

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2183

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to analyze certain legislation in order to prevent duplication of and overlap with existing Federal programs, offices, and initiatives.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 18, 2019

Mr. PAUL (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. LANKFORD) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to analyze certain legislation in order to prevent duplication of and overlap with existing Federal programs, offices, and initiatives.

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 “Duplication Scoring
5 Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. ASSESSMENTS OF REPORTED BILLS BY GAO.**

7 Section 719 of title 31, United States Code, is
8 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(i)(1) In this subsection—

2 “(A) the term ‘covered bill or resolution’ means
3 a bill or joint resolution of a public character re-
4 ported by any committee of Congress (including the
5 Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on
6 the Budget of either House);

7 “(B) the term ‘Director’ means the Director of
8 the Congressional Budget Office;

9 “(C) the term ‘existing duplicative or overlap-
10 ping feature’ means an element of the Federal Gov-
11 ernment previously identified in a GAO duplication
12 and overlap report;

13 “(D) the term ‘GAO duplication and overlap re-
14 port’ means each annual report prepared by the
15 Comptroller General under section 21 of the Joint
16 Resolution entitled ‘Joint Resolution increasing the
17 statutory limit on the public debt’, approved Feb-
18 ruary 12, 2010 (31 U.S.C. 712 note); and

19 “(E) the term ‘new duplicative or overlapping
20 feature’ means a new Federal program, office, or
21 initiative created under a covered bill or joint resolu-
22 tion that would duplicate or overlap with an existing
23 duplicative or overlapping feature.

24 “(2) For each covered bill or joint resolution—

25 “(A) the Comptroller General shall—

1 “(i) prepare an assessment—

2 “(I) to determine whether the covered
3 bill or joint resolution creates a new dupli-
4 cative or overlapping feature; and

5 “(II) if the covered bill or joint resolu-
6 tion creates a new duplicative or overlap-
7 ping feature, that includes—

8 “(aa) the name of the new Fed-
9 eral program, office, or initiative; and

10 “(bb) a reference to—

11 “(AA) the section of the cov-
12 ered bill or joint resolution at
13 which the new duplicative or
14 overlapping feature is estab-
15 lished; and

16 “(BB) the GAO duplication
17 and overlap report in which the
18 existing duplicative or overlap-
19 ping feature is identified;

20 “(ii) submit the assessment prepared
21 under clause (i) to the Director; and

22 “(iii) publish the assessment prepared
23 under clause (i) on the website of the Govern-
24 ment Accountability Office; and

1 “(B) subject to paragraph (3), the Director
2 may include the assessment submitted by the Comp-
3 troller General under subparagraph (A)(ii) with the
4 estimate for the covered bill or joint resolution to
5 which the assessment pertains submitted by the Di-
6 rector under section 402 of the Congressional Budg-
7 et Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653).

8 “(3) If the Comptroller General has not submitted
9 to the Director an assessment for a covered bill or joint
10 resolution under paragraph (2)(A)(ii) on the date on
11 which the Director submits the estimate for the covered
12 bill or joint resolution to which the assessment pertains
13 under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of
14 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653), the Director may, on the date on
15 which the Comptroller General submits the assessment to
16 the Director, prepare and submit to each applicable com-
17 mittee a version of the estimate for the covered bill or joint
18 resolution that includes the assessment.”.

19 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

20 The amendment made by this Act shall take effect
21 on the earlier of—

22 (1) the date that is 60 days after the date on
23 which the Director of the Office of Management and
24 Budget next, in accordance with section 1122(a) of
25 title 31, United States Code, updates the informa-

1 tion made available on the website required under
2 that section; or

3 (2) the date on which a new Congress begins
4 after the date that is 1 year after the date of enact-
5 ment of this Act.

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