To direct the Federal Trade Commission to develop and disseminate information to the public about scams related to COVID-19, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 3, 2020

Mr. CARTER of Georgia (for himself, Mr. HUDSON, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

SEPTEMBER --, 2020

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed
A BILL

To direct the Federal Trade Commission to develop and disseminate information to the public about scams related to COVID-19, and for other purposes.
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Combating Pandemic
Scams Act of 2020”.

SEC. 2. INFORMATION ABOUT SCAMS RELATED TO COVID-

(a) DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As expeditiously as possible
after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
Commission, in consultation with the Attorney Gen-
eral, the Secretary of Health and Human Services,
the Postmaster General, the Chief Postal Inspector,
and the Internet Crime Complaint Center, shall de-
velop and disseminate information to the public
about scams related to the novel coronavirus
(COVID-19).

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out para-
graph (1), the Commission shall—

(A) include—

(i) information regarding mail, tele-
marketing, and internet fraud and illegal
robocalls related to COVID-19 that identi-
fies the most common scams; and
(ii) information regarding where and how to report instances of scams related to COVID-19, including instructions on how to file a complaint with the appropriate law enforcement agency;

(B) disseminate information under such paragraph in a manner that prioritizes, and that is easily accessible by and user-friendly to, senior citizens and people with infirmities and disabilities;

(C) disseminate information under such paragraph on an internet website of the Commission that serves as a source of information for the public about scams related to COVID-19; and

(D) regularly update the information developed and disseminated under such paragraph to keep pace with the changing nature of scams related to COVID-19.

(b) DATABASE.—As expeditiously as possible after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall, in consultation with State law enforcement agencies, the Director of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and other relevant Federal officials, es-
1 Establish a comprehensive national database, either within
2 or separate from the Consumer Sentinel Network, that
3 tracks instances of scams related to COVID-19.
4 (c) COMMISSION DEFINED.—In this section, the term
5 “Commission” means the Federal Trade Commission.