

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3645

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a legislative proposal to Congress to reorganize executive branch agencies, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 3, 2013

Ms. KUSTER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a legislative proposal to Congress to reorganize executive branch agencies, 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 “Executive Agency Sim-
5 plification and Efficiency Act” or the “EASE Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT FOR COMPTROLLER GENERAL TO**
2 **SUBMIT LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL TO REOR-**
3 **GANIZE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AGENCIES.**

4 (a) LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL REQUIREMENT.—The
5 Comptroller General of the United States shall submit one
6 legislative proposal to Congress, with a copy transmitted
7 to the President at the same time, to reorganize executive
8 branch agencies in order to achieve the following:

9 (1) A decrease in the total number of Federal
10 agencies that promote American competitiveness, ex-
11 ports, and businesses, in order to improve and sim-
12 plify support and services for American businesses.

13 (2) Cost savings in the performance by the
14 Federal Government of support and services for
15 American businesses.

16 (b) DEADLINE.—The Comptroller General shall sub-
17 mit the legislative proposal required by subsection (a) not
18 later than one year after the date of the enactment of this
19 Act.

20 (c) AGENCY DEFINED.—In this Act, the term “agen-
21 cy” has the meaning provided in section 551(1) of title
22 5, United States Code.

23 **SEC. 3. EXPEDITED CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF**
24 **GAO LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL.**

25 (a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “bill”
26 means only a bill that implements the legislative proposal

1 submitted to Congress under section 2(a) and that is in-
2 troduced within the 90-day period beginning on the date
3 on which the Comptroller General submits the legislative
4 proposal to Congress under section 2(a).

5 (b) REFERRAL.—A bill described in subsection (a)
6 that is introduced in the House of Representatives shall
7 be referred to the committee with jurisdiction over the
8 subject matter concerned. A bill described in subsection
9 (a) introduced in the Senate shall be referred to the com-
10 mittee with jurisdiction over the subject matter concerned.
11 An amendment to the bill is not in order in the committee
12 in either House.

13 (c) DISCHARGE.—If the committee to which a bill de-
14 scribed in subsection (a) is referred has not reported such
15 a bill (or an identical bill) by the end of the 20-day period
16 beginning on the date on which the Comptroller General
17 submits the proposal to the Congress under section 2, such
18 committee shall be, at the end of such period, discharged
19 from further consideration of such bill, and such bill shall
20 be placed on the appropriate calendar of the House in-
21 volved.

22 (d) CONSIDERATION.—(1) On or after the third day
23 after the date on which the committee to which such a
24 bill is referred has reported, or has been discharged (under
25 subsection (c)) from further consideration of, such a bill,

1 it is in order (even though a previous motion to the same
2 effect has been disagreed to) for any Member of the re-
3 spective House to move to proceed to the consideration
4 of the bill. A Member may make the motion only on the
5 day after the calendar day on which the Member an-
6 nounces to the House concerned the Member's intention
7 to make the motion, except that, in the case of the House
8 of Representatives, the motion may be made without such
9 prior announcement if the motion is made by direction of
10 the committee to which the bill was referred. All points
11 of order against the bill (and against consideration of the
12 bill) are waived. The motion is highly privileged in the
13 House of Representatives and is privileged in the Senate
14 and is not debatable. The motion is not subject to amend-
15 ment, or to a motion to postpone, or to a motion to pro-
16 ceed to the consideration of other business. A motion to
17 reconsider the vote by which the motion is agreed to or
18 disagreed to shall not be in order. If a motion to proceed
19 to the consideration of the bill is agreed to, the respective
20 House shall immediately proceed to consideration of the
21 bill without intervening motion, order, or other business,
22 and the bill shall remain the unfinished business of the
23 respective House until disposed of.

24 (2) Debate on the bill, and on all debatable motions
25 and appeals in connection therewith, shall be limited to

1 not more than 2 hours, which shall be divided equally be-
2 tween those favoring and those opposing the bill. An
3 amendment to the bill is not in order. A motion further
4 to limit debate is in order and not debatable. A motion
5 to postpone, or a motion to proceed to the consideration
6 of other business, or a motion to recommit the bill is not
7 in order. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the
8 bill is agreed to or disagreed to is not in order.

9 (3) Immediately following the conclusion of the de-
10 bate on a bill described in subsection (a) and a single
11 quorum call at the conclusion of the debate if requested
12 in accordance with the rules of the appropriate House, the
13 vote on final passage of the bill shall occur.

14 (4) Appeals from the decisions of the Chair relating
15 to the application of the rules of the Senate or the House
16 of Representatives, as the case may be, to the procedure
17 relating to a bill described in subsection (a) shall be de-
18 cided without debate.

19 (e) CONSIDERATION BY OTHER HOUSE.—(1) If, be-
20 fore the passage by one House of a bill of that House de-
21 scribed in subsection (a), that House receives from the
22 other House a bill described in subsection (a), then the
23 following procedures shall apply:

24 (A) The bill of the other House shall not be re-
25 ferred to a committee and may not be considered in

1 the House receiving it except in the case of final
2 passage as provided in subparagraph (B)(ii).

3 (B) With respect to a bill described in sub-
4 section (a) of the House receiving the bill—

5 (i) the procedure in that House shall be
6 the same as if no bill had been received from
7 the other House; but

8 (ii) the vote on final passage shall be on
9 the bill of the other House.

10 (2) Upon disposition of the bill received from the
11 other House, it shall no longer be in order to consider the
12 bill that originated in the receiving House.

13 (f) COMPUTATION OF PERIOD.—For purposes of sub-
14 sections (a) and (c), the days on which either House of
15 Congress is not in session because of an adjournment of
16 more than three days to a day certain shall be excluded
17 in the computation of a period.

18 (g) RULES OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE.—This sec-
19 tion is enacted by Congress—

20 (1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of
21 the Senate and House of Representatives, respec-
22 tively, and as such it is deemed a part of the rules
23 of each House, respectively, but applicable only with
24 respect to the procedure to be followed in that
25 House in the case of a bill described in subsection

1 (a), and it supersedes other rules only to the extent
2 that it is inconsistent with such rules; and

3 (2) with full recognition of the constitutional
4 right of either House to change the rules (so far as
5 relating to the procedure of that House) at any time,
6 in the same manner, and to the same extent as in
7 the case of any other rule of that House.

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