

## **ReportScams.gov Act**

Senators Maggie Hassan (D-NH) and Rick Scott (R-FL)

Scams are a persistent and growing problem. In 2024, the [FBI received reports](#) of \$16.6 billion in cyber-enabled crime and fraud, including \$1.9 billion in losses for call center scams, alone. Unfortunately, most Americans are familiar with this problem. According to [one recent survey](#), 73% of American adults have been targeted by financial frauds or scams - with 40% having been targeted in the past year. Despite this, the federal government does not have a comprehensive strategy to address scams, and the American people have to navigate a maze of websites when seeking to report scams and get help from law enforcement and federal agencies. Senators Hassan and Scott's *ReportScams.gov Act* would address this problem by requiring the U.S. government to create a comprehensive plan to address scams and a [reportscams.gov](#) website to serve as the American people's central location for scams reporting, information, and assistance.

At least [13 federal agencies](#) work on countering scams and each one largely works independent of the others. Eight of these agencies [receive complaints about scams](#), which can lead to confusion and frustration for Americans who want to report a scam. For example, an American who has been targeted by a tax-related scam could potentially report the scam to the FBI's [internet crimes website](#), the Federal Trade Commission's [fraud reporting website](#), the IRS's [tax fraud and scams reporting website](#), or by [contacting the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration](#). The federal government needs a comprehensive, unified plan to deal with scams, and the American people deserve a clear, easy way to report scams and get connected with help.

The *ReportScams.gov Act* would specifically require the federal government to:

1. Create [reportscams.gov](#) to serve as the American people's central, secure website for scams reporting, information, and assistance. [Reportscams.gov](#) will include:
  - Scam prevention and education resources
  - Descriptions of and information on common scams
  - Resources to help recognize and guard against scammers who impersonate government agencies and private sector entities like banks and other businesses
  - Resources and information to assist Americans who have been scammed
  - A portal where the American public can directly and securely report scams:
    - o Reports will be routed directly to appropriate Federal and State law enforcement, along with information of the person who made the report, so that law enforcement can quickly reach out
    - o Additionally, Americans will receive a copy of their submission with a tracking number, a list of the agencies that received the report (with information on how to follow-up with the agencies), and an estimate of which law enforcement agencies may be reaching out
2. Create a comprehensive Federal Scams Action Plan to prevent and thwart scams, hold scammers accountable, and support scam victims. This plan will be created by a committee that must include the FBI, the Treasury Department, the Homeland Security Department, the Justice Department, the Secret Service, and others.
3. Require annual reports as well as regular performance reviews and updates to the Federal Scams Action Plan - ensuring that the government stays focused on addressing scams.