

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1931

To amend title 5, United States Code, to enhance the authority under which Federal agencies may pay cash awards to employees for making cost saving disclosures, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 9, 2013

Mr. FLEISCHMANN (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. JONES, and Mr. BENISHEK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

A BILL

To amend title 5, United States Code, to enhance the authority under which Federal agencies may pay cash awards to employees for making cost saving disclosures, 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 “Employees of America
5 Streamlining for Your Savings Act of 2013” or the
6 “EASY Savings Act of 2013”.

1 **SEC. 2. ENHANCEMENT OF AUTHORITY TO MAKE CASH**
2 **AWARDS TO EMPLOYEES FOR COST SAVING**
3 **DISCLOSURES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4512 of title 5, United
5 States Code, is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a)—

7 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
8 by inserting “or identification of surplus funds
9 or unnecessary budget authority” after “mis-
10 management”;

11 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “or
12 identification” after “disclosure”; and

13 (C) in the matter following paragraph (2),
14 by inserting “or identification” after “dis-
15 closure”; and

16 (2) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(c) The Inspector General of an agency or other
18 agency employee designated under subsection (b) shall
19 refer to the Chief Financial Officer of the agency any po-
20 tential surplus funds or unnecessary budget authority
21 identified by an employee under subsection (a), along with
22 any recommendations of the Inspector General or other
23 agency employee.

24 “(d)(1) If the Chief Financial Officer of an agency
25 determines that rescission of potential surplus funds or
26 unnecessary budget authority, identified by an employee

1 under subsection (a), would not hinder the effectiveness
2 of the agency, the head of the agency shall transfer the
3 amount of the surplus funds or unnecessary budget au-
4 thority from the applicable appropriations account to the
5 general fund of the Treasury, except as provided in sub-
6 section (e).

7 “(2) Title X of the Congressional Budget and Im-
8 poundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 681 et seq.)
9 shall not apply to transfers under paragraph (1).

10 “(3) Any amounts transferred under paragraph (1)
11 shall be deposited in the Treasury and used for deficit re-
12 duction, except that in the case of a fiscal year for which
13 there is no Federal budget deficit, such amounts shall be
14 used to reduce the Federal debt, in such manner as the
15 Secretary of the Treasury considers appropriate.

16 “(e) The head of an agency may retain not more than
17 10 percent of any amounts which (but for this subsection)
18 would otherwise be transferred to the general fund of the
19 Treasury under subsection (d), representing surplus funds
20 or unnecessary budget authority identified by an employee
21 under this section, for the purpose of paying a cash award
22 to such employee in accordance with subsection (a).

23 “(f)(1) The head of each agency shall submit to the
24 Director of the Office of Personnel Management an annual
25 report regarding—

1 “(A) each disclosure of fraud, waste, or mis-
2 management or identification of surplus funds or
3 unnecessary budget authority, made under sub-
4 section (a) by an employee of the agency, which is
5 determined by the agency to have merit;

6 “(B) the total savings achieved through disclo-
7 sures and identifications described in subparagraph
8 (A); and

9 “(C) the number and amount of cash awards by
10 the agency under subsection (a).

11 “(2) The Director of the Office of Personnel Manage-
12 ment shall submit to Congress and the Government Ac-
13 countability Office an annual report on Federal cost sav-
14 ing and awards based on the reports under paragraph (1).

15 “(3) The Director of the Office of Personnel Manage-
16 ment shall—

17 “(A) ensure that the cash award program of
18 each agency complies with this section; and

19 “(B) submit to Congress an annual certification
20 indicating whether the cash award program of each
21 agency complies with this section.

22 “(g)(1) The head of each agency shall include the in-
23 formation described in subsection (f)(1) in each budget re-
24 quest of the agency submitted to the Office of Manage-
25 ment and Budget as part of the preparation of the budget

1 of the President submitted to Congress under section
2 1105(a) of title 31.

3 “(2) Not later than 3 years after the date of enact-
4 ment of the EASY Savings Act of 2013, and every 3 years
5 thereafter, the Comptroller General shall submit to Con-
6 gress a report on the operation of the cost savings and
7 awards program under this section, including rec-
8 ommendations for any legislative changes which the
9 Comptroller General considers appropriate.”.

10 (b) PROHIBITION.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 4509 of title 5,
12 United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

13 **“§ 4509. Prohibition of cash award to certain officers**

14 “(a) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
15 term ‘agency’ refers to any agency within the meaning of
16 section 551(1) or 4501(1).

17 “(b) PROHIBITION.—An officer may not receive a
18 cash award under this subchapter if such officer—

19 “(1) is the head of an agency;

20 “(2) serves in—

21 “(A) a position under section 5312 (relat-
22 ing to positions at level I of the Executive
23 Schedule); or

1 “(B) a position for which the compensation
2 is set in statute by reference to section 5312 or
3 level I of the Executive Schedule; or

4 “(3) is a voting member of an independent es-
5 tablishment.”.

6 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for
7 chapter 45 of title 5, United States Code, is amend-
8 ed by striking the item relating to section 4509 and
9 inserting the following:

“4509. Prohibition of cash award to certain officers.”.

