

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4742

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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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 28, 2021

Ms. BOURDEAUX (for herself and Mr. CLOUD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget, and Rules, 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

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## 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.

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 2021”.

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

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

4 “(i)(1) In this subsection—

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

10 “(B) the term ‘Director’ means the Director of  
11 the Congressional Budget Office;

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

17 “(D) the term ‘GAO duplication and overlap re-  
18 port’ means each annual report prepared by the  
19 Comptroller General under section 21 of Public Law  
20 111–139 (31 U.S.C. 712 note); and

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

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

1           “(A) the Comptroller General shall, to the ex-  
2 tent practicable—

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

7           “(I) the name of the new Federal pro-  
8 gram, office, or initiative;

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

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

16           “(ii) submit the information described in  
17 clause (i) to the Director and the committee  
18 that reported the covered bill or joint resolu-  
19 tion; and

20           “(iii) publish the information prepared  
21 under clause (i) on the website of the Govern-  
22 ment Accountability Office; and

23           “(B) subject to paragraph (3), the Director  
24 may include the information submitted by the Comp-  
25 troller General under subparagraph (A)(ii) as a sup-

1       plement to the estimate for the covered bill or joint  
2       resolution to which the information pertains sub-  
3       mitted by the Director under section 402 of the  
4       Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653).

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

16      **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

17      The amendment made by this Act shall take effect  
18      on the earlier of—

19              (1) the date that is 60 days after the date on  
20      which the Director of the Office of Management and  
21      Budget next, in accordance with section 1122(a) of  
22      title 31, United States Code, updates the informa-  
23      tion made available on the website required under  
24      that section; or

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

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