

Union Calendar No. 231

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3427

[Report No. 119–275]

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to review all clean water-related technical assistance authorities of the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 15, 2025

Mr. TAYLOR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

Additional sponsors: Mr. FIGURES and Ms. GILLEN

SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on May 15, 2025]

A BILL

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to review all clean water-related technical assistance authorities of the Environmental Protection Agency, 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 “Water Resources Tech-*
 5 *nical Assistance Review Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. GAO REPORT ON CLEAN WATER TECHNICAL ASSIST-**
 7 **ANCE.**

8 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date*
 9 *of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the*
 10 *United States shall initiate a comprehensive review of all*
 11 *covered technical assistance.*

12 *(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The Comptroller General shall*
 13 *include in the review required under subsection (a) the fol-*
 14 *lowing:*

15 *(1) A description of all covered technical assist-*
 16 *ance available to States, Tribes, local governments,*
 17 *and non-governmental organizations, including—*

18 *(A) the regions and populations that are*
 19 *served through the provision of technical assist-*
 20 *ance; and*

21 *(B) a summary of the activities and actions*
 22 *carried out through covered technical assistance*
 23 *during the 5-year period preceding this Act.*

24 *(2) A comprehensive review of how the Adminis-*
 25 *trator of the Environmental Protection Agency,*

1 *through the Water Technical Assistance initiative*
2 *(known as “WaterTA initiative”), identifies, selects,*
3 *and partners with technical assistance providers to*
4 *support communities, including—*

5 *(A) a description of the criteria, evaluation*
6 *process, and contracting mechanisms used for se-*
7 *lecting such providers;*

8 *(B) a description of the extent of coordina-*
9 *tion with State, Tribal, and regional partners in*
10 *the selection and deployment of such providers;*

11 *(C) a description of how such providers are*
12 *matched to meet the needs of local communities,*
13 *including any pre-engagement scoping activities*
14 *or community consultations;*

15 *(D) a description of how such providers*
16 *identify communities in need of technical assist-*
17 *ance, including economically distressed commu-*
18 *nities, and conduct outreach to such commu-*
19 *nities;*

20 *(E) a description of the scope and types of*
21 *assistance delivered through such initiative; and*

22 *(F) a list of communities that received tech-*
23 *nical assistance support through such initiative,*
24 *including the type and cost of assistance received*
25 *by each such community and a summary of the*

1 *outcomes associated with the provision of such*
2 *assistance.*

3 *(3) An analysis of any duplication of covered*
4 *technical assistance available through multiple pro-*
5 *grams of the Environmental Protection Agency.*

6 *(4) An evaluation of how the provision of covered*
7 *technical assistance builds capacity in communities*
8 *to access other water infrastructure programs carried*
9 *out by the Administrator.*

10 *(5) An assessment of the needs of economically*
11 *distressed communities eligible to receive assistance*
12 *under a clean water infrastructure program carried*
13 *out by the Administrator that are not addressed*
14 *through covered technical assistance.*

15 *(6) An evaluation of how the Administrator car-*
16 *ries out covered technical assistance in coordination*
17 *with other Federal agencies providing technical as-*
18 *sistance related to water infrastructure.*

19 *(7) An evaluation of how covered technical as-*
20 *sistance supports communities in understanding,*
21 *identifying, and implementing alternative and cost-*
22 *effective technologies and features of treatment works*
23 *that achieve long-term savings and improved out-*
24 *comes in addressing water quality challenges.*

1 (c) *REPORT.*—Upon the completion of the review con-
2 ducted under subsection (a), the Comptroller General shall
3 submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastruc-
4 ture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on
5 Environment and Public Works of the Senate a report con-
6 taining—

7 (1) *the findings of such review; and*

8 (2) *any recommendations to improve covered*
9 *technical assistance.*

10 (d) *PLAN FOR COMPLIANCE.*—Not later than 90 days
11 after the Comptroller General submits the report required
12 under subsection (c), and annually thereafter for a period
13 of 5 years, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee
14 on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
15 resentatives and the Committee on Environment and Public
16 Works of the Senate a plan detailing any actions the Ad-
17 ministrator has taken to comply with the recommendations
18 contained in such a report.

19 (e) *COVERED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE DEFINED.*—In
20 this section, the term “covered technical assistance” means
21 a technical assistance authority, initiative, or program of
22 the Environmental Protection Agency that is related to
23 clean water infrastructure.

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