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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To grant Members of Congress access to detention facilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To grant Members of Congress access to detention facilities, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Help Oversee, Manage,
5 and Evaluate Safe Treatment and Ensure Access without
6 Delay Act of 2019” or the “HOMESTEAD Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. MANDATORY ACCESS TO DETENTION FACILITIES.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—A Member of Congress may not
3 be prevented from entering any detention facility for the
4 purpose of conducting oversight.

5 (a) TEMPORARY MODIFICATION.—The head of a de-
6 tention facility may not make any temporary modification
7 at the detention facility in a manner that alters what is
8 observed by a visiting Member of Congress.

9 (b) NO NOTICE REQUIRED.—A Member of Congress
10 shall not be required to provide notice of intent to enter
11 a detention facility for the purpose of conducting over-
12 sight.

13 (c) DETENTION FACILITY DEFINED.—In this sec-
14 tion, the term “detention facility” means any facility—

15 (1) used to detain or otherwise house aliens;

16 and

17 (2) operated by or for—

18 (A) the Department of Homeland Security
19 (including any facility operated by a private
20 contractor with the Department); or

21 (B) the Department of Health and Human
22 Services (including any facility operated by a
23 private contractor with the Department).