

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6551

To amend title 5, United States Code, to improve Federal agency teleworking programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself and Mr. SARBANES) 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 improve Federal
agency teleworking programs, 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 “Telework Metrics and
5 Cost Savings Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO FEDERAL AGENCY TELE-**
7 **WORKING PROGRAMS.**

8 (a) **DEFINITION OF TELEWORK.**—Section 6501(3) of
9 title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after

1 “performs” the following: “(on a periodic or full-time
2 basis)”.

3 (b) TELEWORK PARTICIPATION GOALS.—Chapter 65
4 of title 5, United States Code, is amended as follows:

5 (1) In section 6502—

6 (A) in subsection (b)—

7 (i) in paragraph (4), by striking
8 “and” at the end;

9 (ii) in paragraph (5), by striking the
10 period at the end and inserting a semi-
11 colon; and

12 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
13 lowing:

14 “(6) include annual goals for increasing the
15 percent of employees of the executive agency partici-
16 pating in teleworking—

17 “(A) three or more days per pay period;

18 “(B) one or 2 days per pay period;

19 “(C) once per month; and

20 “(D) on an occasional, episodic, or short-
21 term basis; and

22 “(7) include methods for collecting data on, set-
23 ting goals for, and reporting costs savings to the ex-
24 ecutive agency achieved through teleworking, con-
25 sistent with the guidance developed under section

1 2(c) of the Telework Metrics and Cost Savings
2 Act.”; and

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

4 “(d) NOTIFICATION FOR REDUCTION IN TELE-
5 WORKING PARTICIPATION.—Not later than 30 days before
6 the date that an executive agency implements or modifies
7 a teleworking plan that would reduce the percentage of
8 employees at the agency who telework, the head of the ex-
9 ecutive agency shall provide written notification, including
10 a justification for the reduction in telework participation
11 and a description of how the agency will pay for any in-
12 creased costs resulting from that reduction, to—

13 “(1) the Director of the Office of Personnel
14 Management;

15 “(2) the Committee on Oversight and Govern-
16 ment Reform of the House of Representatives; and

17 “(3) the Committee on Homeland Security and
18 Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

19 “(e) PROHIBITION ON AGENCY-WIDE LIMITS ON
20 TELEWORKING.—An agency may not prohibit any delin-
21 eated period of teleworking participation for all employees
22 of the agency, including the periods described in subpara-
23 graphs (A) through (D) of subsection (b)(6). The agency
24 shall make any teleworking determination with respect to

1 an employee or group of employees at the agency on a
2 case-by-case basis.”.

3 (2) In section 6506(b)(2)—

4 (A) in subparagraph (F)(vi), by striking
5 “and” at the end;

6 (B) in subparagraph (G), by striking the
7 period at the end and inserting a semicolon;
8 and

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

10 “(H) agency cost savings achieved through
11 teleworking, consistent with the guidance devel-
12 oped under section 2(c) of the Telework Metrics
13 and Cost Savings Act; and

14 “(I) a detailed explanation of a plan to in-
15 crease the Government-wide teleworking partici-
16 pation rate above such rate applicable to fiscal
17 year 2016, including agency-level plans to main-
18 tain or improve such rate for each of the tele-
19 working frequency categories listed under sub-
20 paragraph (A)(iii).”.

21 (c) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 90 days after the
22 date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Of-
23 fice of Personnel Management, in collaboration with the
24 Chief Human Capital Officer Council, shall establish uni-
25 form guidance for agencies on how to collect data on, set

1 goals for, and report cost savings achieved through, tele-
2 working. Such guidance shall account for cost savings re-
3 lated to travel, energy use, and real estate.

4 (d) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 6506(b)(1)
5 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking
6 “with Chief” and inserting “with the Chief”.

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