

Well ahead of his speech before the Arizona House of Representatives, the Kremlin targeted Vladimir for his resistance and opposition. In fact, in 2015, and again in 2017, he survived two assassination attempts where agents of the Russian Government attacked him. They attacked him with a military-grade poison.

Despite the threats against his life and his 2022 detention, Vladimir Kara-Murza continues to speak out from prison against the repression he and so many other Russians suffer for calling out Vladimir Putin's authoritarian actions and his illegal war of aggression against Ukraine.

Unfortunately, Vladimir Kara-Murza is not the only individual wrongfully detained in Russia. Paul Whelan, whose sister is a constituent and a tireless advocate on his behalf, has sat in a Russian prison cell for over 5 years as the Kremlin plays politics with his life. Journalist Evan Gershkovich was imprisoned over a year ago simply for doing his job. Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty reporter Alsu Kurmasheva continues to make her way through a sham trial today.

It is simple. Journalism is not a crime, and this resolution stands in solidarity with all those wrongfully detained in Russia and Belarus for speaking the truth and calls for their immediate release.

At the same time, remember those like Alexei Navalny, Boris Nemtsov, Sergei Magnitsky, and many others who have died at the hands of the Kremlin and Vladimir Putin's regime.

Ultimately, this resolution represents a strong, bipartisan show of support for Vladimir Kara-Murza and a redoubling of efforts to seek his immediate release.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close after the gentleman from Massachusetts closes, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

In closing, I again reflect on Vladimir Kara-Murza's work to achieve a true democracy in Russia, one made by Russians and built for Russians. In the face of death threats and physical attacks on his own well-being, Vladimir Kara-Murza remains a prominent figure in Russia's democracy movement. He has stood up for the truth, speaking against Vladimir Putin's war of aggression against Ukraine and the Kremlin's comprehensive crackdown on free expression.

As I have said before, Vladimir's story is not only one of defiance but one of Kremlin weakness. His story, his words, and his vision terrify and threaten the Putin regime, and they undermine the fictitious Kremlin narrative regarding Putin's invasion of Ukraine. That fact shows the true strength of Mr. Kara-Murza's moral conviction.

Finally, as this resolution makes its way through the House, we call on the Russian Government to immediately release Mr. Kara-Murza and all other Russian opposition leaders detained because of their opposition to the Putin regime.

At the same time, wrongfully detained Americans like Paul Whelan, Evan Gershkovich, and Alsu Kurmasheva must also be released. Journalism is not a crime, and we will not rest until all wrongfully detained Americans have returned home. We want them to return home as soon as possible.

I thank the Foreign Affairs Committee again for considering this resolution and the bipartisan cosponsors who have made the resolution possible. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I thank my good friend, Mr. KEATING, for authoring this important resolution that was unanimously adopted by the Foreign Affairs Committee by a vote of 47-0.

We all know that Vladimir Putin is a dictator. He uses fear to hold on to power. Anyone that criticizes or questions him is imprisoned, silenced, or killed.

Putin knows if free speech and dissent spreads, if the truth comes to light, that his despotic regime will lose its grip on power and on the Russian people.

We all know he killed Alexei Navalny. Putin saw him as a threat to his regime. Like Navalny, Vladimir Kara-Murza represents resistance to the Kremlin's unchecked oppression, and that is why Putin has imprisoned him, because he is a champion for freedom.

The vengeance of the Kremlin knows no bounds. Putin must stop using Cold War tactics to target innocent people as diplomatic pawns. I call upon the immediate release of all Americans detained abroad.

It is time to get Mr. Kara-Murza out of a Russian gulag and back home to his family. I urge my colleagues to stand united and join me in condemning Russia's illegal detention.

This will send a strong message to Mr. Kara-Murza and to all wrongfully detained Americans in Russia that Congress will not rest until they are returned home to their families.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1700

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H. Con. Res. 27, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROMOTING A RESOLUTION TO THE TIBET-CHINA DISPUTE ACT

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 138) to amend the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 to modify certain provisions of that Act.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 138

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) It has been the long-standing policy of the United States to encourage meaningful and direct dialogue between representatives of the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama, his or her representatives, or democratically elected leaders of the Tibetan community, without preconditions, to seek a settlement that resolves differences.

(2) Nine rounds of dialogue held between 2002 and 2010 between the People's Republic of China authorities and the 14th Dalai Lama's representatives failed to produce a settlement that resolved differences, and the two sides have held no formal dialogue since January 2010.

(3) An obstacle to further dialogue is that the Government of the People's Republic of China continues to impose conditions on substantive dialogue with the Dalai Lama, including a demand that he say that Tibet has been part of China since ancient times, which the Dalai Lama has refused to do because it is inaccurate.

(4) Article 1 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Article 1 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights provide, "All peoples have the right of self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development."

(5) The United States Government has never taken the position that Tibet was a part of China since ancient times.

(6) China signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights on October 5, 1998, and ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on March 27, 2001.

(7) Under international law, including United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2625, the right to self-determination is the right of a people to determine its own destiny and the exercise of this right can result in a variety of outcomes ranging from independence, federation, protection, some form of autonomy, or full integration within a State.

(8) United Nations General Assembly Resolution 1723, adopted on December 20, 1961, called for the "cessation of practices which deprive the Tibetan people of their fundamental human rights and freedoms, including their right to self-determination".

(9) Secretary of State Antony Blinken, in a May 26, 2022, speech entitled "The Administration's Approach to the People's Republic of China", said that the rules-based international order's "founding documents include the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which enshrined

concepts like self-determination, sovereignty, the peaceful settlement of disputes. These are not Western constructs. They are reflections of the world's shared aspirations.”.

(10) The Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note), as amended by the Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020 (subtitle E of title III of division FF of Public Law 116-260), in directing the United States Government “to promote the human rights and distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity of the Tibetan people” acknowledges that the Tibetan people possess a distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity.

(11) Department of State reports on human rights and religious freedom have consistently documented systematic repression by the authorities of the People's Republic of China against Tibetans as well as acts of defiance and resistance by Tibetan people against the People's Republic of China policies.

(12) The Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) specifies that the central objective of the United States Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues is to promote substantive dialogue between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama, his or her representatives, or democratically elected leaders of the Tibetan community.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) that the Tibetan people are a people with a distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity;

(2) that the dispute between Tibet and the People's Republic of China must be resolved in accordance with international law, including the United Nations Charter, by peaceful means, through dialogue without pre-conditions;

(3) that the People's Republic of China should cease its propagation of disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama;

(4) to encourage the People's Republic of China to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and uphold all its commitments under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; and

(5) in accordance with the Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020—

(A) to promote substantive dialogue without pre-conditions, between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama, his or her representatives, or democratically elected leaders of the Tibetan community, or explore activities to improve prospects for dialogue, that leads to a negotiated agreement on Tibet;

(B) to coordinate with other governments in multilateral efforts towards the goal of a negotiated agreement on Tibet; and

(C) to encourage the Government of the People's Republic of China to address the aspirations of the Tibetan people with regard to their distinct historical, cultural, religious, and linguistic identity.

SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) claims made by officials of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party that Tibet has been a part of China since ancient times are historically inaccurate;

(2) the current policies of the People's Republic of China are systematically suppressing the ability of the Tibetan people to preserve their religion, culture, language, history, way of life, and environment;

(3) the Government of the People's Republic of China is failing to meet the expecta-

tions of the United States to engage in meaningful dialogue with the Dalai Lama or his representatives or to reach a negotiated resolution that includes the aspirations of the Tibetan people; and

(4) United States public diplomacy efforts should counter disinformation about Tibet from the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party, including disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama.

SEC. 5. MODIFICATIONS TO THE TIBETAN POLICY ACT OF 2002.

(a) TIBET NEGOTIATIONS.—Section 613(b) of the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) efforts to counter disinformation about Tibet from the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party, including disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama.”.

(b) UNITED STATES SPECIAL COORDINATOR FOR TIBETAN ISSUES.—Section 621(d) of the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (6), (7), and (8) as paragraphs (7), (8), and (9), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph:

“(6) work with relevant bureaus of the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development to ensure that United States Government statements and documents counter, as appropriate, disinformation about Tibet from the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party, including disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama;”.

(c) DEFINITION.—The Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 622. DEFINITION.

“For purposes of this Act, the term ‘Tibet’ refers to the following areas:

“(1) The Tibet Autonomous Region.

“(2) The areas that the Government of the People's Republic of China designated as Tibetan Autonomous, as of 2018, as follows:

“(A) Kanlho (Gannan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, and Pari (Tianzhu) Tibetan Autonomous County located in Gansu Province.

“(B) Golog (Guoluo) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Malho (Huangnan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Tsojang (Haibei) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Tsoelho (Hainan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Tsonub (Haixi) Mongolian and Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, and Yulshul (Yushu) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, located in Qinghai Province.

“(C) Garze (Ganzi) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Ngawa (Aba) Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture, and Muli (Mili) Tibetan Autonomous County, located in Sichuan Province.

“(D) Dechen (Diqing) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, located in Yunnan Province.”.

SEC. 6. AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS TO COUNTER DISINFORMATION ABOUT TIBET.

Amounts authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available under section 346 of the Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020 (subtitle E of title III of division FF of Pub-

lic Law 116-260) are authorized to be made available to counter disinformation about Tibet from the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party, including disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KEATING) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the world is no stranger to the CCP's aggression. As they increase hostilities against Taiwan and other allies in the region, it is abundantly clear that the CCP seeks to dominate the Indo-Pacific and beyond. Just look at their military activities around Taiwan, Mr. Speaker, their harassment of the Philippine ships in the South China Sea, and their support for Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine.

The CCP has a long history of subjugation that extends beyond Asia. The CCP has a long and violent record of oppression against the people of Tibet. In October of 1950, Chinese Communist troops annexed Tibet, slaughtering tens of thousands of innocent Tibetans and monks. The CCP's ongoing oppression of the people of Tibet ultimately forced the Dalai Lama to flee to India. This persecution has continued to this day.

In November, the CCP released a white paper on its policies in Tibet. In this document, the party doubled down on its oppression and crackdown on the religious and economic freedom of Tibetans. Some of the actions taken by the CCP include setting up boarding schools to “reeducate” Tibetan children, clamping down on the use of Tibetan language, restricting movement of Tibetans, and even attempting to insert themselves into the succession of the Dalai Lama himself.

This white paper demonstrates the need for this bill, and I am proud to have co-introduced this with Representative MCGOVERN.

The Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act helps Tibetans in several ways. It pushes back against CCP propaganda about the history of Tibet. The United States has never accepted that Tibet was part of China since ancient times as the CCP falsely claims. This legislation clarifies U.S. policy and highlights the unique language, religion, and culture of the Tibetan people. It directs U.S. diplomacy

to push back against CCP propaganda. In addition, it ensures Tibetans have a say in their own future.

This bill stresses a need for a dialogue between the CCP and other democratically elected leaders of Tibet.

Any resolution must include the wishes and voice of the Tibetan people. Tibetans are a democracy-loving people who wish to practice their religion freely and have their own wishes and desires acknowledged.

I am proud to have played a small part in supporting this dream for the Tibetan people.

I thank Senators MERKLEY and YOUNG who passed this bill unanimously through the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my colleagues to push back against the CCP's oppression of the Tibetan people and vote in favor of the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 138, the Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 138, the Senate companion bill to the bipartisan House bill, H.R. 533, which the House passed this February.

My good friend from Massachusetts, Representative MCGOVERN, and Chairman MCCAUL introduced H.R. 533, and I was proud to support its passage out of committee and on the floor last year. I am glad the Senate has followed suit so we can get to this important legislation that addresses Beijing's severe and ongoing repression of the Tibetan people signed into law.

For too long, Beijing has oppressed the Tibetan people and failed to honor its commitments to engage in meaningful dialogue with the Dalai Lama and his representatives regarding Tibet's future. We are deeply concerned by Beijing's systematic efforts to erase the distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity of the Tibetan people.

In a new effort to stamp out Tibetan identity, Beijing is closing local schools and uprooting children from their families by placing them in centralized Chinese boarding schools far from home. This is effectively preventing Tibetan parents and communities from passing down their language and heritage to the next generation.

This forced assimilation has raised significant concerns from multiple U.N. Special Rapporteurs who have warned that these residential schools function as a large-scale program designed to integrate Tibetans into the dominant Han culture, violating international human rights.

While Beijing employs these tactics to suppress Tibetan culture, it simultaneously propagates disinformation about Tibet and its history.

H.R. 533 calls out Beijing's oppressive tactics and relentless disinformation campaign. This bill reinforces our un-

wavering support for the Tibetan cause and calls on the PRC to engage in genuine dialogue with Tibetan representatives. It also strengthens the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 by enhancing our public diplomacy efforts to counter PRC disinformation about Tibet.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), who is the ranking member of the House Rules Committee and the author of H.R. 533.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of final passage of the Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act, legislation that I was proud to have authored.

This House took the lead in considering this bill, passed it with an overwhelming majority last February, and sent it to the Senate. The Senate, in its wisdom, changed only one paragraph. So the bill has come back to this Chamber for final passage.

I thank my incredible co-lead, Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman MCCAUL, and Ranking Member MEEKS for bringing this bill to the floor and all of their incredible advocacy on behalf of the Tibetan community. I welcome the opportunity to shine a light on this legislation, once more, as we send it on its way to the President's desk.

It has been more than 60 years since the People's Republic of China forced the 14th Dalai Lama into exile and took control of Tibet against the will of the people.

The dispute between the Chinese and the Tibetans over governance of Tibet has persisted ever since, even though the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan people have repeatedly expressed their willingness to engage in dialogue.

Meanwhile, the PRC has done everything it can to erode Tibetan history, language, culture, and religion, in other words, to erase the Tibetans as a people.

This bill seeks to end that in the following ways: one, by explicitly recognizing that the Tibetan people are a people with a distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity; two, by reminding everyone concerned that the Tibetan people have a right to self-determination under international human rights law; and three, by requiring the U.S. Government to actively counter the PRC's propaganda about Tibet, like the false claim that Tibet has been a part of China since ancient times, a position that the United States has never accepted.

With this bill, we hope to restart dialogue between Tibet and China in keeping with longstanding U.S. policy.

Mr. Speaker, the world is awash in conflict. At the heart of many conflicts lies the systematic denial of a people's human rights.

The decades-old dispute between Tibet and China started as an armed

conflict of invasion, resistance, and insurgency. In the long run, the only guarantee against the resumption of violence is for the People's Republic of China to fully respect the human rights and dignity of the Tibetan people.

A vote for this bill is a vote to recognize the rights of the Tibetan people, and it is a vote to insist on resolving the dispute between Tibet and the People's Republic of China peacefully, in accordance with international law, through dialogue, and without preconditions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to please join me and the distinguished chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. MCCAUL, in sending these important messages in solidarity with the Tibetan people.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts for yielding me the time.

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman for his remarks. There has been no more determined or erstwhile supporter of the Tibetan people than Representative MCGOVERN. I thank him for his longstanding efforts on their behalf which is really our behalf, as well, as a country.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, for too long, the Tibetan people have suffered as Beijing systematically works to erase their religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity. The forced assimilation through centralized Chinese boarding schools and tearing children away from their families are beyond the pale, and its refusal to engage in meaningful dialogue with the Dalai Lama since 2010 only highlights Beijing's blatant disregard for resolving the Tibetan question.

This is an important and timely measure, and I thank Senator MERKLEY, Representative MCGOVERN, Chairman MCCAUL, and all those individuals involved in getting this bill to the finish line. I also want to extend my gratitude to Speaker Emerita NANCY PELOSI for her unwavering support of this bill and principled conviction to hold the PRC accountable for its human rights violations.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join with all of us in supporting this important bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, this body has always stood for the principles of free speech, independence, and individual liberties. I thank my dear and good friend, Mr. MCGOVERN, for his efforts on this important legislation, as well as Ranking Member MEEKS and Representative BILL KEATING who worked with me to advance this bipartisan bill.

We are always strongest when we speak with one voice as one nation in support of freedom and democracy. Tibet has a rich, peaceful heritage that the CCP attempted to erase when they

invaded it in 1950, but they have failed. Their attempts to quash this vibrant history have failed because of the resilience of the Tibetan people.

The U.S. strongly condemns all CCP oppression and coercion of Tibetans as well as any CCP involvement in the succession of the Dalai Lama. Despite the CCP's attempts to erase the history and culture of Tibet over the last 70-plus years, it still remains vibrant, strong, and inspirational.

Tibetans, like all people, have the right to religious freedom which includes freedom from CCP's surveillance, censorship, and detention.

If the CCP truly does respect sovereignty, as it claims to, then they will engage in peaceful dialogue with the Tibetans to resolve this conflict, not force Tibet to accept a CCP proposal.

Passing this bill demonstrates America's resolve that the CCP's status quo in Tibet is not acceptable. I can think of no greater message or gift to the Dalai Lama and the people of Tibet than the swift passage of this bill to get to the President's desk as soon possible to help put the people of Tibet in charge of their own future.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 138.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1715

NO HIDDEN FEES ON EXTRA EXPENSES FOR STAYS ACT OF 2023

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6543) to prohibit unfair and deceptive advertising of prices for hotel rooms and other places of short-term lodging, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6543

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "No Hidden Fees on Extra Expenses for Stays Act of 2023" or the "No Hidden FEES Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING OF HOTEL ROOM AND OTHER SHORT-TERM LODGING PRICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A covered provider may not advertise, display, market, or otherwise offer for sale in interstate commerce, including through a direct offering, third-party distribution, or metasearch referral, a price of a reservation for a place of short-term lodging that does not include each mandatory fee.

(b) EXCLUSION.—Subsection (a) does not prohibit a covered provider from displaying any individual component, including any fee or tax, that is part of the total price, if such total price is clearly and conspicuously disclosed to the consumer.

SEC. 3. ENFORCEMENT.

(a) ENFORCEMENT BY FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—

(1) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.—A violation of section 2(a) shall be treated as a violation of a regulation under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)) regarding unfair or deceptive acts or practices.

(2) POWERS OF COMMISSION.—The Commission shall enforce section 2(a) in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this Act. Any covered provider who violates section 2(a) shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act.

(3) AUTHORITY PRESERVED.—Nothing in this Act may be construed to limit the authority of the Commission under any other provision of law.

(b) ENFORCEMENT BY STATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the attorney general of a State, or an official or agency of a State, has reason to believe that an interest of the residents of the State has been or is being threatened or adversely affected by a practice that violates section 2(a), the State may bring a civil action on behalf of the residents of the State in an appropriate district court of the United States to obtain appropriate relief.

(2) RIGHTS OF COMMISSION.—

(A) NOTICE TO COMMISSION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (iii), an attorney general, official, or agency of a State, before initiating a civil action under paragraph (1), shall provide written notification to the Commission that the attorney general, official, or agency intends to bring such civil action.

(ii) CONTENTS.—The notification required under clause (i) shall include a copy of the complaint to be filed to initiate the civil action.

(iii) EXCEPTION.—If it is not feasible for an attorney general, official, or agency of a State to provide the notification required under clause (i) before initiating a civil action under paragraph (1), the attorney general, official, or agency shall notify the Commission immediately upon instituting the civil action.

(B) INTERVENTION BY COMMISSION.—The Commission may—

(i) intervene in any civil action brought by an attorney general, official, or agency of a State under paragraph (1); and

(ii) upon intervening—

(I) be heard on all matters arising in the civil action; and

(II) appeal a decision in the civil action.

(C) LIMITATION ON STATE ACTION WHILE FEDERAL ACTION IS PENDING.—If the Commission or the Attorney General of the United States has instituted a civil action for violation of section 2(a) (referred to in this subparagraph as the "Federal action"), no State attorney general, official, or agency may bring an action under paragraph (1) during the pendency of the Federal action against any defendant named in the complaint in the Federal action for any violation of such section alleged in such complaint.

(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to prevent an attorney general, official, or agency of a

State from exercising the powers conferred on the attorney general, official, or agency by the laws of the State to conduct investigations, to administer oaths or affirmations, or to compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary or other evidence.

SEC. 4. ONE NATIONAL STANDARD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A State, or political subdivision of a State, may not maintain, enforce, prescribe, or continue in effect any law, rule, regulation, requirement, standard, or other provision having the force and effect of law of the State, or political subdivision of the State, that prohibits a covered provider from advertising, displaying, marketing, or otherwise offering, or otherwise affects the manner in which a covered provider may advertise, display, market, or otherwise offer, for sale in interstate commerce, including through a direct offering, third-party distribution, or metasearch referral, a price of a reservation for a place of short-term lodging that does not include each mandatory fee.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—This section may not be construed to—

(1) preempt any law of a State or political subdivision of a State relating to contracts or torts; or

(2) preempt any law of a State or political subdivision of a State to the extent that such law relates to an act of fraud, unauthorized access to personal information, or notification of unauthorized access to personal information.

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Federal Trade Commission.

(2) CORPORATE, GOVERNMENT, OR INSTITUTIONAL TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.—The term "corporate, government, or institutional travel management program" means—

(A) a program used by a company, government entity, or not-for-profit institution for the travel of the officers, directors, or employees of such company, government entity, or not-for-profit institution; or

(B) a program purchased by a company, government entity, or not-for-profit institution and used for the travel of the officers, directors, or employees of such company, government entity, or not-for-profit institution.

(3) COVERED PROVIDER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "covered provider" means a provider of a place of short-term lodging, a provider of an internet website or other centralized platform, or any other entity who advertises, displays, markets, or otherwise offers a price of a reservation for a place of short-term lodging.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term "covered provider" does not include any entity who advertises, displays, markets, or otherwise offers a price of a reservation for a place of short-term lodging for purchase pursuant to a corporate, government, or institutional travel management program.

(4) MANDATORY FEE.—The term "mandatory fee"—

(A) means each mandatory fee required to complete the booking or stay that is assessed by the covered provider and paid directly by the consumer; and

(B) does not include any tax or fee imposed on the consumer by a governmental or quasi-governmental entity or assessment fees of a government-created special district or program.

(5) PLACE OF SHORT-TERM LODGING.—The term "place of short-term lodging" means a hotel, motel, inn, short-term rental, or other place of lodging that advertises at a price that is a nightly, hourly, or weekly rate.