

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 18, 2024

Ms. Clare Martorana  
Federal Chief Information Officer  
The Office of Management and Budget  
725 17th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Ms. Martorana,

We write to request an update on your progress in developing a technology solution to classification and declassification in accordance with the Amended Sensible Classification Act of 2023. As you know, this bill became law as part of the FY24 National Defense Authorization Act, now known as PL 118-31.

The government systematically overclassifies too much information at great cost to both public trust and national security. At the same time, the government often fails to protect the nation's most important secrets. Part of the solution to both of these challenges involves the adoption of technology that would enable classification and declassification of information to be carried out in a more efficient and effective manner. The statutory requirement includes consultations with the Secretary of Defense, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, the Director of National Intelligence, the Public Interest Declassification Board, the Director of Information Security Oversight Office, and the head of the National Declassification Center of the National Archives and Records Administration, specifically to research an efficient and effective system, to be implemented on an interoperable and federated basis across the federal government for classifying and declassifying information. You may also know that a report to Congress on your progress is due within one year of the law's enactment.

We therefore ask for a timely response to this letter that can satisfactorily answer the following questions:

1. What progress have you made in researching a technology-based solution to support efficient and effective classification and declassification in accordance with statutory requirements?
2. What meetings or coordination have you done with the heads of agencies listed above and in the statute?
3. How will you ensure the technology solution is interoperable and federated across the federal government?
4. Are you on track to meeting a statutory requirement of providing a report to Congress by the end of the year?

This opportunity to adapt our classification and declassification processes will greatly enhance the government's ability to maintain accountability of our classified documents and records, streamline critical processes important to our national security, and work to reestablish trust and transparency between the United States government and the American people.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

  
John Cornyn

  
United States Senator

*Jerry Moran*

Jerry Moran  
United States Senator

*M. Michael Rounds*

M. Michael Rounds  
United States Senator

*James Lankford*

James Lankford  
United States Senator

*Angus King*

Angus King  
United States Senator

*Susan M. Collins*

Susan Collins  
United States Senator

*Martin Heinrich*

Martin Heinrich  
United States Senator

*Ron Wyden*

Ron Wyden  
United States Senator

*Bob Casey, Jr.*

Bob Casey  
United States Senator