

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1550

To amend title 31, United States Code, to establish entities tasked with improving program and project management in certain Federal agencies, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 10, 2015

Mrs. ERNST (for herself and Ms. HEITKAMP) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 31, United States Code, to establish entities tasked with improving program and project management in certain Federal 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 “Program Management
5 Improvement Accountability Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR MANAGEMENT.**

7 (a) **ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS.**—Section 503 of title
8 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end
9 the following:

1 “(c) PROGRAM AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT.—

2 “(1) REQUIREMENT.—Subject to the direction
3 and approval of the Director, the Deputy Director
4 for Management or designee shall—

5 “(A) adopt governmentwide standards,
6 policies, and guidelines for program and project
7 management for executive agencies;

8 “(B) oversee program and project manage-
9 ment for the standards, policies, and guidelines
10 established under subparagraph (A);

11 “(C) chair the Program Management Pol-
12 icy Council established under section 1126(b);

13 “(D) issue regulations and establish stand-
14 ards and policies for executive agencies, in ac-
15 cordance with nationally accredited standards
16 for program and project management planning
17 and delivery issues;

18 “(E) engage with the private sector;

19 “(F) conduct portfolio reviews to address
20 programs identified as high risk by the Govern-
21 ment Accountability Office;

22 “(G) not less than annually, conduct port-
23 folio reviews of agency programs in coordination
24 with Project Management Improvement Officers
25 designated under section 1126(a)(1); and

1 “(H) establish a 5-year strategic plan for
2 program and project management.

3 “(2) APPLICATION TO DEPARTMENT OF DE-
4 FENSE.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the De-
5 partment of Defense to the extent that the provi-
6 sions of that paragraph are substantially similar to
7 or duplicative of the provisions of section 810 of the
8 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
9 2016.”.

10 (b) DEADLINE FOR STANDARDS, POLICIES, AND
11 GUIDELINES.—Not later than 120 days after the date of
12 the enactment of this Act, the Deputy Director for Man-
13 agement of the Office of Management and Budget shall
14 issue the standards, policies, and guidelines required
15 under section 503(c) of title 31, United States Code, as
16 added by subsection (a).

17 (c) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 150 days after
18 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Deputy Director
19 for Management of the Office of Management and Budget,
20 in consultation with the Program Management Policy
21 Council established under section 1126(b) of title 31,
22 United States Code, as added by section 3(a), and the Di-
23 rector of the Office of Management and Budget, shall
24 issue any regulations as are necessary to implement the

1 requirements of section 503(c) of title 31, United States
 2 Code, as added by subsection (a).

3 **SEC. 3. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT OFFICERS**
 4 **AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT POLICY COUN-**
 5 **CIL.**

6 (a) AMENDMENT.—Chapter 11 of title 31, United
 7 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 8 lowing:

9 **“§ 1126. Program Management Improvement Officers**
 10 **and Program Management Policy Council**

11 “(a) PROGRAM MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT OFFI-
 12 CERS.—

13 “(1) DESIGNATION.—The head of each agency
 14 described in section 901(b) shall designate a senior
 15 executive of the agency as the Program Management
 16 Improvement Officer of the agency. The Program
 17 Management Improvement Officer shall report di-
 18 rectly to the head of the agency.

19 “(2) FUNCTIONS.—The Program Management
 20 Improvement Officer of an agency designated under
 21 paragraph (1) shall—

22 “(A) implement program management poli-
 23 cies established by the agency under section
 24 503(c); and

1 “(B) develop a written strategy for en-
2 hancing the role of program managers within
3 the agency that includes the following:

4 “(i) Enhanced training and edu-
5 cational opportunities for program man-
6 agers.

7 “(ii) Mentoring of current and future
8 program managers by experienced senior
9 executives and program managers within
10 the agency.

11 “(iii) Improved career paths and ca-
12 reer opportunities for program managers.

13 “(iv) Incentives for the recruitment
14 and retention of highly qualified individ-
15 uals to serve as program managers.

16 “(v) Improved resources and support,
17 including relevant competencies encom-
18 passed with program and project manage-
19 ment within the private sector for program
20 managers.

21 “(vi) Improved means of collecting
22 and disseminating best practices and les-
23 sons learned to enhance program manage-
24 ment across the agency.

1 “(vii) Common templates and tools to
2 support improved data gathering and anal-
3 ysis for program management and over-
4 sight purposes.

5 “(3) APPLICATION TO DEPARTMENT OF DE-
6 FENSE.—This subsection shall not apply to the De-
7 partment of Defense to the extent that the provi-
8 sions of this subsection are substantially similar to
9 or duplicative of the provisions of section 810 of the
10 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
11 2016.

12 “(b) PROGRAM MANAGEMENT POLICY COUNCIL.—

13 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in
14 the Office of Management and Budget a council to
15 be known as the ‘Program Management Policy
16 Council’ (in this subsection referred to as the ‘Coun-
17 cil’).

18 “(2) PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS.—The Council
19 shall act as the principal interagency forum for im-
20 proving agency practices related to program and
21 project management. The Council shall—

22 “(A) advise and assist the Deputy Director
23 for Management of the Office of Management
24 and Budget;

1 “(B) review programs identified as high
 2 risk by the General Accountability Office and
 3 make recommendations for actions to be taken
 4 by the Deputy Director for Management of the
 5 Office of Management and Budget or designee;

6 “(C) discuss topics of importance to the
 7 workforce, including—

8 “(i) career development and workforce
 9 development needs;

10 “(ii) policy to support continuous im-
 11 provement in program and project manage-
 12 ment; and

13 “(iii) major challenges across agencies
 14 in managing programs;

15 “(D) advise on the development and appli-
 16 cability of standards governmentwide for pro-
 17 gram management transparency; and

18 “(E) review the information published on
 19 the website of the Office of Management and
 20 Budget pursuant to section 1122.

21 “(3) MEMBERSHIP.—

22 “(A) COMPOSITION.—The Council shall be
 23 composed of the following members:

24 “(i) Five members from the Office of
 25 Management and Budget as follows:

1 “(I) The Deputy Director for
2 Management.

3 “(II) The Administrator of the
4 Office of Electronic Government.

5 “(III) The Administrator of the
6 Office of Federal Procurement Policy.

7 “(IV) The Controller of the Of-
8 fice of Federal Financial Manage-
9 ment.

10 “(V) The Director of the Office
11 of Performance and Personnel Man-
12 agement.

13 “(ii) The Program Management Im-
14 provement Officer from each agency de-
15 scribed in section 901(b).

16 “(iii) Other individuals as determined
17 appropriate by the Chairperson.

18 “(B) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIR-
19 PERSON.—

20 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Deputy Di-
21 rector for Management of the Office of
22 Management and Budget shall be the
23 Chairperson of the Council. A Vice Chair-
24 person shall be elected by the members and
25 shall serve a term of not more than 1 year.

1 “(ii) DUTIES.—The Chairperson shall
2 preside at the meetings of the Council, de-
3 termine the agenda of the Council, direct
4 the work of the Council, and establish and
5 direct subgroups of the Council as appro-
6 priate.

7 “(4) MEETINGS.—The Council shall meet not
8 less than twice per fiscal year and may meet at the
9 call of the Chairperson or a majority of the members
10 of the Council.

11 “(5) SUPPORT.—The head of each agency with
12 a Project Management Improvement Officer serving
13 on the Council shall provide administrative support
14 to the Council, as appropriate, at the request of the
15 Chairperson.

16 “(6) COMMITTEE DURATION.—Section 14(a)(2)
17 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C.
18 App.) shall not apply to the Council.”.

19 (b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days
20 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the head of
21 each agency described in section 901(b) of title 31, United
22 States Code, shall submit to Congress and the Office of
23 Management and Budget a report containing the strategy
24 developed under section 1126(a)(2)(B) of such title, as
25 added by subsection (a).

1 **SEC. 4. PROGRAM AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT PER-**
2 **SONNEL STANDARDS.**

3 (a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “agency”
4 means each agency described in section 901(b) of title 31,
5 United States Code.

6 (b) REGULATIONS REQUIRED.—Not later than 270
7 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director
8 of the Office of Personnel Management, in consultation
9 with the Director of the Office of Management and Budg-
10 et, shall issue regulations that—

11 (1) identify key skills and competencies needed
12 for a program and project manager in an agency;

13 (2) establish a new job series for program and
14 project management within an agency; and

15 (3) establish a new career path for program
16 and project managers within an agency.

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