

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2743

To require the Comptroller General to prepare statements for bills and resolutions reported by committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate on whether any new entities, programs, or functions authorized by the bills or resolutions are redundant with existing Federal entities, programs, or functions and could be more efficiently performed by an existing Federal entity, program, or function, and to require such statements to accompany reports on legislation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 15, 2003

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require the Comptroller General to prepare statements for bills and resolutions reported by committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate on whether any new entities, programs, or functions authorized by the bills or resolutions are redundant with existing Federal entities, programs, or functions and could be more efficiently performed by an existing Federal entity, program, or function, and to require such statements to accompany reports on legislation.

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 Account-
5 ability and Streamlining Act of 2003”.

6 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT FOR GAO STATEMENTS ON LEGISLA-**
7 **TION PROVIDING NEW ENTITY, PROGRAM, OR**
8 **FUNCTION.**

9 (a) GAO STATEMENT REQUIRED.—The Comptroller
10 General shall, to the extent practicable, prepare for each
11 bill or joint resolution of a public character reported by
12 any subcommittee or committee of the House or Rep-
13 resentatives or the Senate, and submit to such sub-
14 committee or committee, a statement containing—

15 (1) a determination of whether new Federal en-
16 tities, programs, or functions are authorized by the
17 bill or resolution; and

18 (2) if a new entity, program, or function is so
19 authorized, a determination of—

20 (A) whether an existing Federal entity or
21 program carries out functions that are the same
22 or similar to those authorized by the bill or res-
23 olution; and

24 (B) if such an entity or program exists,
25 whether such entity or program may more ef-

1 fectively and efficiently perform the functions
2 and carry out the purposes of the bill or resolu-
3 tion than the entity or program authorized by
4 the bill or resolution.

5 (b) REQUIREMENT TO INCLUDE GAO STATEMENT
6 IN REPORTS ON LEGISLATION.—Whenever a committee of
7 either House reports to its House a bill or joint resolution
8 of a public character, the report accompanying that bill
9 or joint resolution shall contain the statement prepared
10 by the Comptroller General for that bill or resolution
11 under subsection (a). If the statement is not available
12 when the committee report is filed, the committee shall
13 make such information available to Members as soon as
14 practicable upon submission of the statement to the com-
15 mittee by the Comptroller General.

16 (c) EXERCISE OF CONGRESSIONAL RULEMAKING
17 POWER.—The provisions of this Act are enacted by Con-
18 gress—

19 (1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of
20 the House of Representatives and the Senate, re-
21 spectively, and as such they shall be considered a
22 part of the rules of the House of Representatives
23 and the Senate and such rules shall supersede other
24 rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent
25 therewith; and

1 (2) with full recognition of the constitutional
2 right of either House to change such rules (so far
3 as relating to such House) at any time, in the same
4 manner, and to the same extent as in the case of
5 any other rule of such House.

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