

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 664

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.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 10, 2021

Mr. PAUL (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. LANKFORD, and Ms. ERNST) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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”.

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

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

1 “(i)(1) In this subsection—

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

7 “(B) the term ‘Director’ means the Director of
8 the Congressional Budget Office;

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

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

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

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

24 “(A) the Comptroller General shall, to the ex-
25 tent practicable—

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

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

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

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

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

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

21 “(B) subject to paragraph (3), the Director
22 may include the information submitted by the Comp-
23 troller General under subparagraph (A)(ii) as a sup-
24 plement to the estimate for the covered bill or joint
25 resolution to which the information pertains sub-

mitted by the Director under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653).

“(3) If the Comptroller General has not submitted to the Director the information for a covered bill or joint resolution under paragraph (2)(A)(ii) on the date on which the Director submits the estimate for the covered bill or joint resolution to which the information pertains under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653), the Director may, on the date on which the Comptroller General submits the information to the Director, prepare and submit to each applicable committee the information as a supplement to the estimate for the covered bill or joint resolution.”.

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

(1) the date that is 60 days after the date on which the Director of the Office of Management and Budget next, in accordance with section 1122(a) of title 31, United States Code, updates the information made available on the website required under 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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