorism.

"(d) Functions.—

"(1) Advice and counsel on policy development and implementation.—The Board shall—

"(A) review proposed legislation, regulations, and policies related to efforts to protect the Nation from terrorism, including the development and adoption of information sharing guidelines under subsections (d) and (f) of section 1016;

"(B) review the implementation of new and existing legislation, regulations, and policies related to efforts to protect the Nation from terrorism, including the implementation of information sharing guidelines under subsections (d) and (f) of section 1016;

"(C) advise the President and the departments, agencies, and elements of the executive branch to ensure that privacy and civil liberties are appropriately considered in
the development and implementation of such legislation, regulations, policies, and guidelines; and
“(D) in providing advice on proposals to retain or enhance a particular governmental power, consider whether the department, agency, or element of the executive branch has established—
“(i) that the need for the power is balanced with the need to protect privacy and civil liberties;
“(ii) that there is adequate supervision of the use by the executive branch of the power to ensure protection of privacy and civil liberties; and
“(iii) that there are adequate guidelines and oversight to properly confine its use.
“(2) OVERSIGHT.—The Board shall continually review—
“(A) the regulations, policies, and procedures, and the implementation of the regulations, policies, and procedures, of the departments, agencies, and elements of the executive branch relating to efforts to protect the Nation from terrorism to ensure that privacy and civil liberties are protected;
“(B) the information sharing practices of the departments, agencies, and elements of the executive branch relating to efforts to protect the Nation from terrorism to determine whether they appropriately protect privacy and civil liberties and adhere to the information sharing guidelines issued or developed under subsections (d) and (f) of section 1016 and to other governing laws, regulations, and policies regarding privacy and civil liberties; and
“(C) other actions by the executive branch relating to efforts to protect the Nation from terrorism to determine whether such actions—
“(i) appropriately protect privacy and civil liberties; and
“(ii) are consistent with governing laws, regulations, and policies regarding privacy and civil liberties.
“(3) RELATIONSHIP WITH PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OFFICERS.—The Board shall—
“(A) receive and review reports and other information from privacy officers and civil liberties officers under section 1062;
“(B) when appropriate, make recommendations to such privacy officers and civil liberties officers regarding their activities; and
“(C) when appropriate, coordinate the activities of such privacy officers and civil liberties officers on relevant interagency matters.
“(4) TESTIMONY.—The members of the Board shall appear and testify before Congress upon request.
“(e) REPORTS.—
“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall—
“(A) receive and review reports from privacy officers and civil liberties officers under section 1062; and
“(B) periodically submit, not less than semiannually, reports—
“(i)(I) to the appropriate committees of Congress, including the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary of the House
of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives, the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives; and

“(II) to the President; and

“(ii) which shall be in unclassified form to the greatest extent possible, with a classified annex where necessary.

“(2) CONTENTS.—Not less than 2 reports submitted each year under paragraph (1)(B) shall include—

“(A) a description of the major activities of the Board during the preceding period;

“(B) information on the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Board resulting from its advice and oversight functions under subsection (d);

“(C) the minority views on any findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Board resulting from its advice and oversight functions under subsection (d);

“(D) each proposal reviewed by the Board under subsection (d)(1) that—

“(i) the Board advised against implementation; and

“(ii) notwithstanding such advice, actions were taken to implement; and

“(E) for the preceding period, any requests submitted under subsection (g)(1)(D) for the issuance of subpoenas that were modified or denied by the Attorney General.

“(f) INFORMING THE PUBLIC.—The Board shall—

“(1) make its reports, including its reports to Congress, available to the public to the greatest extent that is consistent with the protection of classified information and applicable law; and

“(2) hold public hearings and otherwise inform the public of its activities, as appropriate and in a manner consistent with the protection of classified information and applicable law.

“(g) ACCESS TO INFORMATION.—

“(1) AUTHORIZATION.—If determined by the Board to be necessary to carry out its responsibilities under this section, the Board is authorized to—

“(A) have access from any department, agency, or element of the executive branch, or any Federal officer or employee of any such department, agency, or element, to all relevant records, reports, audits, reviews, documents, papers, recommendations, or other relevant material, including classified information consistent with applicable law;

“(B) interview, take statements from, or take public testimony from personnel of any department, agency, or element of the executive branch, or any Federal officer or employee of any such department, agency, or element;

“(C) request information or assistance from any State, tribal, or local government; and
(D) at the direction of a majority of the members of the Board, submit a written request to the Attorney General of the United States that the Attorney General require, by subpoena, persons (other than departments, agencies, and elements of the executive branch) to produce any relevant information, documents, reports, answers, records, accounts, papers, and other documentary or testimonial evidence.

(2) Review of Subpoena Request.—

(A) In General.—Not later than 30 days after the date of receipt of a request by the Board under paragraph (1)(D), the Attorney General shall—

(i) issue the subpoena as requested; or

(ii) provide the Board, in writing, with an explanation of the grounds on which the subpoena request has been modified or denied.

(B) Notification.—If a subpoena request is modified or denied under subparagraph (A)(ii), the Attorney General shall, not later than 30 days after the date of that modification or denial, notify the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(3) Enforcement of Subpoena.—In the case of contumacy or failure to obey a subpoena issued pursuant to paragraph (1)(D), the United States district court for the judicial district in which the subpoenaed person resides, is served, or may be found may issue an order requiring such person to produce the evidence required by such subpoena.

(4) Agency Cooperation.—Whenever information or assistance requested under subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1) is, in the judgment of the Board, unreasonably refused or not provided, the Board shall report the circumstances to the head of the department, agency, or element concerned without delay. The head of the department, agency, or element concerned shall ensure that the Board is given access to the information, assistance, material, or personnel the Board determines to be necessary to carry out its functions.

(h) Membership.—

(1) Members.—The Board shall be composed of a full-time chairman and 4 additional members, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(2) Qualifications.—Members of the Board shall be selected solely on the basis of their professional qualifications, achievements, public stature, expertise in civil liberties and privacy, and relevant experience, and without regard to political affiliation, but in no event shall more than 3 members of the Board be members of the same political party. The President shall, before appointing an individual who is not a member of the same political party as the President, consult with the leadership of that party, if any, in the Senate and House of Representatives.

(3) Incompatible Office.—An individual appointed to the Board may not, while serving on the Board, be an elected official, officer, or employee of the Federal Government, other than in the capacity as a member of the Board.
“(4) Term.—Each member of the Board shall serve a term of 6 years, except that—

“(A) a member appointed to a term of office after the commencement of such term may serve under such appointment only for the remainder of such term; and

“(B) upon the expiration of the term of office of a member, the member shall continue to serve until the member’s successor has been appointed and qualified, except that no member may serve under this subparagraph—

“(i) for more than 60 days when Congress is in session unless a nomination to fill the vacancy shall have been submitted to the Senate; or

“(ii) after the adjournment sine die of the session of the Senate in which such nomination is submitted.

“(5) Quorum and Meetings.—The Board shall meet upon the call of the chairman or a majority of its members. Three members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

“(i) Compensation and Travel Expenses.—

“(1) Compensation.—

“(A) Chairman.—The chairman of the Board shall be compensated at the rate of pay payable for a position at level III of the Executive Schedule under section 5314 of title 5, United States Code.

“(B) Members.—Each member of the Board shall be compensated at a rate of pay payable for a position at level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day during which that member is engaged in the actual performance of the duties of the Board.

“(2) Travel Expenses.—Members of the Board shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for persons employed intermittently by the Government under section 5703(b) of title 5, United States Code, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Board.

“(j) Staff.—

“(1) Appointment and Compensation.—The chairman of the Board, in accordance with rules agreed upon by the Board, shall appoint and fix the compensation of a full-time executive director and such other personnel as may be necessary to enable the Board to carry out its functions, without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates, except that no rate of pay fixed under this subsection may exceed the equivalent of that payable for a position at level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

“(2) Detailees.—Any Federal employee may be detailed to the Board without reimbursement from the Board, and such detailee shall retain the rights, status, and privileges of the detailee’s regular employment without interruption.

“(3) Consultant Services.—The Board may procure the temporary or intermittent services of experts and consultants in accordance with section 3109 of title 5, United States Code,
at rates that do not exceed the daily rate paid a person occupying a position at level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of such title.

"(k) Security Clearances.—

"(1) In general.—The appropriate departments, agencies, and elements of the executive branch shall cooperate with the Board to expeditiously provide the Board members and staff with appropriate security clearances to the extent possible under existing procedures and requirements.

"(2) Rules and Procedures.—After consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Attorney General, and the Director of National Intelligence, the Board shall adopt rules and procedures of the Board for physical, communications, computer, document, personnel, and other security relating to carrying out the functions of the Board.

"(1) Treatment as Agency, Not as Advisory Committee.—The Board—

"(1) is an agency (as defined in section 551(1) of title 5, United States Code); and

"(2) is not an advisory committee (as defined in section 3(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

"(m) Authorization of Appropriations.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section amounts as follows:

"(1) For fiscal year 2008, $5,000,000.

"(2) For fiscal year 2009, $6,650,000.

"(3) For fiscal year 2010, $8,300,000.

"(4) For fiscal year 2011, $10,000,000.

"(5) For fiscal year 2012 and each subsequent fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

(b) Security Rules and Procedures.—The Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board shall promptly adopt the security rules and procedures required under section 1061(k)(2) of the National Security Intelligence Reform Act of 2004 (as added by subsection (a) of this section).

(c) Transition Provisions.—

(1) Treatment of Incumbent Members of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board.—

(A) Continuation of Service.—Any individual who is a member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board on the date of enactment of this Act may continue to serve on the Board until 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) Termination of Terms.—The term of any individual who is a member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board on the date of enactment of this Act shall terminate 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) Appointments.—

(A) In General.—The President and the Senate shall take such actions as necessary for the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint members to the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board as constituted under the amendments made by subsection (a) in a timely manner to provide for the continuing operation of the Board and orderly implementation of this section.
(B) DESIGNATIONS.—In making the appointments described under subparagraph (A) of the first members of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board as constituted under the amendments made by subsection (a), the President shall provide for the members to serve terms of 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 years beginning on the effective date described under subsection (d)(1), with the term of each such member to be designated by the President.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by subsection (a) and subsection (b) shall take effect 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) TRANSITION PROVISIONS.—Subsection (c) shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 802. DEPARTMENT PRIVACY OFFICER.


(1) by inserting “(a) APPOINTMENT AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—” before “The Secretary”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) AUTHORITY TO INVESTIGATE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The senior official appointed under subsection (a) may—

“(A) have access to all records, reports, audits, reviews, documents, papers, recommendations, and other materials available to the Department that relate to programs and operations with respect to the responsibilities of the senior official under this section;

“(B) make such investigations and reports relating to the administration of the programs and operations of the Department as are, in the senior official’s judgment, necessary or desirable;

“(C) subject to the approval of the Secretary, require by subpoena the production, by any person other than a Federal agency, of all information, documents, reports, answers, records, accounts, papers, and other data and documentary evidence necessary to performance of the responsibilities of the senior official under this section; and

“(D) administer to or take from any person an oath, affirmation, or affidavit, whenever necessary to performance of the responsibilities of the senior official under this section.

“(2) ENFORCEMENT OF SUBPOENAS.—Any subpoena issued under paragraph (1)(C) shall, in the case of contumacy or refusal to obey, be enforceable by order of any appropriate United States district court.

“(3) EFFECT OF OATHS.—Any oath, affirmation, or affidavit administered or taken under paragraph (1)(D) by or before an employee of the Privacy Office designated for that purpose by the senior official appointed under subsection (a) shall have the same force and effect as if administered or taken by or before an officer having a seal of office.

“(c) SUPERVISION AND COORDINATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The senior official appointed under subsection (a) shall—
"(A) report to, and be under the general supervision of, the Secretary; and

"(B) coordinate activities with the Inspector General of the Department in order to avoid duplication of effort.

"(2) COORDINATION WITH THE INSPECTOR GENERAL.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the senior official appointed under subsection (a) may investigate any matter relating to possible violations or abuse concerning the administration of any program or operation of the Department relevant to the purposes under this section.

"(B) COORDINATION.—

"(i) REFERRAL.—Before initiating any investigation described under subparagraph (A), the senior official shall refer the matter and all related complaints, allegations, and information to the Inspector General of the Department.

"(ii) DETERMINATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS BY THE INSPECTOR GENERAL.—

"(I) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the receipt of a matter referred under clause (i), the Inspector General shall—

"(aa) make a determination regarding whether the Inspector General intends to initiate an audit or investigation of the matter referred under clause (i); and

"(bb) notify the senior official of that determination.

"(II) INVESTIGATION NOT INITIATED.—If the Inspector General notifies the senior official under clause (ii)(I)(bb) that the Inspector General does not intend to initiate an audit or investigation relating to that matter; or

"(II) the Inspector General provides a further notification under clause (ii)(II) relating to that matter.

"(iv) PRIVACY TRAINING.—Any employee of the Office of Inspector General who audits or investigates any matter referred under clause (i) shall be required to receive adequate training on privacy laws, rules, and regulations, to be provided by an entity approved by the Inspector General in consultation with the senior official appointed under subsection (a).
“(d) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS ON REMOVAL.—If the Secretary removes the senior official appointed under subsection (a) or transfers that senior official to another position or location within the Department, the Secretary shall—

“(1) promptly submit a written notification of the removal or transfer to Houses of Congress; and

“(2) include in any such notification the reasons for the removal or transfer.

“(e) REPORTS BY SENIOR OFFICIAL TO CONGRESS.—The senior official appointed under subsection (a) shall—

“(1) submit reports directly to the Congress regarding performance of the responsibilities of the senior official under this section, without any prior comment or amendment by the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, or any other officer or employee of the Department or the Office of Management and Budget; and

“(2) inform the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives not later than—

“(A) 30 days after the Secretary disapproves the senior official’s request for a subpoena under subsection (b)(1)(C) or the Secretary substantively modifies the requested subpoena; or

“(B) 45 days after the senior official’s request for a subpoena under subsection (b)(1)(C), if that subpoena has not either been approved or disapproved by the Secretary.”.

SEC. 803. PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OFFICERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1062 of the National Security Intelligence Reform Act of 2004 (title I of Public Law 108–458; 118 Stat. 3688) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 1062. PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OFFICERS.

“(a) DESIGNATION AND FUNCTIONS.—The Attorney General, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of National Intelligence, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and the head of any other department, agency, or element of the executive branch designated by the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board under section 1061 to be appropriate for coverage under this section shall designate not less than 1 senior officer to serve as the principal advisor to—

“(1) assist the head of such department, agency, or element and other officials of such department, agency, or element in appropriately considering privacy and civil liberties concerns when such officials are proposing, developing, or implementing laws, regulations, policies, procedures, or guidelines related to efforts to protect the Nation against terrorism;

“(2) periodically investigate and review department, agency, or element actions, policies, procedures, guidelines, and related laws and their implementation to ensure that such department, agency, or element is adequately considering privacy and civil liberties in its actions;

“(3) ensure that such department, agency, or element has adequate procedures to receive, investigate, respond to, and
redress complaints from individuals who allege such department, agency, or element has violated their privacy or civil liberties; and

"(4) in providing advice on proposals to retain or enhance a particular governmental power the officer shall consider whether such department, agency, or element has established—

"(A) that the need for the power is balanced with the need to protect privacy and civil liberties;

"(B) that there is adequate supervision of the use by such department, agency, or element of the power to ensure protection of privacy and civil liberties; and

"(C) that there are adequate guidelines and oversight to properly confine its use.

"(b) EXCEPTION TO DESIGNATION AUTHORITY.—

"(1) PRIVACY OFFICERS.—In any department, agency, or element referred to in subsection (a) or designated by the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, which has a statutorily created privacy officer, such officer shall perform the functions specified in subsection (a) with respect to privacy.

"(2) CIVIL LIBERTIES OFFICERS.—In any department, agency, or element referred to in subsection (a) or designated by the Board, which has a statutorily created civil liberties officer, such officer shall perform the functions specified in subsection (a) with respect to civil liberties.

"(c) SUPERVISION AND COORDINATION.—Each privacy officer or civil liberties officer described in subsection (a) or (b) shall—

"(1) report directly to the head of the department, agency, or element concerned; and

"(2) coordinate their activities with the Inspector General of such department, agency, or element to avoid duplication of effort.

"(d) AGENCY COOPERATION.—The head of each department, agency, or element shall ensure that each privacy officer and civil liberties officer—

"(1) has the information, material, and resources necessary to fulfill the functions of such officer;

"(2) is advised of proposed policy changes;

"(3) is consulted by decision makers; and

"(4) is given access to material and personnel the officer determines to be necessary to carry out the functions of such officer.

"(e) REPRISAL FOR MAKING COMPLAINT.—No action constituting a reprisal, or threat of reprisal, for making a complaint or for disclosing information to a privacy officer or civil liberties officer described in subsection (a) or (b), or to the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, that indicates a possible violation of privacy protections or civil liberties in the administration of the programs and operations of the Federal Government relating to efforts to protect the Nation from terrorism shall be taken by any Federal employee in a position to take such action, unless the complaint was made or the information was disclosed with the knowledge that it was false or with willful disregard for its truth or falsity.

"(f) PERIODIC REPORTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The privacy officers and civil liberties officers of each department, agency, or element referred to or described in subsection (a) or (b) shall periodically, but
not less than quarterly, submit a report on the activities of such officers—

“(A)(i) to the appropriate committees of Congress, including the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives, the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives;

“(ii) to the head of such department, agency, or element; and

“(iii) to the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board; and

“(B) which shall be in unclassified form to the greatest extent possible, with a classified annex where necessary.

“(2) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include information on the discharge of each of the functions of the officer concerned, including—

“(A) information on the number and types of reviews undertaken;

“(B) the type of advice provided and the response given to such advice;

“(C) the number and nature of the complaints received by the department, agency, or element concerned for alleged violations; and

“(D) a summary of the disposition of such complaints, the reviews and inquiries conducted, and the impact of the activities of such officer.

“(g) INFORMING THE PUBLIC.—Each privacy officer and civil liberties officer shall—

“(1) make the reports of such officer, including reports to Congress, available to the public to the greatest extent that is consistent with the protection of classified information and applicable law; and

“(2) otherwise inform the public of the activities of such officer, as appropriate and in a manner consistent with the protection of classified information and applicable law.

“(h) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit or otherwise supplant any other authorities or responsibilities provided by law to privacy officers or civil liberties officers.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–458) is amended by striking the item relating to section 1062 and inserting the following new item:

“Sec. 1062. Privacy and civil liberties officers.”.