Public Law 116–1
116th Congress

An Act

To provide for the compensation of Federal and other government employees affected
by lapses in appropriations.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of
the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Government Employee Fair
Treatment Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. COMPENSATION FOR FEDERAL AND OTHER GOVERNMENT
EMPLOYEES AFFECTED BY A LAPSE IN APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 1341 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—
(1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “An officer” and
inserting “Except as specified in this subchapter or any other
provision of law, an officer”; and
(2) by adding at the end the following:
“(c)(1) In this subsection—
“(A) the term ‘covered lapse in appropriations’ means any
lapse in appropriations that begins on or after December 22,
2018;
“(B) the term ‘District of Columbia public employer’
means—
“(i) the District of Columbia Courts;
“(ii) the Public Defender Service for the District of
Columbia; or
“(iii) the District of Columbia government;
“(C) the term ‘employee’ includes an officer; and
“(D) the term ‘excepted employee’ means an excepted
employee or an employee performing emergency work, as such
terms are defined by the Office of Personnel Management or
the appropriate District of Columbia public employer, as
applicable.
“(2) Each employee of the United States Government or of
a District of Columbia public employer furloughed as a result of
a covered lapse in appropriations shall be paid for the period
of the lapse in appropriations, and each excepted employee who
is required to perform work during a covered lapse in appropriations
shall be paid for such work, at the employee’s standard rate of
pay, at the earliest date possible after the lapse in appropriations
ends, regardless of scheduled pay dates.
“(3) During a covered lapse in appropriations, each excepted
employee who is required to perform work shall be entitled to
use leave under chapter 63 of title 5, or any other applicable
law governing the use of leave by the excepted employee, for which

Definitions.
compensation shall be paid at the earliest date possible after the lapse in appropriations ends, regardless of scheduled pay dates.”.

Approved January 16, 2019.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 24:
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 165 (2019):
Jan. 10, considered and passed Senate.
Jan. 11, considered and passed House.