

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to analyze certain legislation in order prevent duplication of and overlap with existing Federal programs, offices, and initiatives.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. PAUL introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to analyze certain legislation in order prevent 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. ASSESSMENTS OF REPORTED BILLS BY GAO.**

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

6 “(i)(1) In this subsection—

7 “(A) the term ‘covered bill or resolution’ means
8 a bill or joint resolution of a public character re-

1 ported by any committee of Congress (including the
2 Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on
3 the Budget of either House);

4 “(B) the term ‘Director’ means the Director of
5 the Congressional Budget Office;

6 “(C) the term ‘existing duplicative or overlap-
7 ping feature’ means an element of the Federal Gov-
8 ernment previously identified in a GAO duplication
9 and overlap report;

10 “(D) the term ‘GAO duplication and overlap re-
11 port’ means each annual report prepared by the
12 Comptroller General under section 21 of the Joint
13 Resolution entitled ‘Joint Resolution increasing the
14 statutory limit on the public debt’, approved Feb-
15 ruary 12, 2010 (31 U.S.C. 712 note); and

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

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

22 “(A) the Comptroller General shall—

23 “(i) prepare an assessment—

1 “(I) to determine whether the covered
2 bill or joint resolution creates a new dupli-
3 cative or overlapping feature; and

4 “(II) if the covered bill or joint resolu-
5 tion creates a new duplicative or overlap-
6 ping feature, that includes—

7 “(aa) the name of the new Fed-
8 eral program, office, or initiative; and

9 “(bb) a reference to—

10 “(AA) the section of the cov-
11 ered bill or joint resolution at
12 which the new duplicative or
13 overlapping feature is estab-
14 lished; and

15 “(BB) the GAO duplication
16 and overlap report in which the
17 existing duplicative or overlap-
18 ping feature is identified;

19 “(ii) submit the assessment prepared
20 under clause (i) to the Director; and

21 “(iii) publish the assessment prepared
22 under clause (i) on the website of the Govern-
23 ment Accountability Office; and

24 “(B) subject to paragraph (3), the Director
25 may include the assessment submitted by the Comp-

1 troller General under subparagraph (A)(ii) with the
2 estimate for the covered bill or joint resolution to
3 which the assessment pertains submitted by the Di-
4 rector under section 402 of the Congressional Budg-
5 et Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653).

6 “(3) If the Comptroller General has not submitted
7 to the Director an assessment for a covered bill or joint
8 resolution under paragraph (2)(A)(ii) on the date on
9 which the Director submits the estimate for the covered
10 bill or joint resolution to which the assessment pertains
11 under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of
12 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653), the Director may, on the date on
13 which the Comptroller General submits the assessment to
14 the Director, prepare and submit to each applicable com-
15 mittee a version of the estimate for the covered bill or joint
16 resolution that includes the assessment.”.

17 **SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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

20 (1) the date that is 60 days after the date on
21 which the Director of the Office of Management and
22 Budget next, in accordance with section
23 1122(a)(1)(B) of title 31, United States Code, up-
24 dates the information made available on the website
25 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.