

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4272

To require the public tracking of undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 10, 2009

Mr. HODES introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

A BILL

To require the public tracking of undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

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 “Government Grants
5 Accountability Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REPORTS ON USE OF GRANT FUNDS.**

7 (a) RECIPIENT REPORTS.—Not later than 10 days
8 after the end of a fiscal year, each recipient that received
9 grant funds during that fiscal year from an agency shall

1 submit a report to that agency that contains, with respect
2 to that fiscal year—

3 (1) the total amount of grant funds received
4 from that agency;

5 (2) the amount of grant funds received that
6 were expended or obligated to projects or activities;
7 and

8 (3) a detailed list of all projects or activities for
9 which grant funds were expended or obligated, in-
10 cluding—

11 (A) the name of the project or activity;

12 (B) a description of the project or activity;

13 (C) an evaluation of the completion status
14 of the project or activity;

15 (D) an estimate of the number of jobs cre-
16 ated and the number of jobs retained by the
17 project or activity; and

18 (E) for infrastructure investments made by
19 State and local governments, the purpose, total
20 cost, and rationale of the agency for funding
21 the infrastructure investment with grant funds.

22 (b) AGENCY REPORTS.—Not later than 30 days after
23 the end of a fiscal year, each agency that made grant
24 funds available to any recipient during that fiscal year
25 shall make the information in reports submitted under

1 subsection (a) publicly available by posting the informa-
2 tion on a website. The agency shall include with such in-
3 formation the name of the person to contact at the agency
4 if there are concerns with the grant funds.

5 (c) OTHER REPORTS.—The Congressional Budget
6 Office and the Government Accountability Office shall
7 comment on the information described in subsection
8 (a)(3)(D) for any reports submitted under subsection (a).
9 Such comments shall be due to Congress within 45 days
10 after the end of the fiscal year for which such reports are
11 submitted and made publicly available by posting the com-
12 ments on the websites of such Offices.

13 (d) GUIDANCE.—The Director of the Office of Man-
14 agement and Budget shall issue guidance for agencies on
15 compliance with this section. The Director also shall re-
16 quire each agency to create a standard form for use within
17 the agency for the reports required under subsection (a).

18 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 (1) GRANT FUNDS.—The term “grant funds”
20 means any funds available for a grant from the Fed-
21 eral Government if the period of availability of such
22 funds for the grant is not greater than one fiscal
23 year.

1 (2) AGENCY.—The term “agency” has the
2 meaning given under section 551 of title 5, United
3 States Code.

4 (f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply to
5 the first fiscal year beginning after the date of the enact-
6 ment of this Act and each fiscal year thereafter.

7 **SEC. 3. IDENTIFICATION AND RETURN OF UNDISBURSED**
8 **BALANCES IN EXPIRED GRANT ACCOUNTS.**

9 (a) TREATMENT OF UNDISBURSED BALANCES IN
10 EXPIRED GRANT ACCOUNTS.—Notwithstanding section
11 1554 of title 31, United States Code, during the first
12 quarter of each fiscal year, each agency with grant ac-
13 counts shall identify any undisbursed balances in the
14 grant accounts as of the end of the preceding fiscal year.
15 The agency shall return such undisbursed balances to the
16 Treasury of the United States by the end of the first quar-
17 ter of the fiscal year.

18 (b) APPLICABILITY TO ONE-YEAR GRANT FUNDS.—
19 Subsection (a) applies to grant accounts whose period of
20 availability is not greater than one fiscal year.

21 (c) AGENCY.—In this section, the term “agency” has
22 the meaning given under section 551 of title 5, United
23 States Code.

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