

We are in very strong support of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 4174.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GOOD ACCOUNTING OBLIGATION IN GOVERNMENT ACT

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2276) to require agencies to submit reports on outstanding recommendations in the annual budget justification submitted to Congress.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2276

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act” or the “GAO-IG Act”.

SEC. 2. REPORTS ON OUTSTANDING GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE AND INSPECTOR GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “agency” means—

(1) a designated Federal entity, as defined in section 8G(a)(2) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.);

(2) an establishment, as defined in section 12(2) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.); and

(3) legislative branch agencies, including the Government Publishing Office, the Library of Congress, the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, and the United States Capitol Police.

(b) REQUIRED REPORTS.—In the annual budget justification submitted to Congress, as submitted with the budget of the President under section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, each agency shall include—

(1) a report listing each public recommendation of the Government Accountability Office that is designated by the Government Accountability Office as “open” or “closed, unimplemented” for a period of not less than 1 year preceding the date on which the annual budget justification is submitted;

(2) a report listing each public recommendation for corrective action from the Office of Inspector General of the agency that—

(A) was published not less than 1 year before the date on which the annual budget justification is submitted; and

(B) for which no final action was taken as of the date on which the annual budget justification is submitted; and

(3) a report on the implementation status of each public recommendation described in paragraphs (1) and (2), which shall include—

(A) with respect to a public recommendation that is designated by the Government Accountability Office as “open” or “closed, unimplemented”—

(i) that the agency has decided not to implement, a detailed justification for the decision; or

(ii) that the agency has decided to adopt, a timeline for full implementation, to the extent practicable, if the agency determines that the recommendation has clear budget implications;

(B) with respect to a public recommendation for corrective action from the Office of Inspector General of the agency for which no final action or action not recommended has been taken, an explanation of the reasons why no final action or action not recommended was taken with respect to each audit report to which the public recommendation for corrective action pertains;

(C) with respect to an outstanding unimplemented public recommendation from the Office of Inspector General of the agency that the agency has decided to adopt, a timeline for implementation;

(D) an explanation for any discrepancy between—

(i) the reports submitted under paragraphs (1) and (2);

(ii) the semiannual reports submitted by the Office of Inspector General of the agency under section 5 of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.); and

(iii) reports submitted by the Government Accountability Office relating to public recommendations that are designated by the Government Accountability Office as “open” or “closed, unimplemented”; and

(E) for the first 12 months after a public recommendation is made, if the agency is determining whether to implement the public recommendation, a statement describing that the agency is doing so, which shall exempt the agency from the requirements under subparagraphs (B) and (C) with respect to that public recommendation.

(c) COPIES OF SUBMISSIONS.—Each agency shall provide a copy of the information submitted under subsection (b) to the Government Accountability Office and the Office of Inspector General of the agency.

SEC. 3. TIMELINE FOR AGENCY STATEMENTS.

Section 720(b) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “61st” and inserting “181st”; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “60” and inserting “180”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Good Accounting Obligation in Government, or GAO-IG, Act would improve transparency and oversight of the executive branch. This bill enjoys bipartisan support. I urge

all Members to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I support the bill, which is designed to promote the transparency and accountability of Federal agencies. It would require agencies to include in their budget justifications to Congress a summary of the recommendations made by GAO or the agency's inspector general in the prior year.

Agencies also would be required to explain what steps they are actually taking to address these recommendations by GAO or their IG or, if they disagree with those recommendations, why.

The GAO and inspectors general provide critical oversight of the executive branch of government and provide Congress with invaluable assistance in helping hold any Presidential administration accountable for its actions and policies.

Knowing what agencies are doing or not doing to address GAO and IG recommendations will definitely assist us in Congress in conducting our constitutional oversight responsibilities.

This is a commonsense measure that all Members should support. I am delighted to advance it on a bipartisan basis.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2276.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

FEDERAL PERSONAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2018

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3031) to amend chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, to improve the management of Federal personal property.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3031

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Federal Personal Property Management Act of 2018”.

SEC. 2. FEDERAL PERSONAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT.

(a) INVENTORY ASSESSING AND IDENTIFYING EXCESS PERSONAL PROPERTY.—Section 524(a) of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (11), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (12), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(13) in accordance with guidance from the Administrator of General Services—

“(A) on an annual basis, conduct an inventory and assessment of capitalized personal property to identify excess capitalized personal property under its control, including evaluating—

“(i) the age and condition of the personal property;

“(ii) the extent to which the executive agency utilizes the personal property;

“(iii) the extent to which the mission of the executive agency is dependent on the personal property; and

“(iv) any other aspect of the personal property that the Administrator determines is useful or necessary for the executive agency to evaluate; and

“(B) on a regular basis, conduct an inventory and assessment of accountable personal property under its control, including evaluating—

“(i) the age and condition of the personal property;

“(ii) the extent to which the executive agency utilizes the personal property;

“(iii) the extent to which the mission of the executive agency is dependent on the personal property; and

“(iv) any other aspect of the personal property that the Administrator determines is useful or necessary for the executive agency to evaluate.”.

(b) **THRESHOLDS FOR CAPITALIZATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY.**—Section 506(a)(1) of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(E) **CAPITALIZATION THRESHOLDS.**—Establish thresholds for acquisitions of personal property for which executive agencies shall capitalize the personal property.

“(F) **ACCOUNTABILITY THRESHOLDS.**—Notwithstanding section 121(b), for the management and accountability of personal property, establish thresholds for acquisitions of personal property for which executive agencies shall establish and maintain property records in a centralized system.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Federal Personal Property Management Act of 2018 would improve inventories and accounting of Federal Government property bought with taxpayer dollars. This bill has bipartisan support. I urge all Members to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am rising in support of the Federal Personal Property Man-

agement Act, which would improve the accountability of unneeded equipment, furniture, and information technology resources at Federal agencies.

It may be an appropriate time for us to take up this bill, given all the furniture strewn throughout the floors of the House of Representatives.

The GAO recently found that most agencies do not have procedures in place to identify unneeded personal property on a regular basis. The GSA has issued regulations establishing a governmentwide excess property disposal process, but it lacks the authority to tell agencies how or when to identify excess property. As a result, agencies retain unneeded property that could be used elsewhere in the Federal Government, at State or local governments, or in the private sector.

□ 0930

The report also found there is a wide variation in how Federal agencies classify according to value, which makes it difficult to measure the total value of the government's personal property holdings.

The Federal Personal Property Management Act would direct Federal agencies to assess and inventory more valuable property assets once a year and assets of lower value on a regular basis, according to guidance issued by GSA.

Requiring agencies to regularly inventory their excess property should spur agencies to declare excess property more often, allowing for its disposal.

The bill also would give the GSA authority to establish a uniform standard for how agencies assess their most valuable property, allowing for a better understanding and use of its value.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. WALKER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3031.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PERMISSION TO REDUCE TIME FOR ELECTRONIC VOTING DURING PROCEEDINGS TODAY

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that during further proceedings today in the House, the Chair be authorized to reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any question that otherwise could be subjected to 5-minute voting under clause 8 or 9 of rule XX.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

CIVIL RIGHTS COLD CASE RECORDS COLLECTION ACT OF 2018

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3191) to provide for the expeditious disclosure of records related to civil rights cold cases, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3191

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection Act of 2018”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **ARCHIVIST.**—The term “Archivist” means the Archivist of the United States.

(2) **CIVIL RIGHTS COLD CASE.**—The term “civil rights cold case” means any unsolved case—

(A) arising out of events which occurred during the period beginning on January 1, 1940 and ending on December 31, 1979; and

(B) related to—

(i) section 241 of title 18, United States Code (relating to conspiracy against rights);

(ii) section 242 of title 18, United States Code (relating to deprivation of rights under color of law);

(iii) section 245 of title 18, United States Code (relating to federally protected activities);

(iv) sections 1581 and 1584 of title 18, United States Code (relating to peonage and involuntary servitude);

(v) section 901 of the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3631); or

(vi) any other Federal law that was—

(I) in effect on or before December 31, 1979; and

(II) enforced by the criminal section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice before the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) **CIVIL RIGHTS COLD CASE RECORD.**—The term “civil rights cold case record” means a record that—

(A) is related to a civil rights cold case; and

(B) was created or made available for use by, obtained by, or otherwise came into the possession of—

(i) the Library of Congress;

(ii) the National Archives;

(iii) any executive agency;

(iv) any independent agency;

(v) any other entity of the Federal Government; or

(vi) any State or local government, or component thereof, that provided support or assistance or performed work in connection with a Federal inquiry into a civil rights cold case.

(4) **COLLECTION.**—The term “Collection” means the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection established under section 3.

(5) **EXECUTIVE AGENCY.**—The term “executive agency” means an agency, as defined in section 552(f) of title 5, United States Code.

(6) **GOVERNMENT OFFICE.**—The term “Government office” means any office of the Federal Government that has possession or control of 1 or more civil rights cold case records.