

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM  
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**MEMORANDUM**

**November 1, 2021**

**To: Members of the Committee on Oversight and Reform**

**Fr: Committee Staff**

**Re: Committee Business Meeting**

On **Thursday, November 4, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. ET, in room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building and over Zoom**, the Committee on Oversight and Reform will hold a hybrid business meeting to consider the following:

1. H.R. 5477, the Federal Agency Climate Planning, Resilience, and Enhanced Preparedness (PREP) Act;
2. H.R. 4688, the Federal Agency Customer Experience (FACE) Act;
3. H.R. \_\_\_\_\_, the State and Local Digital Services Act;
4. H.R. 4778, the District of Columbia Courts Vacancy Reduction Act; and
5. Several postal naming measures.

**I. H.R. 5477, THE FEDERAL AGENCY CLIMATE PREP ACT OF 2021**

H.R. 5477, the Federal Agency Climate Planning, Resilience, and Enhanced Preparedness (PREP) Act, was introduced by Chairwoman Maloney on October 5, 2021.

The bill would require each agency to submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) an agency climate action plan within one year of enactment, followed by annual progress reports with updated identification and assessments of climate change-related impacts and risks.

The bill would establish an interagency council called the Council on Federal Agency Climate Planning, Resilience, and Enhanced Preparedness. The Council would be composed of at least 32 agencies or offices, including the Departments of State, Treasury, and Defense; the Environmental Protection Agency; and key White House offices such as the National Economic Council and the Domestic Policy Council. The Council would be chaired by the Director of

OMB and guided by a steering committee composed of the National Climate Advisor, the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality, and the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy. The steering committee would determine priorities and strategic direction for the Council.

The bill would codify the Office of Domestic Climate Policy within the Executive Office of the President, to be headed by the National Climate Advisor appointed by the President. The Office would be responsible for coordinating the policymaking process with respect to domestic climate policy issues, coordinating domestic climate policy advice to the President, ensuring that domestic climate policy decisions and programs are consistent with the President's stated goals and that those goals are being effectively pursued, and monitoring implementation of the President's domestic climate policy agenda.

## **II. H.R. 4688, THE FEDERAL AGENCY CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE ACT**

H.R. 4688, the Federal Agency Customer Experience (FACE) Act, was introduced by Subcommittee Chairman Connolly and Representative Brian Fitzpatrick on July 26, 2021. The bill would direct certain public-facing agencies to collect voluntary feedback from agency customers and require that the agencies use a set of standard feedback questions developed by OMB and the General Services Administration (GSA). The bill also exempts agencies from the public notice and comment process required by the Paperwork Reduction Act when collecting this type of voluntary feedback.

H.R. 4688 would require OMB to maintain a publicly available website where agencies can post the voluntary customer feedback they collect. Lastly, the bill would require the Government Accountability Office to prepare annual reports that evaluate how agencies are using the feedback they received to improve their customers' experience.

Senators Maggie Hassan and James Lankford introduced a companion to this legislation in the Senate on March 3, 2021 (S. 671).

## **III. H.R. \_\_\_\_, THE STATE AND LOCAL DIGITAL SERVICES ACT**

H.R. \_\_\_\_, the State and Local Digital Service Act, will be introduced by Subcommittee Chairman Connolly and Representative Anna Eshoo prior to the business meeting. The bill would require GSA, in consultation with the U.S. Digital Service, to establish a Digital Service Agreement Program to provide state, local, and tribal governments with an initial investment to establish digital service teams to improve the way localities deliver public services.

Priority for digital service agreements would be given to state, local, and tribal governments that demonstrate a commitment to modernizing government technology and service delivery, are planning to work to modernize a specific benefits program funded by the federal government, or have a proposal that will specifically improve the delivery of government services in underserved or disadvantaged communities.

The bill would also require GSA to create a publicly available dashboard that tracks the progress and performance of awarded digital services agreements. Finally, the bill would authorize \$100 million for each fiscal year from 2022 through 2028, including funding for the Office of Inspector General at GSA for oversight of the funds.

#### **IV. H.R. 4778, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS VACANCY REDUCTION ACT**

H.R. 4778, the District of Columbia Courts Vacancy Reduction Act, was introduced by Congresswoman Norton on July 28, 2021. The bill would allow judicial appointments to the local District of Columbia courts to take effect after a 30-day congressional review period, unless during that period a joint resolution disapproving an appointment is enacted into law. Currently, appointments are made with the advice and consent of the Senate. The purpose of the bill is to expedite appointments.

The D.C. Superior Court, which is D.C.’s trial court, consists of 62 authorized judges.<sup>1</sup> The D.C. Court of Appeals, which is D.C.’s appeals court, consists of nine authorized judges.<sup>2</sup> In recent history, the D.C. courts have had a high number of vacancies, making it difficult for the courts to manage their caseloads. Currently, the Superior Court has 14 vacancies and the Court of Appeals has three vacancies.

#### **V. POSTAL NAMING MEASURES**

- H.R. 700, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 303 East Mississippi Avenue in Elwood, Illinois, as the ‘Lawrence M. ‘Larry’ Walsh Sr. Post Office.’”
- H.R. 3508, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 39 West Main Street, in Honeoye Falls, New York, as the ‘CW4 Christian J. Koch Memorial Post Office.’”
- H.R. 4899, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 10 Broadway Street West, in Akeley, Minnesota, as the ‘Neal Kenneth Todd Post Office.’”
- H.R. 5271, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2245 Rosa L Parks Boulevard in Nashville, Tennessee, as the ‘Thelma Harper Post Office Building.’”
- H.R. 5577, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3900 Crown Road Southwest in Atlanta, Georgia, as the ‘John R. Lewis Post Office Building.’”

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<sup>1</sup> Pub. L. No. 110-201 (2008); Pub. L. No. 91-358 (1970).

<sup>2</sup> Pub. L. No. 91-358 (1970).

- H.R. 5650, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service at 16605 East Avenue of the Fountains in Fountain Hills, Arizona, as the ‘Dr. C.T. Wright Post Office Building.’”
- H.R. 5659, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1961 North C Street in Oxnard, California, as the ‘John R. Hatcher III Post Office Building.’”

## **VIII. AMENDMENT PROCESS**

Committee Rule 2(g) authorizes the chair of the Committee to prioritize the consideration of amendments filed 24 hours in advance of the consideration of matters before the Committee or subcommittees. Pursuant to this rule, and at the chair’s discretion, the Committee may consider amendments that are pre-filed with the Committee clerk prior to amendments offered at a markup.

Members should pre-file amendments with the clerk of the Committee by emailing a searchable, electronic PDF copy of the amendment prepared by the House Legislative Counsel to [Oversight\\_Clerks@mail.house.gov](mailto:Oversight_Clerks@mail.house.gov) and to Christina Parisi at [Christina.Parisi@mail.house.gov](mailto:Christina.Parisi@mail.house.gov) at least 24 hours before the scheduled start of the business meeting. Members should include in the email accompanying the amendment text:

1. The name(s) of the Member(s) who will offer the amendment;
2. The name and number of the measure to be amended;
3. A brief, one-sentence description of the amendment; and
4. The name and phone number of a staff member who will serve as the point of contact for the amendment.

Pre-filed amendments will be compiled into a single roster, and the roster will be made available to Committee members prior to business meetings. Any amendment to a measure or matter before the Committee or a subcommittee should be germane to the measure or matter, including in scope, subject matter, and Committee consideration. Votes on amendments likely will be grouped together at a time determined by the chair, pursuant to Committee Rules.