114TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. 3189

To amend the Federal Reserve Act to establish requirements for policy rules and blackout periods of the Federal Open Market Committee, to establish requirements for certain activities of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and to amend title 31, United States Code, to reform the manner in which the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System is audited, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 23, 2015

Mr. Huizenga of Michigan introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, 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 amend the Federal Reserve Act to establish requirements for policy rules and blackout periods of the Federal Open Market Committee, to establish requirements for certain activities of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and to amend title 31, United States Code, to reform the manner in which the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System is audited, and for other purposes.

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

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

- 2 (a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the
- 3 "Fed Oversight Reform and Modernization Act of 2015"
- 4 or the "FORM Act of 2015".
- 5 (b) Table of Contents.—The table of contents for

6 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Requirements for policy rules of the Federal Open Market Committee.
- Sec. 3. Federal Open Market Committee blackout period.
- Sec. 4. Membership of Federal Open Market Committee.
- Sec. 5. Requirements for stress tests and supervisory letters for the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.
- Sec. 6. Frequency of testimony of the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to Congress.
- Sec. 7. Vice Chairman for Supervision report requirement.
- Sec. 8. Economic analysis of regulations of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.
- Sec. 9. Salaries, financial disclosures, and office staff of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.
- Sec. 10. Requirements for international processes.
- Sec. 11. Amendments to powers of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.
- Sec. 12. Interest rates on balances maintained at a Federal Reserve bank by depository institutions established by Federal Open Market Committee.
- Sec. 13. Audit reform and transparency for the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

7 SEC. 2. REQUIREMENTS FOR POLICY RULES OF THE FED-

- 8 ERAL OPEN MARKET COMMITTEE.
- 9 The Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 221 et seq.) is
- 10 amended by inserting after section 2B the following new
- 11 section:
- 12 "SEC. 2C. DIRECTIVE POLICY RULES OF THE FEDERAL
- 13 OPEN MARKET COMMITTEE.
- 14 "(a) Definitions.—In this section the following
- 15 definitions shall apply:

1	"(1) Appropriate congressional commit-
2	TEES.—The term 'appropriate congressional com-
3	mittees' means the Committee on Financial Services
4	of the House of Representatives and the Committee
5	on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Sen-
6	ate.
7	"(2) DIRECTIVE POLICY RULE.—The term 'Di-
8	rective Policy Rule' means a policy rule developed by
9	the Federal Open Market Committee that meets the
10	requirements of subsection (c) and that provides the
11	basis for the Open Market Operations Directive.
12	"(3) GDP.—The term 'GDP' means the gross
13	domestic product of the United States as computed
14	and published by the Department of Commerce.
15	"(4) Intermediate policy input.—The term
16	'Intermediate Policy Input'—
17	"(A) may include any variable determined
18	by the Federal Open Market Committee as a
19	necessary input to guide open-market oper-
20	ations;
21	"(B) shall include an estimate of, and the
22	method of calculation for, the current rate of
23	inflation or current inflation expectations; and
24	"(C) shall include, specifying whether the
25	variable or estimate is historical current, or a

1	forecast and the method of calculation, at least
2	one of—
3	"(i) an estimate of real GDP, nominal
4	GDP, or potential GDP;
5	"(ii) an estimate of the monetary ag-
6	gregate compiled by the Board of Gov-
7	ernors of the Federal Reserve System and
8	Federal reserve banks; or
9	"(iii) an interactive variable or a net
10	estimate composed of the estimates de-
11	scribed in clauses (i) and (ii).
12	"(5) Legislative day.—The term 'legislative
13	day' means a day on which either House of Congress
14	is in session.
15	"(6) Open market operations directive.—
16	The term 'Open Market Operations Directive' means
17	an order to achieve a specified Policy Instrument
18	Target provided to the Federal Reserve Bank of
19	New York by the Federal Open Market Committee
20	pursuant to powers authorized under section 14 of
21	this Act that guide open-market operations.
22	"(7) Policy instrument.—The term 'Policy
23	Instrument' means—
24	"(A) the nominal Federal funds rate;

1	"(B) the nominal rate of interest paid on
2	nonborrowed reserves; or
3	"(C) the discount window primary credit
4	interest rate most recently published on the
5	Federal Reserve Statistical Release on selected
6	interest rates (daily or weekly), commonly re-
7	ferred to as the H.15 release.
8	"(8) Policy instrument target.—The term
9	'Policy Instrument Target' means the target for the
10	Policy Instrument specified in the Open Market Op-
11	erations Directive.
12	"(9) Reference Policy Rule.—The term
13	'Reference Policy Rule' means a calculation of the
14	nominal Federal funds rate as equal to the sum of
15	the following:
16	"(A) The rate of inflation over the pre-
17	vious four quarters.
18	"(B) One-half of the percentage deviation
19	of the real GDP from an estimate of potential
20	GDP.
21	"(C) One-half of the difference between the
22	rate of inflation over the previous four quarters
23	and two percent.
24	"(D) Two percent.

1	"(b) Submitting a Directive Policy Rule.—Not
2	later than 48 hours after the end of a meeting of the Fed-
3	eral Open Market Committee, the Chairman of the Fed-
4	eral Open Market Committee shall submit to the appro-
5	priate congressional committees and the Comptroller Gen-
6	eral of the United States a Directive Policy Rule and a
7	statement that identifies the members of the Federal Open
8	Market Committee who voted in favor of the Rule.
9	"(c) Requirements for a Directive Policy
10	Rule.—A Directive Policy Rule shall—
11	"(1) identify the Policy Instrument the Direc-
12	tive Policy Rule is designed to target;
13	"(2) describe the strategy or rule of the Federal
14	Open Market Committee for the systematic quan-
15	titative adjustment of the Policy Instrument Target
16	to respond to a change in the Intermediate Policy
17	Inputs;
18	"(3) include a function that comprehensively
19	models the interactive relationship between the In-
20	termediate Policy Inputs;
21	"(4) include the coefficients of the Directive
22	Policy Rule that generate the current Policy Instru-
23	ment Target and a range of predicted future values
24	for the Policy Instrument Target if changes occur in
25	any Intermediate Policy Input;

1	"(5) describe the procedure for adjusting the	
2	supply of bank reserves to achieve the Policy Instru	
3	ment Target;	
4	"(6) include a statement as to whether the Di-	
5	rective Policy Rule substantially conforms to the	
6	Reference Policy Rule and, if applicable—	
7	"(A) an explanation of the extent to which	
8	it departs from the Reference Policy Rule;	
9	"(B) a detailed justification for that depar-	
10	ture; and	
11	"(C) a description of the circumstances	
12	under which the Directive Policy Rule may be	
13	amended in the future;	
14	"(7) include a certification that such Rule is ex-	
15	pected to support the economy in achieving stable	
16	prices and maximum natural employment over the	
17	long term; and	
18	"(8) include a calculation that describes with	
19	mathematical precision the expected annual inflation	
20	rate over a 5-year period.	
21	"(d) GAO REPORT.—The Comptroller General of the	
22	United States shall compare the Directive Policy Rule sub-	
23	mitted under subsection (b) with the rule that was most	
24	recently submitted to determine whether the Directive Pol-	
25	icy Rule has materially changed. If the Directive Policy	

- 1 Rule has materially changed, the Comptroller General
- 2 shall, not later than 7 days after each meeting of the Fed-
- 3 eral Open Market Committee, prepare and submit a com-
- 4 pliance report to the appropriate congressional committees
- 5 specifying whether the rule submitted after that meeting
- 6 and the Federal Open Market Committee are in compli-
- 7 ance with this section.
- 8 "(e) Changing Market Conditions.—

changing market conditions.

- "(1) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to require that the plans with respect to the systematic quantitative adjustment of the Policy Instrument Target described under subsection (c)(2) be implemented if the Federal Open Market Committee determines that such plans cannot or should not be achieved due to
 - "(2) GAO APPROVAL OF UPDATE.—Upon determining that plans described in paragraph (1) cannot or should not be achieved, the Federal Open Market Committee shall submit an explanation for that determination and an updated version of the Directive Policy Rule to the Comptroller General of the United States and the appropriate congressional committees not later than 48 hours after making the determination. The Comptroller General shall, not

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- 1 later than 48 hours after receiving such updated
- 2 version, prepare and submit a compliance report de-
- 3 termining whether such updated version and the
- 4 Federal Open Market Committee are in compliance
- 5 with this section.
- 6 "(f) DIRECTIVE POLICY RULE AND FEDERAL OPEN
- 7 Market Committee Not in Compliance.—
- 8 "(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Comptroller General
- 9 of the United States determines that the Directive
- 10 Policy Rule and the Federal Open Market Com-
- 11 mittee are not in compliance with this section in the
- report submitted pursuant to subsection (d), or that
- the updated version of the Directive Policy Rule and
- the Federal Open Market Committee are not in com-
- pliance with this section in the report submitted pur-
- suant to subsection (e)(2), the Chairman of the
- 17 Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
- shall, not later than 7 legislative days after the date
- of submission of such a report, testify before the ap-
- propriate congressional committees as to why the
- 21 Directive Policy Rule, the updated version, or the
- Federal Open Market Committee is not in compli-
- ance.
- 24 "(2) GAO AUDIT.—Notwithstanding subsection
- 25 (b) of section 714 of title 31, United States Code,

- 1 upon submitting a report of noncompliance pursuant
- 2 to subsection (d) or subsection (e)(2) and after the
- 3 period of 7 legislative days described in paragraph
- 4 (1), the Comptroller General shall audit the conduct
- 5 of monetary policy by the Board of Governors of the
- 6 Federal Reserve System and the Federal Open Mar-
- 7 ket Committee upon request of the appropriate con-
- 8 gressional committee. Such committee may specify
- 9 the parameters of such audit.
- 10 "(g) Congressional Hearings.—The Chairman of
- 11 the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
- 12 shall, if requested by either of the appropriate congres-
- 13 sional committees and not later than 7 legislative days
- 14 after such request, appear before such committee to ex-
- 15 plain any change to the Directive Policy Rule.".
- 16 SEC. 3. FEDERAL OPEN MARKET COMMITTEE BLACKOUT
- 17 PERIOD.
- 18 Section 12A of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C.
- 19 263) is amended by adding at the end the following new
- 20 subsection:
- 21 "(d) Blackout Period.—
- 22 "(1) IN GENERAL.—During a blackout period,
- 23 the only public communications that may be made
- by members and staff of the Committee with respect
- to macroeconomic or financial developments or about

1	current or prospective monetary policy issues are the
2	following:
3	"(A) The dissemination of published data,
4	surveys, and reports that have been cleared for
5	publication by the Board of Governors of the
6	Federal Reserve System.
7	"(B) Answers to technical questions spe-
8	cific to a data release.
9	"(C) Communications with respect to the
10	prudential or supervisory functions of the
11	Board of Governors.
12	"(2) Blackout period defined.—For pur-
13	poses of this subsection, and with respect to a meet-
14	ing of the Committee described under subsection (a),
15	the term 'blackout period' means the time period
16	that—
17	"(A) begins immediately after midnight on
18	the day that is one week prior to the date on
19	which such meeting takes place; and
20	"(B) ends at midnight on the day after the
21	date on which such meeting takes place.
22	"(3) Exemption for chairman of the
23	BOARD OF GOVERNORS.—Nothing in this section
24	shall prohibit the Chairman of the Board of Gov-

1	ernors of the Federal Reserve System from partici-
2	pating in or issuing public communications.".
3	SEC. 4. MEMBERSHIP OF FEDERAL OPEN MARKET COM-
4	MITTEE.
5	Section 12A(a) of the Federal Reserve Act (12
6	U.S.C. 263(a)) is amended—
7	(1) in the first sentence, by striking "five" and
8	inserting "six";
9	(2) in the second sentence, by striking "One by
10	the board of directors" and all that follows through
11	the period at the end and inserting the following:
12	"One by the boards of directors of the Federal Re-
13	serve Banks of New York and Boston; one by the
14	boards of directors of the Federal Reserve Banks of
15	Philadelphia and Cleveland; one by the boards of di-
16	rectors of the Federal Reserve Banks of Richmond
17	and Atlanta; one by the boards of directors of the
18	Federal Reserve Banks of Chicago and St. Louis;
19	one by the boards of directors of the Federal Re-
20	serve Banks of Minneapolis and Kansas City; and
21	one by the boards of directors of the Federal Re-
22	serve Banks of Dallas and San Francisco."; and
23	(3) by inserting after the second sentence the
24	following: "In odd numbered calendar years, one
25	representative shall be elected from each of the Fed-

1	eral Reserve Banks of Boston, Philadelphia, Rich-
2	mond, Chicago, Minneapolis, and Dallas. In even-
3	numbered calendar years, one representative shall be
4	elected from each of the Federal Reserve Banks of
5	New York, Cleveland, Atlanta, St. Louis, Kansas
6	City, and San Francisco.".
7	SEC. 5. REQUIREMENTS FOR STRESS TESTS AND SUPER-
8	VISORY LETTERS FOR THE BOARD OF GOV-
9	ERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM.
10	(a) Stress Test Rulemaking, GAO Review, and
11	Publication of Results.—Section 165(i)(1)(B) of the
12	Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protec-
13	tion Act (12 U.S.C. 5365(i)(1)(B)) is amended—
14	(1) by amending clause (i) to read as follows:
15	"(i) shall—
16	"(I) issue regulations, after pro-
17	viding for public notice and comment,
18	that provide for at least 3 different
19	sets of conditions under which the
20	evaluation required by this subsection
21	shall be conducted, including baseline,
22	adverse, and severely adverse, and
23	methodologies, including models used
24	to estimate losses on certain assets;
25	and

1	"(II) provide copies of such regu-
2	lations to the Comptroller General of
3	the United States and the Panel of
4	Economic Advisors of the Congres-
5	sional Budget Office before publishing
6	such regulations;"; and
7	(2) in clause (v), by inserting before the period
8	the following: ", including any results of a resub-
9	mitted test".
10	(b) Application of CCAR.—Section 165(i)(1) of
11	such Act is further amended by adding at the end the fol-
12	lowing new subparagraph:
13	"(C) Application to ccar.—The require-
14	ments of subparagraph (B) shall apply to all
15	stress tests performed under the Comprehensive
16	Capital Analysis and Review exercise estab-
17	lished by the Board of Governors.".
18	(c) Publication of the Number of Supervisory
19	LETTERS SENT TO THE LARGEST BANK HOLDING COM-
20	PANIES.—Section 165 of such Act is further amended by
21	adding at the end the following new subsection:
22	"(l) Publication of Supervisory Letter Infor-
23	MATION.—The Board of Governors shall publicly dis-
24	close—

1	"(1) the aggregate number of supervisory let-
2	ters sent to bank holding companies described in
3	subsection (a) since the date of the enactment of
4	this section, and keep such number updated; and
5	"(2) the aggregate number of such letters that
6	are designated as 'Matters Requiring Attention' and
7	the aggregate number of such letters that are des-
8	ignated as 'Matters Requiring Immediate Atten-
9	tion'.''.
10	SEC. 6. FREQUENCY OF TESTIMONY OF THE CHAIRMAN OF
11	THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FED-
12	ERAL RESERVE SYSTEM TO CONGRESS.
13	(a) In General.—Section 2B of the Federal Reserve
14	Act (12 U.S.C. 225b) is amended—
15	(1) by striking "semi-annual" each place it ap-
16	pears and inserting "quarterly"; and
17	(2) in subsection (a)(2)—
18	(A) by inserting "and October 20" after
19	"July 20" each place it appears; and
20	(B) by inserting "and May 20" after
21	"February 20" each place it appears.
22	(b) Conforming Amendment.—Paragraph (12) of
23	section 10 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C.
24	247b(12)) is amended by striking "semi-annual" and in-
25	serting "quarterly".

SEC. 7. VICE CHAIRMAN FOR SUPERVISION REPORT RE-

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)	QUIREMENT.
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- 3 Paragraph (12) of section 10 of the Federal Reserve
- 4 Act (12 U.S.C. 247(b)) is amended—
- 5 (1) by redesignating such paragraph as para-
- 6 graph (11); and
- 7 (2) in such paragraph, by adding at the end the
- 8 following: "In each such appearance, the Vice Chair-
- 9 man for Supervision shall provide written testimony
- that includes the status of all pending and antici-
- pated rulemakings that are being made by the
- Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.
- 13 If, at the time of any appearance described in this
- paragraph, the position of Vice Chairman for Super-
- vision is vacant, the Vice Chairman for the Board of
- Governors of the Federal Reserve System (who has
- the responsibility to serve in the absence of the
- 18 Chairman) shall appear instead and provide the re-
- 19 quired written testimony. If, at the time of any ap-
- 20 pearance described in this paragraph, both Vice
- 21 Chairman positions are vacant, the Chairman of the
- 22 Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
- shall appear instead and provide the required writ-
- ten testimony.".

1	SEC. 8. ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF REGULATIONS OF THE
2	BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RE-
3	SERVE SYSTEM.
4	(a) Amendment to Federal Reserve Act.—Sec-
5	tion 11 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 248) is
6	amended by inserting after subsection (l) the following
7	new subsection:
8	"(m) Consideration of Economic Impacts.—
9	"(1) In general.—Before issuing any regula-
10	tion, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve
11	System shall—
12	"(A) clearly identify the nature and source
13	of the problem that the proposed regulation is
14	designed to address and assess the significance
15	of that problem;
16	"(B) assess whether any new regulation is
17	warranted or, with respect to a proposed regu-
18	lation that the Board of Governors is required
19	to issue by statute and with respect to which
20	the Board has the authority to exempt certain
21	persons from the application of such regulation,
22	compare—
23	"(i) the costs and benefits of the pro-
24	posed regulation; and
25	"(ii) the costs and benefits of a regu-
26	lation under which the Board exempts all

persons from the application of the pro-posed regulation, to the extent the Board is able; "(C) assess the qualitative and quantitative costs and benefits of the proposed regu-lation and propose or adopt a regulation only on a reasoned determination that the benefits of the proposed regulation outweigh the costs of the regulation;

"(D) identify and assess available alternatives to the proposed regulation that were considered, including any alternative offered by a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System or the Federal Open Market Committee and including any modification of an existing regulation, together with an explanation of why the regulation meets the regulatory objectives more effectively than the alternatives; and

"(E) ensure that any proposed regulation is accessible, consistent, written in plain language, and easy to understand and shall measure, and seek to improve, the actual results of regulatory requirements.

"(2) Considerations and actions.—

1	"(A) REQUIRED ACTIONS.—In deciding
2	whether and how to regulate, the Board shall
3	assess the costs and benefits of available regu-
4	latory alternatives, including the alternative of
5	not regulating, and choose the approach that
6	maximizes net benefits. Specifically, the Board
7	shall—
8	"(i) evaluate whether, consistent with
9	achieving regulatory objectives, the regula-
10	tion is tailored to impose the least impact
11	on the availability of credit and economic
12	growth and to impose the least burden on
13	society, including market participants, in-
14	dividuals, businesses of different sizes, and
15	other entities (including State and local
16	governmental entities), taking into ac-
17	count, to the extent practicable, the cumu-
18	lative costs of regulations;
19	"(ii) evaluate whether the regulation
20	is inconsistent, incompatible, or duplicative
21	of other Federal regulations; and
22	"(iii) with respect to a proposed regu-
23	lation that the Board is required to issue
24	by statute and with respect to which the

Board has the authority to exempt certain

1	persons from the application of such regu-
2	lation, compare—
3	"(I) the costs and benefits of the
4	proposed regulation; and
5	"(II) the costs and benefits of a
6	regulation under which the Board ex-
7	empts all persons from the application
8	of the proposed regulation, to the ex-
9	tent the Board is able.
10	"(B) Additional considerations.—In
11	addition, in making a reasoned determination of
12	the costs and benefits of a proposed regulation,
13	the Board shall, to the extent that each is rel-
14	evant to the particular proposed regulation,
15	take into consideration the impact of the regu-
16	lation, including secondary costs such as an in-
17	crease in the cost or a reduction in the avail-
18	ability of credit or investment services or prod-
19	ucts, on—
20	"(i) the safety and soundness of the
21	United States banking system;
22	"(ii) market liquidity in securities
23	markets;
24	"(iii) small businesses;
25	"(iv) community banks;

1	"(v) economic growth;
2	"(vi) cost and access to capital;
3	"(vii) market stability;
4	"(viii) global competitiveness;
5	"(ix) job creation;
6	"(x) the effectiveness of the monetary
7	policy transmission mechanism; and
8	"(xi) employment levels.
9	"(3) Explanation and comments.—The
10	Board shall explain in its final rule the nature of
11	comments that it received and shall provide a re-
12	sponse to those comments in its final rule, including
13	an explanation of any changes that were made in re-
14	sponse to those comments and the reasons that the
15	Board did not incorporate concerns related to the
16	potential costs or benefits in the final rule.
17	"(4) Postadoption impact assessment.—
18	"(A) IN GENERAL.—Whenever the Board
19	adopts or amends a regulation designated as a
20	'major rule' within the meaning of section
21	804(2) of title 5, United States Code, it shall
22	state, in its adopting release, the following:
23	"(i) The purposes and intended con-
24	sequences of the regulation.

1	"(ii) The assessment plan that will be
2	used, consistent with the requirements of
3	subparagraph (B), to assess whether the
4	regulation has achieved the stated pur-
5	poses.
6	"(iii) Appropriate postimplementation
7	quantitative and qualitative metrics to
8	measure the economic impact of the regu-
9	lation and the extent to which the regula-
10	tion has accomplished the stated purpose
11	of the regulation.
12	"(iv) Any reasonably foreseeable indi-
13	rect effects that may result from the regu-
14	lation.
15	"(B) REQUIREMENTS OF ASSESSMENT
16	PLAN AND REPORT.—
17	"(i) REQUIREMENTS OF PLAN.—The
18	assessment plan required under this para-
19	graph shall consider the costs, benefits,
20	and intended and unintended consequences
21	of the regulation. The plan shall specify
22	the data to be collected, the methods for
23	collection and analysis of the data, and a
24	date for completion of the assessment. The
25	assessment plan shall include an analysis

of any jobs added or lost as a result of the regulation, differentiating between public and private sector jobs.

> "(ii) Submission and publication OF REPORT.—The Board shall, not later than 2 years after the publication of the adopting release, publish the assessment plan in the Federal Register for notice and comment. If the Board determines, at least 90 days before the deadline for publication of the assessment plan, that an extension is necessary, the Board shall publish a notice of such extension and the specific reasons why the extension is necessary in the Federal Register. Any material modification of the assessment plan, as necessary unforeseen aspects assess orconsequences of the regulation, shall be promptly published in the Federal Register for notice and comment.

> "(iii) Data collection not sub-Ject to notice and comment require-Ments.—If the Board has published the assessment plan for notice and comment at least 30 days before the adoption of a reg-

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ulation designated as a major rule, the collection of data under the assessment plan shall not be subject to the notice and comment requirements in section 3506(c) of title 44, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Paperwork Reduction Act). Any material modification of the plan that requires collection of data not previously published for notice and comment shall also be exempt from such requirements if the Board has published notice in the Federal Register for comment on the additional data to be collected, at least 30 days before the initiation of data collection.

"(iv) Final action.—Not later than 180 days after publication of the assessment plan in the Federal Register, the Board shall issue for notice and comment a proposal to amend or rescind the regulation, or shall publish a notice that the Board has determined that no action will be taken on the regulation. Such a notice will be deemed a final agency action.

1	"(5) Covered regulations and other ac-
2	TIONS.—Solely as used in this subsection, the term
3	'regulation'—
4	"(A) means a statement of general applica-
5	bility and future effect that is designed to im-
6	plement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy, or
7	to describe the procedure or practice require-
8	ments of the Board of Governors, including
9	rules, orders of general applicability, interpre-
10	tive releases, and other statements of general
11	applicability that the Board of Governors in-
12	tends to have the force and effect of law; and
13	"(B) does not include—
14	"(i) a regulation issued in accordance
15	with the formal rulemaking provisions of
16	section 556 or 557 of title 5, United States
17	Code;
18	"(ii) a regulation that is limited to the
19	organization, management, or personnel
20	matters of the Board of Governors;
21	"(iii) a regulation promulgated pursu-
22	ant to statutory authority that expressly
23	prohibits compliance with this provision; or
24	"(iv) a regulation that is certified by
25	the Board of Governors to be an emer-

1	gency action, if such certification is pub-
2	lished in the Federal Register.".
3	(b) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in this sec-
4	tion shall apply to the requirements regarding the conduct
5	of monetary policy described in section 2.
6	SEC. 9. SALARIES, FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES, AND OFFICE
7	STAFF OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF
8	THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM.
9	(a) In General.—Section 11 of the Federal Reserve
10	Act (12 U.S.C. 248) is amended—
11	(1) by redesignating the second subsection (s)
12	(relating to "Assessments, Fees, and Other Charges
13	for Certain Companies") as subsection (t); and
14	(2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
15	sections:
16	"(u) Ethics Standards for Members and Em-
17	PLOYEES.—
18	"(1) Prohibited and restricted financial
19	INTERESTS AND TRANSACTIONS.—The members and
20	employees of the Board of Governors of the Federal
21	Reserve System shall be subject to the provisions
22	under section 4401.102 of title 5, Code of Federal
23	Regulations, to the same extent as such provisions
24	apply to an employee of the Securities and Exchange
25	Commission.

- "(2) Treatment of Brokerage accounts

 And availability of account statements.—The

 members and employees of the Board of Governors

 of the Federal Reserve System shall—
 - "(A) disclose all brokerage accounts that they maintain, as well as those in which they control trading or have a financial interest (including managed accounts, trust accounts, investment club accounts, and the accounts of spouses or minor children who live with the member or employee); and
 - "(B) with respect to any securities account that the member or employee is required to disclose to the Board of Governors, authorize their brokers and dealers to send duplicate account statements directly to Board of Governors.
 - "(3) Prohibitions related to outside employees of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System shall be subject to the prohibitions related to outside employment and activities described under section 4401.103(c) of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, to the same extent as such prohibitions apply to an employee of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

1	"(4) Additional ethics standards.—The
2	members and employees of the Board of Governors
3	of the Federal Reserve System shall be subject to—
4	"(A) the employee responsibilities and con-
5	duct regulations of the Office of Personnel
6	Management under part 735 of title 5, Code of
7	Federal Regulations;
8	"(B) the canons of ethics contained in sub-
9	part C of part 200 of title 17, Code of Federal
10	Regulations, to the same extent as such subpart
11	applies to the employees of the Securities and
12	Exchange Commission; and
13	"(C) the regulations concerning the con-
14	duct of members and employees and former
15	members and employees contained in subpart M
16	of part 200 of title 17, Code of Federal Regula-
17	tions, to the same extent as such subpart ap-
18	plies to the employees of the Securities and Ex-
19	change Commission.
20	"(v) DISCLOSURE OF STAFF SALARIES AND FINAN-
21	CIAL INFORMATION.—The Board of Governors of the Fed-
22	eral Reserve System shall make publicly available, on the
23	website of the Board of Governors, a searchable database
24	that contains the names of all members, officers, and em-
25	ployees of the Board of Governors who receive an annual

- 1 salary in excess of the annual rate of basic pay for GS-
- 2 15 of the General Schedule, and—
- 3 "(1) the yearly salary information for such indi-
- 4 viduals, along with any nonsalary compensation re-
- 5 ceived by such individuals; and
- 6 "(2) any financial disclosures required to be
- 7 made by such individuals.".
- 8 (b) Office Staff for Each Member of the
- 9 Board of Governors.—Subsection (1) of section 11 of
- 10 the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 248) is amended by
- 11 adding at the end the following: "Each member of the
- 12 Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System may
- 13 employ, at a minimum, 2 individuals, with such individuals
- 14 selected by such member and the salaries of such individ-
- 15 uals set by such member. A member may employ addi-
- 16 tional individuals as determined necessary by the Board
- 17 of Governors.".
- 18 SEC. 10. REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL PROC-
- 19 ESSES.
- 20 (a) Board of Governors Requirements.—Sec-
- 21 tion 11 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 248), as
- 22 amended by section 9 of this Act, is further amended by
- 23 adding at the end the following new subsection:
- 24 "(w) International Processes.—

1	"(1) Notice of process; consultation.—At
2	least 30 calendar days before any member or em-
3	ployee of the Board of Governors of the Federal Re-
4	serve System participates in a process of setting fi-
5	nancial standards as a part of any foreign or multi-
6	national entity, the Board of Governors shall—
7	"(A) issue a notice of the process, includ-
8	ing the subject matter, scope, and goals of the
9	process, to the Committee on Financial Services
10	of the House of Representatives and the Com-
11	mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
12	of the Senate;
13	"(B) make such notice available to the
14	public, including on the website of the Board of
15	Governors; and
16	"(C) solicit public comment, and consult
17	with the committees described under subpara-
18	graph (A), with respect to the subject matter,
19	scope, and goals of the process.
20	"(2) Public reports on process.—After the
21	end of any process described under paragraph (1),
22	the Board of Governors shall issue a public report
23	on the topics that were discussed during the process

and any new or revised rulemakings or policy

changes that the Board of Governors believes should be implemented as a result of the process.

- "(3) Notice of Agreements; consultation.—At least 90 calendar days before any member or employee of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System participates in a process of setting financial standards as a part of any foreign or multinational entity, the Board of Governors shall—
 - "(A) issue a notice of agreement to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate;
 - "(B) make such notice available to the public, including on the website of the Board of Governors; and
 - "(C) consult with the committees described under subparagraph (A) with respect to the nature of the agreement and any anticipated effects such agreement will have on the economy.
- "(4) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'process' shall include any official proceeding or meeting on financial regulation of a recognized international organization with authority to set financial standards on a global or regional

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- level, including the Financial Stability Board, the
- 2 Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (or a simi-
- 3 lar organization), and the International Association
- 4 of Insurance Supervisors (or a similar organiza-
- 5 tion).".
- 6 (b) FDIC REQUIREMENTS.—The Federal Deposit
- 7 Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1811 et seq.) is amended by
- 8 adding at the end the following new section:

9 "SEC. 51. INTERNATIONAL PROCESSES.

- 10 "(a) Notice of Process; Consultation.—At least
- 11 30 calendar days before the Board of Directors partici-
- 12 pates in a process of setting financial standards as a part
- 13 of any foreign or multinational entity, the Board of Direc-
- 14 tors shall—
- 15 "(1) issue a notice of the process, including the
- subject matter, scope, and goals of the process, to
- the Committee on Financial Services of the House of
- 18 Representatives and the Committee on Banking,
- Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate;
- 20 "(2) make such notice available to the public,
- 21 including on the website of the Corporation; and
- 22 "(3) solicit public comment, and consult with
- the committees described under paragraph (1), with
- respect to the subject matter, scope, and goals of the
- process.

- 1 "(b) Public Reports on Process.—After the end
- 2 of any process described under subsection (a), the Board
- 3 of Directors shall issue a public report on the topics that
- 4 were discussed at the process and any new or revised
- 5 rulemakings or policy changes that the Board of Directors
- 6 believes should be implemented as a result of the process.
- 7 "(c) Notice of Agreements; Consultation.—At
- 8 least 90 calendar days before the Board of Directors par-
- 9 ticipates in a process of setting financial standards as a
- 10 part of any foreign or multinational entity, the Board of
- 11 Directors shall—
- "(1) issue a notice of agreement to the Com-
- mittee on Financial Services of the House of Rep-
- resentatives and the Committee on Banking, Hous-
- ing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate;
- 16 "(2) make such notice available to the public,
- including on the website of the Corporation; and
- 18 "(3) consult with the committees described
- under paragraph (1) with respect to the nature of
- the agreement and any anticipated effects such
- agreement will have on the economy.
- 22 "(d) Definition.—For purposes of this section, the
- 23 term 'process' shall include any official proceeding or
- 24 meeting on financial regulation of a recognized inter-
- 25 national organization with authority to set financial stand-

1	ards on a global or regional level, including the Financia
2	Stability Board, the Basel Committee on Banking Super-
3	vision (or a similar organization), and the International
4	Association of Insurance Supervisors (or a similar organi-
5	zation).".
6	(c) Treasury Requirements.—Section 325 of title
7	31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end
8	the following new subsection:
9	"(d) International Processes.—
10	"(1) Notice of process; consultation.—At
11	least 30 calendar days before the Secretary partici-
12	pates in a process of setting financial standards as
13	a part of any foreign or multinational entity, the
14	Secretary shall—
15	"(A) issue a notice of the process, includ-
16	ing the subject matter, scope, and goals of the
17	process, to the Committee on Financial Services
18	of the House of Representatives and the Com-
19	mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
20	of the Senate;
21	"(B) make such notice available to the
22	public, including on the website of the Depart-
23	ment of the Treasury; and
24	"(C) solicit public comment, and consult
25	with the committees described under subpara

1	graph (A), with respect to the subject matter,
2	scope, and goals of the process.
3	"(2) Public reports on process.—After the
4	end of any process described under paragraph (1),
5	the Secretary shall issue a public report on the top-
6	ics that were discussed at the process and any new
7	or revised rulemakings or policy changes that the
8	Secretary believes should be implemented as a result
9	of the process.
10	"(3) Notice of agreements; consulta-
11	TION.—At least 90 calendar days before the Sec-
12	retary participates in a process of setting financial
13	standards as a part of any foreign or multinational
14	entity, the Secretary shall—
15	"(A) issue a notice of agreement to the
16	Committee on Financial Services of the House
17	of Representatives and the Committee on Bank-
18	ing, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate;
19	"(B) make such notice available to the
20	public, including on the website of the Depart-
21	ment of the Treasury; and
22	"(C) consult with the committees described
23	under subparagraph (A) with respect to the na-
24	ture of the agreement and any anticipated ef-
25	fects such agreement will have on the economy.

1 "(4) Definition.—For purposes of this sub-2 section, the term 'process' shall include any official proceeding or meeting on financial regulation of a 3 recognized international organization with authority 5 to set financial standards on a global or regional 6 level, including the Financial Stability Board, the 7 Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (or a simi-8 lar organization), and the International Association 9 of Insurance Supervisors (or a similar organiza-10 tion).". 11 (d) OCC REQUIREMENTS.—Chapter 1 of title LXII 12 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (12 U.S.C. 13 21 et seq.) is amended— 14 (1) by adding at the end the following new sec-15 tion: 16 "SEC. 5156B. INTERNATIONAL PROCESSES. 17 "(a) Notice of Process; Consultation.—At least 18 30 calendar days before the Comptroller of the Currency participates in a process of setting financial standards as 19 20 a part of any foreign or multinational entity, the Comp-21 troller of the Currency shall— 22 "(1) issue a notice of the process, including the 23 subject matter, scope, and goals of the process, to

the Committee on Financial Services of the House of

1 Representatives and the Committee on Banking, 2 Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; "(2) make such notice available to the public, 3 4 including on the website of the Office of the Comp-5 troller of the Currency; and 6 "(3) solicit public comment, and consult with the committees described under paragraph (1), with 7 8 respect to the subject matter, scope, and goals of the 9 process. 10 "(b) Public Reports on Process.—After the end of any process described under subsection (a), the Comp-12 troller of the Currency shall issue a public report on the topics that were discussed at the process and any new or revised rulemakings or policy changes that the Comp-14 15 troller of the Currency believes should be implemented as a result of the process. 16 17 "(c) Notice of Agreements; Consultation.—At least 90 calendar days before the Comptroller of the Cur-18 rency participates in a process of setting financial stand-19 20 ards as a part of any foreign or multinational entity, the 21 Board of Directors shall— 22 "(1) issue a notice of agreement to the Com-23 mittee on Financial Services of the House of Rep-

resentatives and the Committee on Banking, Hous-

ing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate;

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1	"(2) make such notice available to the public,
2	including on the website of the Office of the Comp-
3	troller of the Currency; and
4	"(3) consult with the committees described
5	under paragraph (1) with respect to the nature of
6	the agreement and any anticipated effects such
7	agreement will have on the economy.
8	"(d) Definition.—For purposes of this section, the
9	term 'process' shall include any official proceeding or
10	meeting on financial regulation of a recognized inter-
11	national organization with authority to set financial stand-
12	ards on a global or regional level, including the Financial
13	Stability Board, the Basel Committee on Banking Super-
14	vision (or a similar organization), and the International
15	Association of Insurance Supervisors (or a similar organi-
16	zation)."; and
17	(2) in the table of contents for such chapter, by
18	adding at the end the following new item:
	"5156B. International processes.".
19	(e) Securities and Exchange Commission Re-
20	QUIREMENTS.—Section 4 of the Securities Exchange Act
21	of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78d) is amended by adding at the end
22	the following new subsection:
23	"(j) International Processes.—
24	"(1) Notice of process; consultation.—At
25	least 30 calendar days before the Commission par-

1	ticipates in a process of setting financial standards
2	as a part of any foreign or multinational entity, the
3	Commission shall—
4	"(A) issue a notice of the process, includ
5	ing the subject matter, scope, and goals of the
6	process, to the Committee on Financial Services
7	of the House of Representatives and the Com
8	mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
9	of the Senate;
10	"(B) make such notice available to the
11	public, including on the website of the Commis
12	sion; and
13	"(C) solicit public comment, and consul-
14	with the committees described under subpara
15	graph (A), with respect to the subject matter
16	scope, and goals of the process.
17	"(2) Public reports on process.—After the
18	end of any process described under paragraph (1)
19	the Commission shall issue a public report on the
20	topics that were discussed at the process and any
21	new or revised rulemakings or policy changes that
22	the Commission believes should be implemented as a
23	result of the process.
24	"(3) Notice of agreements; consulta
25	TION.—At least 90 calendar days before the Com

1	mission participates in a process of setting financial
2	standards as a part of any foreign or multinational
3	entity, the Commission shall—
4	"(A) issue a notice of agreement to the
5	Committee on Financial Services of the House
6	of Representatives and the Committee on Bank-
7	ing, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate;
8	"(B) make such notice available to the
9	public, including on the website of the Commis-
10	sion; and
11	"(C) consult with the committees described
12	under subparagraph (A) with respect to the na-
13	ture of the agreement and any anticipated ef-
14	fects such agreement will have on the economy.
15	"(4) Definition.—For purposes of this sub-
16	section, the term 'process' shall include any official
17	proceeding or meeting on financial regulation of a
18	recognized international organization with authority
19	to set financial standards on a global or regional
20	level, including the Financial Stability Board, the
21	Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (or a simi-
22	lar organization), and the International Association
23	of Insurance Supervisors (or a similar organiza-
24	tion).".

1	SEC. 11. AMENDMENTS TO POWERS OF THE BOARD OF
2	GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYS-
3	TEM.
4	(a) In General.—Section 13(3) of the Federal Re-
5	serve Act (12 U.S.C. 343(3)) is amended—
6	(1) in subparagraph (A)—
7	(A) by inserting "that pose a threat to the
8	financial stability of the United States" after
9	"unusual and exigent circumstances"; and
10	(B) by inserting "and by the affirmative
11	vote of not less than nine presidents of the Fed-
12	eral reserve banks" after "five members";
13	(2) in subparagraph (B)—
14	(A) in clause (i), by inserting at the end
15	the following: "Federal reserve banks may not
16	accept equity securities issued by the recipient
17	of any loan or other financial assistance under
18	this paragraph as collateral. Not later than 6
19	months after the date of enactment of this sen-
20	tence, the Board shall, by rule, establish—
21	"(I) a method for determining
22	the sufficiency of the collateral re-
23	quired under this paragraph;
24	"(II) acceptable classes of collat-
25	era]·

1	"(III) the amount of any dis-
2	count of such value that the Federal
3	reserve banks will apply for purposes
4	of calculating the sufficiency of collat-
5	eral under this paragraph; and
6	"(IV) a method for obtaining
7	independent appraisals of the value of
8	collateral the Federal reserve banks
9	receive."; and
10	(B) in clause (ii)—
11	(i) by striking the second sentence;
12	and
13	(ii) by inserting after the first sen-
14	tence the following: "A borrower shall not
15	be eligible to borrow from any emergency
16	lending program or facility unless the
17	Board and all federal banking regulators
18	with jurisdiction over the borrower certify
19	that, at the time the borrower initially bor-
20	rows under the program or facility, the
21	borrower is not insolvent.";
22	(3) by inserting "financial institution" before
23	"participant" each place such term appears;
24	(4) in subparagraph (D)(i), by inserting "finan-
25	cial institution" before "participants": and

1	(5) by adding at the end the following new sub-
2	paragraphs:
3	"(F) Penalty rate.—
4	"(i) In general.—Not later than 6
5	months after the date of enactment of this
6	subparagraph, the Board shall, with re-
7	spect to a recipient of any loan or other fi-
8	nancial assistance under this paragraph,
9	establish by rule a minimum interest rate
10	on the principal amount of any loan or
11	other financial assistance.
12	"(ii) Minimum interest rate de-
13	FINED.—In this subparagraph, the term
14	'minimum interest rate' shall mean the
15	sum of—
16	"(I) the average of the discount
17	rate of all Federal Reserve banks over
18	the most recent 90-day period; and
19	"(II) the average of the dif-
20	ference between a corporate bond
21	yield index (as defined by rule of the
22	Board) and a bond yield index of debt
23	issued by the United States (as de-
24	fined by rule of the Board) over the
25	most recent 90-day period.

1	"(G) Financial institution partici-
2	PANT DEFINED.—For purposes of this para-
3	graph, the term 'financial institution partici-
4	pant'—
5	"(i) means a company that is pre-
6	dominantly engaged in financial activities
7	(as defined in section 102(a) of the Dodd-
8	Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer
9	Protection Act (12 U.S.C. 5311(a))); and
10	"(ii) does not include an agency de-
11	scribed in subparagraph (W) of section
12	5312(a)(2) of title 31, United States Code,
13	or an entity controlled or sponsored by
14	such an agency.".
15	(b) Conforming Amendment.—Section
16	11(r)(2)(A) of such Act is amended—
17	(1) in clause (ii)(IV), by striking "; and" and
18	inserting a semicolon;
19	(2) in clause (iii), by striking the period at the
20	end and inserting "; and"; and
21	(3) by adding at the end the following new
22	clause:
23	"(iv) the available members secure the af-
24	firmative vote of not less than nine presidents
25	of the Federal reserve banks.".

1	SEC. 12. INTEREST RATES ON BALANCES MAINTAINED AT A
2	FEDERAL RESERVE BANK BY DEPOSITORY
3	INSTITUTIONS ESTABLISHED BY FEDERAL
4	OPEN MARKET COMMITTEE.
5	Subparagraph (A) of section 19(b)(12) of the Federal
6	Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 461(b)(12)(A)) is amended by in-
7	serting "established by the Federal Open Market Com-
8	mittee" after "rate or rates".
9	SEC. 13. AUDIT REFORM AND TRANSPARENCY FOR THE
10	BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RE-
11	SERVE SYSTEM.
12	(a) In General.—Notwithstanding section 714 of
13	title 31, United States Code, or any other provision of law,
14	the Comptroller General of the United States shall com-
15	plete an audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal
16	Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks under sub-
17	section (b) of such section 714 within 12 months after
18	the date of the enactment of this Act.
19	(b) Report.—
20	(1) In general.—Not later than 90 days after
21	the audit required pursuant to subsection (a) is com-
22	pleted, the Comptroller General—
23	(A) shall submit to Congress a report on
24	such audit; and
25	(B) shall make such report available to the
26	Speaker of the House, the majority and minor-

1	ity leaders of the House of Representatives, the
2	majority and minority leaders of the Senate, the
3	Chairman and Ranking Member of the com-
4	mittee and each subcommittee of jurisdiction in
5	the House of Representatives and the Senate,
6	and any other Member of Congress who re-
7	quests the report.
8	(2) Contents.—The report under paragraph
9	(1) shall include a detailed description of the find-
10	ings and conclusion of the Comptroller General with
11	respect to the audit that is the subject of the report,
12	together with such recommendations for legislative
13	or administrative action as the Comptroller General
14	may determine to be appropriate.
15	(c) Repeal of Certain Limitations.—Subsection
16	(b) of section 714 of title 31, United States Code, is
17	amended by striking the second sentence.
18	(d) Technical and Conforming Amendments.—
19	(1) In general.—Section 714 of title 31,
20	United States Code, is amended—
21	(A) in subsection (d)(3), by striking "or
22	(f)" each place such term appears;
23	(B) in subsection (e), by striking "the
24	third undesignated paragraph of section 13"
25	and inserting "section 13(3)";

1	(C) by striking subsection (f).
2	(2) Federal reserve act.—Subsection (s)
3	(relating to "Federal Reserve Transparency and Re-
4	lease of Information") of section 11 of the Federal
5	Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 248) is amended—
6	(A) in paragraph (4)(A), by striking "has
7	the same meaning as in section $714(f)(1)(A)$ of
8	title 31, United States Code" and inserting
9	"means a program or facility, including any
10	special purpose vehicle or other entity estab-
11	lished by or on behalf of the Board of Gov-
12	ernors of the Federal Reserve System or a Fed-
13	eral reserve bank, authorized by the Board of
14	Governors under section 13(3), that is not sub-
15	ject to audit under section 712(e) of title 31,
16	United States Code";
17	(B) in paragraph (6), by striking "or in
18	section 714(f)(3)(C) of title 31, United States
19	Code, the information described in paragraph
20	(1) and information concerning the transactions
21	described in section 714(f) of such title," and
22	inserting "the information described in para-
23	graph (1)"; and
24	(C) in paragraph (7), by striking "and sec-
25	tion $13(3)(C)$, section $714(f)(3)(C)$ of title 31 ,

- 1 United States Code, and" and inserting ", sec-
- 2 tion 13(3)(C), and".

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