SEC. 418. DEACTIVATING AND PRESERVING COCKPIT VOICE RECORDER DATA.

(a) In General.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall issue guidance for air carriers operating under part 121 or part 135 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, regarding procedures to deactivate and preserve cockpit voice recorder data after a safety incident occurs.

(b) Securing Cockpit Voice Recorder Data.—The guidance referred to in subsection (a) shall include procedures for securing a cockpit voice recorder after the completion of the flight in which a safety incident occurred and arrival at the airport.

(c) Report.—Not later than 30 days after the Administrator issues the guidance under subsection (a), the Administrator shall report to the appropriate committees of Congress and publish on its website the procedures established under subsections (a) and (b).
(d) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in consultation with the National Transportation Safety Board shall make recommendations to the appropriate committees of Congress regarding any additional measures necessary to ensure access to cockpit voice recorder data for safety incidents described in subsection (a).

(e) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term “safety incident” means an occurrence other than an accident, associated with the operation of an aircraft, which affects or could affect the safety of operations.