

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4929

To improve communication from executive agencies to individuals by requiring clear instructions, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 30, 2019

Mr. MOULTON (for himself, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. TRONE, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. CISNEROS, and Mr. FITZPATRICK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform

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## A BILL

To improve communication from executive agencies to individuals by requiring clear instructions, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Too Long; Didn’t Read  
5 Act of 2019” or the “TL; DR Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF EXECUTIVE AGENCIES.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date that is not  
8 later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of  
9 this Act, the head of each agency shall provide, to the ex-

1 tent practicable, at the top of each communication (both  
2 hard copy and electronic) that the agency sends to an indi-  
3 vidual that authorizes or requires such individual to take  
4 an action, a clearly marked section that includes—

5 (1) the authorized or required action;

6 (2) if a response by the individual is required,  
7 optional, or not permitted;

8 (3) all deadlines to complete the authorized or  
9 required action;

10 (4) how to complete the authorized or required  
11 action; and

12 (5) the contact information for any agency, or  
13 department or office thereof, that can assist or an-  
14 swer questions relating to the authorized or required  
15 action.

16 (b) PUBLIC REPORTS OF COMPLIANCE.—

17 (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 9 months  
18 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the head  
19 of each agency shall publish on the plain writing sec-  
20 tion of the agency’s website, maintained pursuant to  
21 section 4(a) of the Plain Writing Act of 2010 (5  
22 U.S.C. 301 note), a report that describes the agency  
23 plan for compliance with the requirements of this  
24 Act.

1           (2) ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT.—Not later  
2 than 18 months after the date of the enactment of  
3 this Act, and annually thereafter, the head of each  
4 agency shall publish on the plain writing section of  
5 the website of the agency, maintained pursuant to  
6 section 4(a) of the Plain Writing Act of 2010 (5  
7 U.S.C. 301 note), a report on agency compliance  
8 with the requirements of this Act.

9           (c) AUTHORITY OF DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF  
10 MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.—The Director of the Office  
11 of Management and Budget may promulgate regulations  
12 or develop and issue guidance to implement the require-  
13 ments under this section.

14           (d) AGENCY DEFINED.—In this Act, the term “agen-  
15 cy” has the meaning given the term “Executive agency”  
16 as that term is defined in section 105 of title 5, United  
17 States Code.

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