

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4114

To establish procedures to reduce agency funding for failure to adhere to original congressional intent, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 14, 2023

Mr. DONALDS (for himself and Mr. BURLISON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Rules, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, 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

A BILL

To establish procedures to reduce agency funding for failure to adhere to original congressional intent, 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 “Agency Accountability
5 through Appropriations Act” or the “AAA Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROCEDURES FOR REDUCING AGENCY FUNDING**
2 **FOR FAILURE TO ADHERE TO ORIGINAL CON-**
3 **GRESSIONAL INTENT.**

4 (a) REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 31 of
6 each year, the President shall submit to the Com-
7 mittee on Oversight and Accountability of the House
8 of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland
9 Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a
10 report that includes, with respect to the previous fis-
11 cal year, each rule promulgated by an agency (as
12 such term is defined in subsection (f)) which re-
13 ceived funding pursuant to a regular appropriation
14 bill.

15 (2) REPORT FORMAT.—The report described in
16 paragraph (1) shall separate each such agency and
17 rule promulgated by each such agency into separate
18 titles of the report pursuant to the regular appro-
19 priation bill which provides funding for each such
20 agency.

21 (b) COMMITTEE HEARING WITH RESPECT TO AGEN-
22 CY RULES.—Not later than 45 days after the date each
23 committee described in subsection (a) receives a report
24 from the President under such subsection, each such com-
25 mittee shall hold a hearing with respect to whether each

1 rule included in such report adhered to the original con-
2 gressional intent of the relevant agency.

3 (c) COMMITTEE REPORT.—During a hearing de-
4 scribed in subsection (b), the Committee on Oversight and
5 Accountability of the House of Representatives and the
6 Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Af-
7 fairs of the Senate shall each, with respect to each title
8 of the report submitted by the President under subsection
9 (a)—

10 (1) vote on a report that contains the conclu-
11 sions of the committee with respect to whether each
12 rule promulgated by an agency adhered to the origi-
13 nal congressional intent of the relevant agency;

14 (2) in the case that either committee, by major-
15 ity vote, determines that any rule promulgated by an
16 agency did not adhere to the original congressional
17 intent of the relevant agency, include in the report
18 a proposed reduction of funding in the regular ap-
19 propriation bill which provides funding for each such
20 agency for the subsequent fiscal year in the amount
21 equal to one half percent for each rule promulgated
22 that did not adhere with such congressional intent;

23 (3) in the case that the report submitted by the
24 President under subsection (a) was submitted after
25 the deadline required under subsection (a)(1), in-

1 clude in the report a proposed reduction of funding
2 in the regular appropriation bill which provides
3 funding for the Executive Office of the President for
4 the subsequent fiscal year in the amount equal to
5 one half percent for each week during the period
6 that starts on the deadline under subsection (a)(1)
7 and ends on the date the President submits such re-
8 port; and

9 (4) submit such report to the House of Rep-
10 resentatives or the Senate, as the case may be.

11 (d) PROVIDING FOR REDUCTION IN AGENCY FUND-
12 ING.—

13 (1) PROCEDURES IN THE HOUSE OF REP-
14 RESENTATIVES.—Clause 2 of rule XXI of the Rules
15 of the House of Representatives is amended by add-
16 ing at the end the following new paragraph:

17 “(h) It shall be in order, if offered by the chair of
18 the Committee on Oversight and Accountability or the
19 chair’s designee, to offer an amendment to a general ap-
20 propriation bill for a fiscal year providing for a reduction
21 in funding for an agency or, if applicable, the Executive
22 Office of the President in such general appropriation bill
23 in the amount equal to a proposed reduction of funding
24 for such agency or the Executive Office of the President

1 for such fiscal year as reported by the committee pursuant
2 to subsection (c) of the Agency Accountability Act.”.

3 (2) PROCEDURES IN THE SENATE.—Notwith-
4 standing any rule of the Standing Rules of the Sen-
5 ate, it shall be in order, if offered by the chair of
6 the Committee on Homeland Security and Govern-
7 mental Affairs of the Senate or the chair’s designee,
8 to offer an amendment to a general appropriation
9 bill for a fiscal year providing for a reduction in
10 funding for an agency or, if applicable, the Execu-
11 tive Office of the President, in such general appro-
12 priation bill in the amount equal to a proposed re-
13 duction of funding for such agency or the Executive
14 Office of the President for such fiscal year as re-
15 ported by the committee pursuant to subsection (c)
16 of this Act.

17 (e) EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING POWER.—This sec-
18 tion, except with respect to subsection (a), is enacted by
19 Congress—

20 (1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of
21 the House of Representatives and the Senate, re-
22 spectively, and as such shall be considered as part
23 of the rules of each House, respectively, or of that
24 House to which it specifically applies, and it super-

1 sedes other rules only to the extent that they are in-
2 consistent therewith; and

3 (2) with full recognition of the constitutional
4 right of either House to change the rules (so far as
5 relating to the procedure of that House) at any time,
6 in the same manner, and to the same extent as in
7 the case of any other rule of that House.

8 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following defi-
9 nitions apply:

10 (1) AGENCY.—The term “agency” has the
11 meaning given the term in section 551(1) of title 5,
12 United States Code.

13 (2) RULE.—The term “rule” has the meaning
14 given the term in section 551(4) of title 5, United
15 States Code.

16 (3) REGULAR APPROPRIATION BILL.—The term
17 “regular appropriation bill” means any annual ap-
18 propriation bill which, with respect to the Congress
19 involved, is under the jurisdiction of a single sub-
20 committee of the Committee on Appropriations of
21 the House of Representatives (pursuant to the Rules
22 of the House of Representatives for that Congress)
23 and a single subcommittee of the Committee on Ap-
24 propriations of the Senate (pursuant to the Standing
25 Rules of the Senate).

1 (g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect
2 on the date of the enactment of this Act.

