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77TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION H. R. 6632

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**FEBRUARY 18, 1942** 

Mr. SUMNERS of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To penalize the divulging of the contents of confidential Government documents.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa- $\mathbf{2}$ tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whoever, without authority, shall willfully and know-3 ingly furnish, communicate, divulge, or publish to any person, 4 in whole or in part, copies or the contents, substance, purport,  $\mathbf{5}$ effect, or meaning of any file, instrument, letter, memoran-6 7 dum, book, pamphlet, paper, document, manuscript, map, picture, plan, record, or other writing in the custody of the 8 United States, or of any agency, officer, or employee thereof, 9 10 declared to be secret or confidential by statute, or declared 11 to be secret or confidential by any rule or regulation of any

## Approved for Release by NSA on 07-18-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526

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department or agency of the United States of which he has
knowledge or which has been published in the Code of
Federal Regulations or in the Federal Register, shall be fined
not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned for not more than two
years, or both. The provisions of this section are in addition
to, and do not supersede, other laws.

7 SEC. 2. The head of any executive department, inde-8 pendent establishment, or other agency may authorize the 9 disclosure of information not declared to be secret or confi-10 dential by statute in the custody of his department, establish-11 ment, or agency to particular persons or classes of persons 12 or to the public generally. The provisions of section 1 of 13 this Act shall not apply to disclosures so authorized.

## REF ID:A40253





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By Mr. Sumners of Texas

FEBBUARY 18, 1942 Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary