

I thank my Oversight and Government Reform Committee colleagues Congressmen RO KHANNA and TIM BURCHETT for championing this helpful legislation that will help lawmakers understand State-level program risks and inform future fraud prevention reforms.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bipartisan and commonsense bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I also rise in support of H.R. 8107, the Government Audit and Accountability of Federally Funded State-Administered Programs Act.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. KHANNA).

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the House taking up the Government Audit and Accountability of Federally Funded State-Administered Programs Act. It is a long way of saying that this is a bill to go after fraud.

I thank Congressman TIM BURCHETT for his partnership on this bipartisan legislation. I also thank Chairman COMER; Ranking Member GARCIA; Congressman GILL; Congressman SUBRAMANYAM; my staff lead, Selene Ceja; and Kevin Fox, my legislative director, for their help in advancing this effort.

The bill is straightforward. It directs the Government Accountability Office to conduct an independent review of Federal programs that States administer on behalf of working families.

Congress has a responsibility to ensure that every tax dollar reaches the people and communities these programs are intended to serve. To do that, we need facts, data, and evidence.

The legislation helps us better understand how these programs operate across States where vulnerabilities may exist, what practices are working, and what improvements Congress should consider to stop fraud.

At its core, the bill is about prevention, accountability, and good governance. By directing the GAO to identify effective tools, technical assistance, and proven practices, we can help States strengthen program administration before problems occur, and it applies to all 50 States, so there is no politics in it.

The families who rely on these programs deserve services that are efficient, reliable, accessible, and protected.

Tackling fraud is not a partisan issue. Congress needs to continue bipartisan, evidence-based efforts to better understand how Federal funds flow through State-administered programs and how we can strengthen those systems.

I recognize Congressman TIM BURCHETT for his extraordinary leadership and partnership here. This bill gives us the information we need to make informed decisions and strengthen the public trust.

Mr. GILL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the great gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT).

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your abilities at short stop, as well.

I thank Mr. RO KHANNA for his kind words. I have never heard the words "extraordinary leadership" attached to the named TIM BURCHETT before, and I thank the gentleman for that. I thank the gentleman also for including me in this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise, of course, in support of the bipartisan Government Audit and Accountability of Federally Funded State-Administered Programs Act.

This bill directs the Comptroller General, or our good friends at the Government Accountability Office, to produce recurring assessments of federally funded State-administered programs.

This report will compare trends across States and identify programs and administrative practices most vulnerable to waste, fraud, and abuse in State and local administration of Federal funds.

Every year, approximately \$1.1 trillion of taxpayer dollars are administered by State and local governments. The money is administered with little or no oversight from the Federal Government.

How many times have we heard that we need to audit those folks? This does just that. By requiring the GAO to monitor and report on trends across States, we will begin to see which administrative practices are most vulnerable to waste, fraud, and abuse.

Recently, I have seen fraud run rampant at all levels of government. It is time that we mandate oversight so that the American people know where their taxpayer dollars are going.

Mr. Speaker, we have an obligation to our constituents to protect their hard-earned money. We have an obligation to make sure that government is working for the people. We have an obligation to actually do something, dadgummit, to rid government of waste, fraud, and abuse. It starts today with voting "yes" on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend Representative RO KHANNA for his support in rooting out waste, fraud, and abuse, and I urge my colleagues to pass this bipartisan piece of legislation.

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is an important step toward preventing fraud and improper payments before they happen. I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, approximately \$1.1 trillion of taxpayer dollars are administered annually by State and local governments with little to no comprehensive and recurring oversight from the Federal Government or Congress.

H.R. 8107 would require the Government Accountability Office to study the specific risks associated with federally funded State-administered programs and enable Congress to track emerging fraud patterns before they become billion-dollar scandals.

Mr. Speaker, I, therefore, encourage my colleagues to support the Government Audit and Accountability of Federally Funded State-Administered Programs Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8107, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### FEDERAL FRAUD PREVENTION WORKFORCE TRAINING ACT

Mr. GILL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8428) to amend title 5, United States Code, to establish a mandatory antifraud and improper payment training program for Federal program administrators, to provide for the availability of such training to State and local entities administering Federally funded programs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8428

*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 Fraud Prevention Workforce Training Act".

#### SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF ANTIFRAUD AND IMPROPER PAYMENT PREVENTION TRAINING PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 41 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

#### “§ 4122. Federal Government-wide antifraud and improper payment prevention training program

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of the Treasury and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, may establish and maintain a Federal Government-wide program for antifraud and improper payment prevention training (in this section referred to as the ‘Program’).

“(b) CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS.—The Program shall include comprehensive instruction on—

“(1) identifying and assessing fraud and improper payment risks in Federal programs;

“(2) implementing resources, including the Government Accountability Office’s Framework for Managing Fraud Risks in Federal Programs and the Office of Management and Budget’s Circular A-123 and its applicable appendices, the Department of the Treasury’s Anti-Fraud Playbook, the National Institute of Standards and Technology Digital Identity Guidelines, and data analytics tools in agency program administration;

“(3) using systems and resources maintained by the Department of the Treasury, including the Do Not Pay system established under 3354 of title 31, and any other payment, account, and payee validation programs (including government-wide antifraud data sharing programs) and services to prevent and address fraud and improper payments in Federal programs;

“(4) reporting mechanisms for suspected fraud, waste, and abuse; and

“(5) the establishment and use of internal controls designed to prevent improper payments and fraud in Federal programs.

“(c) MANDATORY PARTICIPATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of each agency shall ensure that any employee serving as a program administrator, program officer, financial administrator or manager, disbursement certifying official under section 3528 of title 31, auditing official, grants manager, or in a similar oversight capacity of Federal programs or Federal financial assistance completes the Program—

“(A) not later than 180 days after the date of appointment to such position or, for any employee occupying such a position on the effective date of this section pursuant to section 2(c) of the Federal Fraud Prevention Workforce Training Act, within 180 days of such effective date; and

“(B) not less frequently than once every 2 years thereafter.

“(2) CERTIFICATION.—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall provide a system for certifying completion of the Program and maintaining records of such certifications.

“(d) AVAILABILITY TO STATE, LOCAL, OR TRIBAL-ADMINISTERED PROGRAMS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury may make the Program available at no cost to employees or contractors of a State (defined in this subsection as any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, a territory or possession of the United States, or a federally recognized Indian Tribe) or local government who are responsible for the administration of Federally funded programs.

“(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of the Treasury may provide technical assistance to such State or local governments to integrate the Program’s standards into the respective administrative frameworks of such entities.

“(e) REPORTING.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of the Federal Fraud Prevention Workforce Training Act and annually thereafter, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, shall submit, to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, a report on the implementation of the Program, including participation rates and an assessment of the Program’s effectiveness in reducing fraud and improper payments.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

“4122. Federal Government-wide antifraud and improper payment prevention training program.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the effective date in paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe

such regulations as necessary to implement or administer the training program established under section 4122 of title 5, United States Code, as added by subsection (a) of this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GILL) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SUBRAMANYAM) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILL of Texas. 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 this measure.

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Mr. GILL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 8428, the Federal Fraud Prevention Workforce Training Act.

Every year, billions of taxpayer dollars are lost to increasingly sophisticated fraud schemes. Unfortunately, the increase in sophistication of fraudsters and criminals is outmatching the capabilities of Federal agencies that work to safeguard taxpayer funds.

H.R. 8428 identifies this expanding challenge and helps bolster the financial defenses of our Federal programs against malicious actors.

Specifically, it authorizes the U.S. Treasury to establish a government-wide antifraud training program for agency officials, like grant managers and auditors, so they are adequately trained on best practices for preventing and addressing fraud in agency programs.

The bill also allows the U.S. Treasury to provide the training programs to State and local agencies administering federally funded programs at no cost.

This training will help ensure agency program management and State-level officials are better equipped to confront the challenges associated with fraud and improper payments by better utilizing the tools and best practices already established.

Such tools include more fully implementing agency fraud prevention frameworks in the program’s administration and fully utilizing Treasury’s Do Not Pay System.

This is important and forward-looking legislation, and I applaud my Oversight Committee colleagues Congressman GLENN GROTHMAN and RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY on these programs.

I encourage my colleagues to support this bipartisan and forward-looking bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 8428, the Federal Fraud Prevention Workforce Training Act.

This bill would establish programs to train Federal workers to identify the risks of fraud and improper payments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY).

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman GROTHMAN for being a partner on this bill.

H.R. 8428, the Federal Fraud Prevention Workforce Training Act, is legislation that would address a central concern of the American people, which is fraud and waste in government.

Every dollar lost to fraud is a dollar that cannot be used to serve the American people. Yet, over the last 20 years, at least \$3 trillion in improper payments have been made by the American Government.

Our bipartisan bill protects taxpayer dollars by creating a universal Federal training program to fight fraud. By giving our government employees the tools that they need to identify fraud and avoid spending mistakes, we can stop waste before it happens.

Accountability to the American people is not optional. It is required. I am proud to support policies that keep our Federal programs strong and that use taxpayer dollars responsibly.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this key legislation, and I thank the bill’s sponsors, Chairman COMER, and Ranking Member GARCÍA for bringing this bill to the floor today.

Mr. GILL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Federal Fraud Prevention Workforce Training Act. It is a bipartisan bill that strengthens fraud prevention efforts across the Federal Government.

Americans work hard for their money. They pay their taxes, follow the rules, and expect the Federal Government to treat every dollar with care.

Unfortunately, fraud in Federal programs remains far too common, and too often it could have been prevented. The problem is not only the bad actors who try to steal from the taxpayer. Too many Federal employees and program administrators are left without training, guidance, or tools they need to identify risks before taxpayer dollars go out the door.

The bill takes a commonsense step to fix that. The Federal Fraud Prevention Workforce Training Act directs the Department of the Treasury, in coordination with OMB and OPM, to establish a standardized, government-wide fraud prevention training program. That training would help Federal employees identify fraud risks, implement proven antifraud practices, and make better use of existing tools, including the Do Not Pay System.

It would also make these resources available to State and local governments that administer Federal funds.

That last point is important. Many Federal programs are not administered

only in Washington. They depend on State and local partners who are often on the front lines and don't have any skin in game. If we want to protect taxpayer dollars, those partners need access to the same knowledge and best practices the Federal Government has.

Every dollar lost to fraud is a dollar that cannot help a veteran, a senior, a small business, a family in need, a community that depends on Federal assistance, or pay down our ridiculous Federal debt. It is also a dollar added to the debt and a dollar taken from hardworking Americans who expect better from their government.

We should not wait until fraud has already occurred to ask what went wrong. We should train the Federal workforce to identify warning signs early, use the tools already available, and stop fraud before taxpayer dollars are wasted.

I thank Congressman KRISHNAMOORTHY for leading the bipartisan effort with me. I also thank Chairman COMER for his leadership on the Oversight Committee and his work to hold the Federal Government accountable.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

Preventing improper payments and fraud starts with a well-trained workforce. I thank my colleagues for their work on this important legislation.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 8428, the Federal Fraud Prevention Workforce Training Act.

In order to meaningfully address the massive scale of fraud in Federal programs, we need to implement a standardized, government-wide training program for employees administering agency programs.

H.R. 8428 helps establish leading fraud prevention training practices throughout the Federal Government so we can recognize and prevent fraud before it happens.

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 Texas (Mr. GILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8428, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. GILL of Texas. 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.

## BONUSES FOR COST-CUTTERS AND FRAUD PREVENTERS ACT OF 2026

Mr. GILL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 428) 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, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 428

*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 "Bonuses for Cost-Cutters and Fraud Preventers Act of 2026".

### SEC. 2. COST SAVINGS ENHANCEMENTS.

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

(1) in the section heading, by striking "Definition" and inserting "Definitions"; and

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(B) by striking "this subchapter, the term" and inserting the following: "this subchapter—

"(1) the term"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) the terms 'improper payment' and 'payment' have the meanings given such terms, respectively, in section 3351 of title 31; and

"(3) the term 'wasteful expenses' means amounts made available for salaries and expenses accounts, operations and maintenance accounts, or other equivalent accounts—

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

"(B) that the Chief Financial Officer of the agency determines are not required for the purpose for which the amounts were made available."

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

(1) in the heading, by inserting "and improper payment" before "disclosures";

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) by inserting after the first sentence the following: "The head of an agency may pay a cash award to any employee of such agency whose identification of wasteful expenses to the Chief Financial Officer of such agency, through a process determined by the head of such agency, has resulted in cost savings for the agency or prevented a payment that, if made, would be an improper payment resulting in financial loss to the Government.";

(B) in paragraph (1) by striking "\$10,000" and inserting "\$20,000";

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting "or prevented improper payments" after "cost savings";

(ii) by inserting "Chief Financial Officer," after "Inspector General,";

(iii) by striking "subsection (b)" and inserting "subsection (b) or (c), as applicable"; and

(iv) by inserting "or identification" after "disclosure"; and

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

(i) by inserting "Chief Financial Officer," after "Inspector General";

(ii) by inserting "or prevented improper payments" after "cost savings"; and

(iii) by inserting "or identification" after "disclosure"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(c)(1) If the Chief Financial Officer of an agency determines that potential wasteful

expenses identified by an employee meet the requirements of section 4511(a)(3)(B), the head of such agency shall notify the President.

"(2) If the Chief Financial Officer of an agency determines that a payment identified by an employee would, if made, be an improper payment resulting in financial loss to the Government, the head of such agency shall notify the Secretary of the Treasury of such payment for purposes of preventing similar improper payments.

"(3) In the case of an agency for which there is no Chief Financial Officer, the head of the agency shall designate an agency employee who shall have the authority to make the determinations for identification of wasteful expenses or prevented improper payments under this section.

"(d) The head of each agency shall make available, along with, and in the same manner and form as, the provision of information required under section 1116 of title 31, information on disclosures of wasteful expenses or prevented improper payments pursuant to which an award was made under this section, including—

"(1) a description of each disclosure of possible wasteful expenses or improper payments identified by an employee and determined by the agency to have merit; and

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

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

"(1) an officer or employee of the Office of the Inspector General of an agency; or

"(2) ineligible for a cash award under section 4509.

"(f) The Director of the Office of Personnel Management, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the Secretary of the Treasury, shall—

"(1) ensure that the cash award program of each agency under this section complies with this section; and

"(2) submit to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate an annual certification indicating whether the cash award program of each agency under this section complies with this section.

"(g) Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Bonuses for Cost-Cutters and Fraud Preventers Act of 2026, and every 2 years thereafter for 4 years, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the operation of the cost savings and awards program under this section, including any recommendations for legislative changes."

(c) OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET GUIDANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than six months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management and the Secretary of the Treasury, shall issue guidance to Federal agencies on implementing the amendments made by this Act.

(2) CONTENTS.—The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall include in the guidance required by paragraph (1) the following:

(A) Guidelines for employees of Federal agencies to identify and report within the agency of such employee a wasteful expense or improper payment.