

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 353

To establish a commission to study the relocation of certain agencies outside of the Washington, DC metropolitan area, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 3, 2025

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. RICKETTS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To establish a commission to study the relocation of certain agencies outside of the Washington, DC metropolitan area, 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 “Commission to Relo-
5 cate the Federal Bureaucracy Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. AGENCY RELOCATION COMMISSION.**

7 (a) DEFINITIONS.—

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

4 (2) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
5 means the Commission established under subsection
6 (b).

7 (3) COVERED AGENCY.—The term “covered
8 agency” means an agency that is not a security-re-
9 lated agency, as determined by the President.

10 (4) TELEWORK.—The term “telework” has the
11 meaning given the term in section 6501 of title 5,
12 United States Code.

13 (5) WASHINGTON, DC METROPOLITAN AREA.—
14 The term “Washington, DC metropolitan area”
15 means—

16 (A) the District of Columbia;

17 (B) Montgomery and Prince George’s
18 Counties in the State of Maryland; and

19 (C) Arlington, Fairfax, Loudon, and
20 Prince William Counties and the City of Alex-
21 andria in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

22 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Com-
23 mission to study the relocation of covered agencies based
24 in the Washington, DC metropolitan area to other areas
25 throughout the United States.

1 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—The Commission shall be com-
2 posed of—

3 (1) the Director of the White House Presi-
4 dential Personnel Office;

5 (2) the Director of the Office of Personnel
6 Management;

7 (3) the Comptroller General of the United
8 States;

9 (4) the Director of the Office of Management
10 and Budget;

11 (5) the Secretary of Agriculture;

12 (6) the Secretary of Commerce;

13 (7) the Secretary of Education;

14 (8) the Secretary of Energy;

15 (9) the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
16 ices;

17 (10) the Secretary of Housing and Urban De-
18 velopment;

19 (11) the Secretary of the Interior;

20 (12) the Secretary of Labor;

21 (13) the Secretary of Transportation;

22 (14) the Secretary of Veterans Affairs;

23 (15) the Administrator of the Environmental
24 Protection Agency; and

25 (16) the Commissioner of Food and Drugs.

1 (d) REPORT.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
3 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission
4 shall submit to Congress a report on the study de-
5 scribed in subsection (b).

6 (2) FACTORS.—In developing the report re-
7 quired under paragraph (1), the Commission shall
8 recommend the transfer of covered agencies with
9 consideration of—

10 (A) financial efficiency, including whether
11 the cost of living of an area is below the na-
12 tional average;

13 (B) whether an area has adequate pre-ex-
14 isting infrastructure and available private land
15 to be used for the purpose of covered agencies;

16 (C) whether an area has existing industries
17 relating to the business of a covered agency
18 that can serve as public and private sector part-
19 ners of the covered agency and strengthen the
20 ability of the covered agency to carry out the
21 duties of the covered agency;

22 (D) whether, at any time during the 5-year
23 period preceding the date of enactment of this
24 Act, not less than 50 percent of the workforce

1 of the covered agency has participated in
2 telework;

3 (E) whether an area maintains adequate
4 technology infrastructure to allow agencies to
5 operate efficiently; and

6 (F) whether an area is—

7 (i) a qualified opportunity zone (as
8 defined in section 1400Z–1(a) of the Inter-
9 nal Revenue Code of 1986); or

10 (ii) an area that meets one or more of
11 the criteria described in section 301(a) of
12 the Public Works and Economic Develop-
13 ment Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3161(a)).

14 (3) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.—In developing
15 the report required under paragraph (1), the Com-
16 mission shall consult with stakeholders that are local
17 to potential relocation sites, including State and
18 local government officials, business leaders from rel-
19 evant industries, representatives from regional eco-
20 nomic development agencies, and residents.

21 (4) RELOCATION TARGET.—In developing the
22 report required under paragraph (1), the Commis-
23 sion shall prioritize achieving a goal of transferring
24 not fewer than 100,000 employees of covered agen-

- 1 cities outside of the Washington, DC metropolitan
- 2 area.

