

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5908

To require the Federal Government to buy paper and paper products from
American sources.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 7, 2012

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

A BILL

To require the Federal Government to buy paper and paper
products from American sources.

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 “Purchasing American
5 Generates Employment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT TO BUY PAPER AND PAPER PROD-**
7 **UCTS FROM AMERICAN SOURCES; EXCEP-**
8 **TIONS.**

9 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Except as provided in sub-
10 sections (c) through (f), funds appropriated or otherwise

1 available to a Federal department or agency may not be
2 used for the procurement of an item described in sub-
3 section (b) if the item is not grown, reprocessed, reused,
4 or produced in the United States.

5 (b) COVERED ITEMS.—An item referred to in sub-
6 section (a) is any article or item of paper or paper prod-
7 ucts, including any of the following:

- 8 (1) Xerographic paper.
- 9 (2) Printer paper.
- 10 (3) Copier paper.
- 11 (4) Fax paper.
- 12 (5) Envelopes.
- 13 (6) Toilet tissue.
- 14 (7) Paper towels.
- 15 (8) Toilet seat covers.
- 16 (9) Facial tissues.
- 17 (10) Thermal paper.
- 18 (11) Thermal receipt paper.
- 19 (12) Security paper.
- 20 (13) Carbonless paper.

21 (c) AVAILABILITY EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) does
22 not apply to the extent that the head of the Federal de-
23 partment or agency concerned determines that satisfac-
24 tory quality and sufficient quantity of any such article or
25 item described in subsection (b) grown, reprocessed, re-

1 used, or produced in the United States cannot be procured
2 as and when needed at United States market prices.

3 (d) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN PROCUREMENTS.—

4 Subsection (a) does not apply to the following:

5 (1) Procurements outside the United States in
6 support of combat operations or procurements of
7 any item listed in subsection (b) in support of con-
8 tingency operations.

9 (2) Procurements by vessels in foreign waters.

10 (e) EXCEPTION FOR COMMISSARIES, EXCHANGES,
11 AND OTHER NONAPPROPRIATED FUND INSTRUMENTAL-
12 ITIES.—Subsection (a) does not apply to items purchased
13 for resale purposes in commissaries, exchanges, or non-
14 appropriated fund instrumentalities operated by the De-
15 partment of Defense.

16 (f) APPLICABILITY TO CONTRACTS AND SUB-
17 CONTRACTS FOR PROCUREMENT OF COMMERCIAL
18 ITEMS.—This section is applicable to contracts and sub-
19 contracts for the procurement of commercial items not-
20 withstanding section 1906 of title 41, United States Code.

21 (g) GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE.—In this section, the
22 term “United States” includes the possessions of the
23 United States.

24 (h) NOTIFICATION REQUIRED WITHIN 7 DAYS
25 AFTER CONTRACT AWARD IF CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS AP-

1 PLIED.—In the case of any contract for the procurement
2 of an item described in subsection (b), if the head of the
3 Federal department or agency concerned applies an excep-
4 tion set forth in subsection (c) with respect to that con-
5 tract, the head shall, not later than 7 days after the award
6 of the contract, post a notification that the exception has
7 been applied on the Internet site maintained by the Gen-
8 eral Services Administration known as www.fbo.gov.

9 (i) FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY DEFINED.—
10 In this section, the term “Federal department or agency”
11 has the meaning provided the term “Executive agency”
12 in section 105 of title 5, United States Code.

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