

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3939

To require that the workforce of the Environmental Protection Agency be reduced by 15 percent.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 5, 2015

Mr. GRIFFITH (for himself, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. GOODLATTE, and Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Agriculture, and Science, Space, and Technology, 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 that the workforce of the Environmental Protection Agency be reduced by 15 percent.

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 “EPA Maximum
5 Achievable Contraction of Technocrats Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds as follows:

1 (1) During the Government shutdown of 2013,
2 the Environmental Protection Agency deemed 95
3 percent of its employees as “non essential”.

4 (2) The Environmental Protection Agency occu-
5 pies space in eight different buildings in the District
6 of Columbia.

7 (3) From 1975 to 2014 the number of Environ-
8 mental Protection Agency employees increased by 48
9 percent while the number of total Federal personnel
10 decreased by 17 percent.

11 (4) In 2015, according to one study, complying
12 with Environmental Protection Agency regulations
13 will cost the U.S. economy \$386 billion.

14 (5) From 2009 to 2014, according to the Fed-
15 eral Register, the Environmental Protection Agency
16 has published and put into effect 2,475 rules.

17 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

18 For purposes of this Act—

19 (1) the term “Administrator” means the Ad-
20 ministrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;

21 (2) the term “employee” has the meaning given
22 such term by section 2105 of title 5, United States
23 Code;

1 (3) the term “baseline date” means the last day
2 of the second month beginning on or after the date
3 of the enactment of this Act; and

4 (4) the term “workforce reduction target date”
5 means the date occurring 3 years after the baseline
6 date.

7 **SEC. 4. MANDATORY WORKFORCE REDUCTION.**

8 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator shall take such
9 actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

10 (1) the total number of employees in the Envi-
11 ronmental Protection Agency on the workforce re-
12 duction target date, does not exceed

13 (2) the total number of employees in the Envi-
14 ronmental Protection Agency on the baseline date,
15 reduced by 15 percent.

16 (b) **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**—In order to carry
17 out this Act, the Administrator shall submit to Congress
18 a written determination of—

19 (1) the total number of employees in the Envi-
20 ronmental Protection Agency on the baseline date,
21 not later than 30 days after such date; and

22 (2) the total number of employees in the Envi-
23 ronmental Protection Agency on the workforce re-
24 duction target date, not later than 30 days after
25 such date.

1 (c) EXTENSION AUTHORITY.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may, if
3 necessary because timely compliance with subsection
4 (a) is impracticable, delay the deadline for compli-
5 ance for a period not to exceed 1 year.

6 (2) NOTIFICATION.—If the authority under
7 paragraph (1) is exercised, the Administrator shall
8 submit a written report to Congress not later than
9 30 days after the date on which such authority is so
10 exercised. Such report shall include—

11 (A) notification that the authority under
12 paragraph (1) has been exercised;

13 (B) the reasons why the exercise of author-
14 ity was necessary; and

15 (C) the new deadline for compliance.

16 (3) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 30 days
17 after the date referred to in paragraph (2)(C), the
18 Administrator shall submit to Congress—

19 (A) a written determination of compliance
20 with the limitation specified in subsection
21 (a)(2), including the total number of employees
22 in the Environmental Protection Agency as of
23 the date referred to in paragraph (2)(C); or

24 (B) a written determination of noncompli-
25 ance with the limitation specified in subsection

- 1 (a)(2), including the extent of and the reasons
- 2 for the noncompliance.

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