

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. OSSOFF (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, and for other purposes.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 “Eliminate Useless Re-
5 ports Act of 2022”.

6 **SEC. 2. SUNSETS FOR AGENCY REPORTS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1125 of title 31, United
8 States Code, is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
2 section (d);

3 (2) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and in-
4 serting the following:

5 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

6 “(1) BUDGET JUSTIFICATION MATERIALS.—
7 The term ‘budget justification materials’ has the
8 meaning given the term in section 3(b)(2) of the
9 Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency
10 Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note; Public Law 109–
11 282).

12 “(2) RECURRING PLAN OR REPORT.—The term
13 ‘recurring plan or report’ mean any plan or report
14 submitted to Congress by not less than 1 agency on
15 a recurring basis—

16 “(A) in accordance with Federal law; or

17 “(B) at the direction of a congressional re-
18 port.

19 “(3) RELEVANT CONGRESSIONAL COM-
20 MITTEE.—In this section, the term ‘relevant con-
21 gressional committee’ means a congressional com-
22 mittee to which a recurring plan or report is re-
23 quired to be submitted.

24 “(b) AGENCY IDENTIFICATION OF UNNECESSARY
25 REPORTS.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of each agency
2 shall include in the budget justification materials of
3 the agency—

4 “(A) subject to paragraph (2), a list of
5 each recurring plan or report submitted by the
6 agency that the head of the agency determines
7 to be outdated or duplicative;

8 “(B) with respect to each recurring plan or
9 report described in subparagraph (A)—

10 “(i) a recommendation on whether to
11 sunset, modify, consolidate, or reduce the
12 frequency of the submission of the recur-
13 ring plan or report;

14 “(ii) a citation to each provision of
15 law that requires or requests the submis-
16 sion of the recurring plan or report; and

17 “(iii) a list of the relevant congres-
18 sional committees for the recurring plan or
19 report; and

20 “(C) a justification explaining, with respect
21 to each recommendation described in subpara-
22 graph (B)(i) relating to a recurring plan or re-
23 port—

24 “(i) why the head of the agency made
25 the recommendation, which may include an

1 estimate of the resources expended by the
2 agency to prepare and submit the recur-
3 ring plan or report; and

4 “(ii) the understanding of the head of
5 the agency of the purpose of the recurring
6 plan or report.

7 “(2) AGENCY CONSULTATION.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In preparing the list
9 required under paragraph (1)(A), if, in submit-
10 ting a recurring plan or report, an agency is re-
11 quired to coordinate or consult with another
12 agency or entity, the head of the agency sub-
13 mitting the recurring plan or report shall con-
14 sult with the head of each agency or entity with
15 whom consultation or coordination is required.

16 “(B) INCLUSION IN LIST.—If, after a con-
17 sultation under subparagraph (A), the head of
18 each agency or entity consulted under that sub-
19 paragraph agrees that a recurring plan or re-
20 port is outdated or duplicative, the head of the
21 agency required to submit the recurring plan or
22 report shall—

23 “(i) include the recurring plan or re-
24 port in the list described in paragraph
25 (1)(A); and

1 “(ii) identify each agency or entity
2 with which the head of the agency is re-
3 quired to coordinate or consult in submit-
4 ting the recurring plan or report.

5 “(C) DISAGREEMENT.—If the head of any
6 agency or entity consulted under subparagraph
7 (A) does not agree that a recurring plan or re-
8 port is outdated or duplicative, the head of the
9 agency required to submit the recurring plan or
10 report shall not include the recurring plan or
11 report in the list described in paragraph (1)(A).

12 “(c) DISPOSITION OF RECOMMENDATIONS.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to a rec-
14 ommendation on a recurring plan or report included
15 in budget justification materials by the head of an
16 agency under subsection (b)(1)(B)(i), the chair and
17 ranking member of each relevant congressional com-
18 mittee may—

19 “(A) in coordination with any other rel-
20 evant congressional committee, as necessary,
21 agree or disagree with the recommendation or
22 postpone a decision on the recommendation;
23 and

1 “(B) notify each agency that submits a
2 recommendation of the disposition of the rec-
3 ommendation under subparagraph (A).

4 “(2) LEGISLATIVE STEPS.—If a relevant con-
5 gressional committee agrees with an agency rec-
6 ommendation submitted under subsection
7 (b)(1)(B)(i), the relevant congressional committee
8 may take the necessary legislative steps to accom-
9 plish the recommendation, which may include con-
10 sulting with the agency that submits the recurring
11 plan or report that is the subject of the rec-
12 ommendation to prepare appropriate legislation.

13 “(3) AGENCY REQUIREMENTS.—Nothing in this
14 section shall be construed to relieve the head of an
15 agency from a requirement to submit a recurring
16 plan or report.”; and

17 (3) in subsection (d), as so redesignated, by
18 striking “the budget of the United States Govern-
19 ment, as provided by section 1105(a)(37)” and in-
20 serting “in the budget justification materials of each
21 agency”.

22 (b) BUDGET CONTENTS.—Section 1105(a) of title
23 31, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraph
24 (39).