

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 564

To establish in the Government Printing Office a means of enhancing electronic public access to a wide range of Federal electronic information.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 11 (legislative day, MARCH 3), 1993

Mr. FORD (for himself and Mr. STEVENS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

A BILL

To establish in the Government Printing Office a means of enhancing electronic public access to a wide range of Federal electronic information.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Government Printing
5 Office Electronic Information Access Enhancement Act of
6 1993”.

7 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 44, UNITED STATES CODE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title 44, United States Code, is
9 amended by adding at the end the following new chapter:

1 **“CHAPTER 41—ACCESS TO FEDERAL**
2 **ELECTRONIC INFORMATION**

“Sec.

“4101. Electronic directory; online access to publications; electronic storage facility.

“4102. Fees.

“4103. Biennial report.

“4104. Definition.

3 **“§ 4101. Electronic directory; online access to publi-**
4 **cations; electronic storage facility**

5 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Superintendent of Docu-
6 ments, under the direction of the Public Printer, shall—

7 “(1) maintain an electronic directory of Federal
8 electronic information;

9 “(2) provide a system of online access to the
10 Congressional Record, the Federal Register, and, as
11 determined by the Superintendent of Documents,
12 other appropriate publications distributed by the Su-
13 perintendent of Documents; and

14 “(3) operate an electronic storage facility for
15 Federal electronic information to which online access
16 is made available under paragraph (2).

17 “(b) DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS.—To the extent
18 practicable, the Superintendent of Documents shall ac-
19 commodate any request by the head of a department or
20 agency to include in the system of access referred to in
21 subsection (a)(2) information that is under the control of
22 the department or agency involved.

1 “(c) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this section,
2 the Superintendent of Documents shall consult—

3 “(1) users of the directory and the system of
4 access provided for under subsection (a); and

5 “(2) other providers of similar information serv-
6 ices.

7 The purpose of such consultation shall be to assess the
8 quality and value of the directory and the system, in light
9 of user needs.

10 **“§4102. Fees**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Superintendent of Docu-
12 ments, under the direction of the Public Printer, may
13 charge reasonable fees for use of the directory and the
14 system of access provided for under section 4101, except
15 that use of the directory and the system shall be made
16 available to depository libraries without charge. The fees
17 received shall be treated in the same manner as moneys
18 received from sale of documents under section 1702 of this
19 title.

20 “(b) COST RECOVERY.—The fees charged under this
21 section shall be set so as to recover the incremental cost
22 of dissemination of the information involved, with the cost
23 to be computed without regard to section 1708 of this
24 title.

1 **“§ 4103. Biennial report**

2 “Not later than December 31 of each odd-numbered
3 year, the Public Printer shall submit to the Congress, with
4 respect to the two preceding fiscal years, a report on the
5 directory, the system of access, and the electronic storage
6 facility referred to in section 4101(a). The report shall in-
7 clude a description of the functions involved, including a
8 statement of cost savings in comparison with traditional
9 forms of information distribution.

10 **“§ 4104. Definition**

11 “As used in this chapter, the term ‘Federal electronic
12 information’ means Federal public information stored
13 electronically.”.

14 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters
15 for title 44, United States Code, is amended by adding
16 at the end the following new item:

“41. Access to Federal Electronic Information 4101”.

17 **SEC. 3. STATUS REPORT.**

18 Not later than June 30, 1994, the Public Printer
19 shall submit to the Congress a report on the status of the
20 directory, the system of access, and the electronic storage
21 facility referred to in section 4101 of title 44, United
22 States Code, as added by section 2(a).

23 **SEC. 4. SPECIAL RULES.**

24 (a) OPERATIONAL DEADLINE.—The directory, the
25 system of access, and the electronic storage facility re-

1 ferred to in section 4101 of title 44, United States Code,
2 as added by section 2(a), shall be operational not later
3 than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

4 (b) FIRST BIENNIAL REPORT.—The first report re-
5 ferred to in section 4103 of title 44, United States Code,
6 as added by section 2(a), shall be submitted not later than
7 December 31, 1995.

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