



Moving Americans Privacy Protection Act

In light of recent increases in identify theft, the *Moving Americans Privacy Protection Act* seeks to protect the personally identifiable information (PII) of those who make international moves with their household goods.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requires manifest sheets in order to disclose and document the cargo of incoming vessels for customs and security purposes. In 1984, the public disclosure of certain manifest information was required. The original intent of this provision was to increase competition, to facilitate better public analysis of import trends, and allow port authorities and transportation companies to more easily identify potential customers and changes in their industries. However, in recent years, PII of relocating individuals has been released, enabling identity theft, credit card fraud, and unwanted solicitations. CBP does offer a process for consumers of shipping services to make their information confidential. However, these forms typical take two months to process and are often processed after the individual has moved. Consumers should not have to request the confidentiality of their PII, it should be the default.

This legislation would simply amend the manifest disclosure process to explicitly require the removal of individuals' PII, such as names, addresses, social security numbers, and passport numbers. This protects the original intent of manifest disclosures and protects PII.