H. R. ______

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for penalties for the unauthorized disclosure of confidential information by officers or employees of the Supreme Court, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on ______

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for penalties for the unauthorized disclosure of confidential information by officers or employees of the Supreme Court, and for other purposes.

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

2 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

3 This Act may be cited as the “Leaker Accountability Act of 2022”.

(Original Signature of Member)
SEC. 2. OBSTRUCTION OF SUPREME COURT DELIBERATIONS.

(a) In General.—Chapter 73 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 1522. OBSTRUCTION OF SUPREME COURT DELIBERATIONS.

“(a) In General.—Whoever, while serving as an officer or employee of the Supreme Court, violates this section by knowingly publishing, divulging, disclosing, or making known in any manner or to any extent not authorized by law any confidential information coming to that officer or employee in the course of the employment or official duties of that officer or employee shall be imprisoned not more than 5 years or fined under this title, or both.

“(b) Confidential Information Defined.—In this section, the term ‘confidential information’ includes internal notes on cases heard by the Supreme Court, any communication between a Justice of the Supreme Court and an employee or officer of the Supreme Court or communication between officers and employees of the Supreme Court on a matter pending before the Supreme Court, a draft opinion, a final opinion prior to the date on which such opinion is released to the public, personal information of a Justice of the Supreme Court that is not
otherwise legally available to the public, and any other information designated to be confidential by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court prior to the date on which a violation of subsection (a) occurs.”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 73 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“1522. Obstruction of Supreme Court deliberations.”.