

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 378

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 16, 2017

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs

AN ACT

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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Bonuses for Cost-Cut-
3 ters Act of 2017”.

4 **SEC. 2. COST SAVINGS ENHANCEMENTS.**

5 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 4511 of title 5, United
6 States Code, is amended—

7 (1) in the section heading, by striking “**Defi-**
8 **nition**” and inserting “**Definitions**”; and

9 (2) in subsection (a)—

10 (A) by striking the period at the end and
11 inserting “; and”;

12 (B) by striking “this subchapter, the
13 term” and inserting the following: “this sub-
14 chapter—

15 “(1) the term”; and

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

17 “(2) the term ‘wasteful expenses’ means
18 amounts made available for salaries and expenses
19 accounts, operations and maintenance accounts, or
20 other equivalent accounts—

21 “(A) that are identified by an employee of
22 the agency under section 4512(a) as wasteful;
23 and

24 “(B) that the Chief Financial Officer of
25 the agency determines are not required for the

1 purpose for which the amounts were made
2 available.”.

3 (b) AUTHORITY.—Section 4512 of title 5, United
4 States Code, is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)—

6 (A) by inserting “The head of an agency
7 may pay a cash award to any employee of such
8 agency whose identification of wasteful expenses
9 to the Chief Financial Officer of the agency has
10 resulted in cost savings for the agency.” after
11 the first sentence;

12 (B) in paragraph (1) by striking
13 “\$10,000” and inserting “\$20,000”;

14 (C) in paragraph (2)—

15 (i) by inserting “Chief Financial Offi-
16 cer,” after “Inspector General,” ;

17 (ii) by striking “employee designated
18 under subsection (b)” and inserting “des-
19 ignated employee”; and

20 (iii) by inserting “or identification”
21 after “disclosure”; and

22 (D) in the matter following paragraph
23 (2)—

24 (i) by inserting “, Chief Financial Of-
25 ficer,” after “Inspector General”; and

1 (ii) by inserting “or identification”
2 after “disclosure”;

3 (2) in subsection (b) by striking “awards per-
4 mitted under this section” and inserting “awards for
5 the disclosure of fraud, waste, or mismanagement
6 under this section”; and

7 (3) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(c)(1) If the Chief Financial Officer of the agency
9 determines that potential wasteful expenses identified by
10 an employee meet the requirements of section
11 4511(a)(2)(B), the head of the agency shall notify the
12 President for purposes of proposing the expenses for re-
13 scission under title X of the Congressional Budget and
14 Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 681 et seq.).

15 “(2) In the case of an agency for which there is no
16 Chief Financial Officer, the head of the agency shall des-
17 ignate an agency employee who shall have the authority
18 to make the determinations for identification of wasteful
19 expenses under this section.

20 “(d) The head of each agency shall make available,
21 along with, and in the same manner and form as, the pro-
22 vision of information required under section 1116 of title
23 31, information on disclosures of wasteful expenses under
24 this section, including—

1 “(1) a description of each disclosure of possible
2 wasteful expenses identified by an employee and de-
3 termined by the agency to have merit; and

4 “(2) the number and amount of cash awards
5 provided by the agency under subsection (a).

6 “(e) An individual may not receive a cash award
7 under this subchapter if the individual is—

8 “(1) an officer or employee of the Office of the
9 Inspector General of an agency; or

10 “(2) ineligible for a cash award under section
11 4509.

12 “(f) The Director of the Office of Personnel Manage-
13 ment shall—

14 “(1) ensure that the cash award program of
15 each agency complies with this section; and

16 “(2) submit to Congress an annual certification
17 indicating whether the cash award program of each
18 agency complies with this section.

19 “(g) Not later than 3 years after the date of enact-
20 ment of the Bonuses for Cost-Cutters Act of 2017, and
21 every 3 years thereafter for 6 years, the Comptroller Gen-
22 eral of the United States shall submit to Congress a report
23 on the operation of the cost savings and awards program
24 under this section, including any recommendations for leg-
25 islative changes.”.

1 (c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—
2 The table of sections for subchapter II of chapter 45 of
3 title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking the
4 item relating to section 4511 and inserting the following:
 “4511. Definitions and general provisions.”.

 Passed the House of Representatives October 11,
2017.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk.