

February 12, 2024

Anupam Singhal, President & CEO of Worldwide ERC (WERC), issued the following statement following the signing into law of the Moving Americans Privacy Protection Act (H.R. 1568)

“In a significant win for military, federal, and private sector transferees, the Moving Americans Privacy Protection Act (MAPPA) has now become law after being passed by both chambers of the U.S. Congress without opposition and being [signed by the President](#).

This outcome is the culmination of nearly a decade of persistent efforts by WERC and the talent mobility industry to close the loophole in U.S. law that has endangered the personal data of military, federal, and private sector transferees shipping household goods through U.S. ports of entry. Previously, laws requiring the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to sell manifest data on vessel shipments to the U.S. to data brokerage firms did not exclude personally identifiable information (PII) of transferees, which then resulted in this PII data becoming freely available to customers of the data brokerage firms. Closing this loophole is a major achievement not just for the talent mobility industry, but also for the transferees whose information is now protected by law.

MAPPA has been championed by a bipartisan group of lawmakers in both the House of Representatives and the Senate, and their work has been crucial in successfully advancing the legislation through Congress. We thank Representatives Mike Waltz and Bill Pascrell and Senators Steve Daines, Gary Peters, Debbie Stabenow, and Roger Marshall for their commitment to protecting the data of U.S. transferees and for the leadership they provided in guiding MAPPA into becoming law.

Enacting MAPPA also would not have been possible without the talent mobility industry coming together to address this threat. WERC and its Compliance Policy Forum, comprising leaders and operational experts from across the industry, have tirelessly supported MAPPA over the years via their expertise and advocacy efforts. Additionally, WERC has worked for nearly 10 years in coalition with the American Trucking Association and International Association of Movers as well as the Military Officers Association of America, National Association of Realtors, and Senior Executives Service, to advance MAPPA. Its signing into law demonstrates the power of stakeholders across the talent mobility industry working together to address critical issues.

Now that MAPPA is law, we urge swift implementation by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Department of Treasury to update its processes and procedures to remove the PII of transferees from manifest data being made available to data brokerages. WERC and our members stand ready to advise and support the agencies with fully implementing the law.”