

Calendar No. 216116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 2183****[Report No. 116-113]**

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

SEPTEMBER 23, 2019

Reported by Mr. JOHNSON, with amendments and an amendment to the title
[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in *italic*]

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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Duplication Scoring
3 Act of 2019”.

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

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

7 “(i)(1) In this subsection—

8 “(A) the term ‘covered bill or *joint* resolution’
9 means a bill or joint resolution of a public character
10 reported by any committee of Congress (including
11 the Committee on Appropriations and the Com-
12 mittee on the Budget of either House);

13 “(B) the term ‘Director’ means the Director of
14 the Congressional Budget Office;

15 “(C) the term ‘existing duplicative or overlap-
16 ping feature’ means an element of the Federal Gov-
17 ernment previously identified *as an area of duplica-*
18 *tion, overlap, or fragmentation* in a GAO duplication
19 and overlap report;

20 “(D) the term ‘GAO duplication and overlap re-
21 port’ means each annual report prepared by the
22 Comptroller General under section 21 of ~~the Joint~~
23 ~~Resolution~~ entitled ‘~~Joint Resolution increasing the~~
24 ~~statutory limit on the public debt~~’, approved Feb-
25 ~~ruary 12, 2010~~ *Public Law 111–139* (31 U.S.C. 712
26 note); and

1 “(E) the term ‘new duplicative or overlapping
2 feature’ means a new Federal program, office, or
3 initiative created under a covered bill or joint resolu-
4 tion that would duplicate or overlap with an existing
5 duplicative or overlapping feature.

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

7 “(A) the Comptroller General shall, *to the extent*
8 *practicable*—

9 “(i) prepare an assessment—

10 “(I) to determine whether the covered
11 bill or joint resolution creates a new dupli-
12 cative or overlapping feature; and

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

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

18 “(bb) a reference to—

19 “(AA) the section of the cov-
20 ered bill or joint resolution at
21 which the new duplicative or
22 overlapping feature is estab-
23 lished; and

24 “(BB) the GAO duplication
25 and overlap report in which the

1 existing duplicative or overlap-
2 ping feature is identified;

3 ~~“(ii) submit the assessment prepared~~
4 ~~under clause (i) to the Director; and~~

5 *“(i) determine the extent to which the cov-*
6 *ered bill or joint resolution creates a risk of a*
7 *new duplicative or overlapping feature and, if*
8 *the risk so warrants, identify—*

9 *“(I) the name of the new Federal pro-*
10 *gram, office, or initiative;*

11 *“(II) the section of the covered bill or*
12 *joint resolution at which the new duplica-*
13 *tive or overlapping feature is established;*
14 *and*

15 *“(III) the GAO duplication and over-*
16 *lap report in which the existing duplicative*
17 *or overlapping feature is identified; and*

18 *“(i) submit the information described in*
19 *clause (i) to the Director and the committee that*
20 *reported the covered bill or joint resolution; and*

21 ~~“(iii) publish the assessment information~~
22 ~~prepared under clause (i) on the website of the~~
23 ~~Government Accountability Office; and~~

24 *“(B) subject to paragraph (3), the Director*
25 *may include the ~~assessment~~ information submitted*

1 by the Comptroller General under subparagraph
 2 (A)(ii) ~~with~~ *as a supplement to* the estimate for the
 3 covered bill or joint resolution to which the ~~assess-~~
 4 ~~ment~~ *information* pertains submitted by the Director
 5 under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act
 6 of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653).

7 “(3) If the Comptroller General has not submitted
 8 to the Director ~~an assessment~~ *the information* for a cov-
 9 ered bill or joint resolution under paragraph (2)(A)(ii) on
 10 the date on which the Director submits the estimate for
 11 the covered bill or joint resolution to which the ~~assessment~~
 12 *information* pertains under section 402 of the Congres-
 13 sional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653), the Director
 14 may, on the date on which the Comptroller General sub-
 15 mits the ~~assessment~~ *information* to the Director, prepare
 16 and submit to each applicable committee ~~a version of the~~
 17 ~~estimate for the covered bill or joint resolution that in-~~
 18 ~~cludes the assessment.~~ *the information as a supplement to*
 19 *the estimate for the covered bill or joint resolution.”.*

20 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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

23 (1) the date that is 60 days after the date on
 24 which the Director of the Office of Management and
 25 Budget next, in accordance with section 1122(a) of

1 title 31, United States Code, updates the informa-
2 tion made available on the website required under
3 that section; or

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

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to review certain legislation in order to identify potential risks of duplication of and overlap with existing Federal programs, offices, and initiatives.”.

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