

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5051
MINORITY (202) 225-5074
<https://oversight.house.gov>

MEMORANDUM

September 15, 2022

To: Members of the Committee on Oversight and Reform

Fr: Committee Staff

Re: Committee Business Meeting

On Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at 10:00 a.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. S. 1941, the Metropolitan Areas Protection and Standardization (MAPS) Act;
2. S. 3510, the Disaster Resiliency Planning Act;
3. H.R. 8466, the Chai Suthammanont Healthy Federal Workplaces Act of 2022;
4. H.R. 8665, the National Archives and Records Administration Modernization Act;
5. H. Res. 1243, Of inquiry requesting the President transmit certain documents in his possession to the House of Representatives relating to the Biden family's international business schemes and related information;
6. H.R. _____, the District of Columbia Home Rule Expansion Act; and
7. Several postal naming measures.

I. S. 1941, THE METROPOLITAN AREAS PROTECTION AND STANDARDIZATION (MAPS) ACT

A. Summary

S. 1941 was introduced by Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Chairman Gary Peters and Ranking Member Rob Portman on May 27, 2021. The bill passed the Senate by unanimous consent on May 26, 2022.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) maintains a set of standards, known as the Standards for Delineating Core Based Statistical Areas (Standards), to ensure consistency across the federal government in how agencies classify statistics by geographic area. Through the Standards, OMB determines whether a county is a “metropolitan statistical area” based on its proximity to an urban core, or a large population center that is integrated with adjacent communities. While OMB intends for the Standards to be used solely for statistical purposes, they are used by federal agencies in formulas to distribute services, benefits, and funding through federal programs.¹

Every ten years, OMB receives recommendations from an interagency technical advisory committee on updates to ensure the continued relevance of the Standards. OMB then solicits public notice and comment on the recommendations before publishing the updated Standards. Recommendations for the 2020 Standards were published for notice and comment on January 19, 2021, and included a proposal to increase the urban population to qualify a metropolitan statistical area from 50,000 to 100,000.² Responding to concerns of unintended consequences raised through the public comment process, OMB announced the 2020 Standards on July 31, 2021, without this change.³

To ensure future recommendations to update the Standards are thoroughly reviewed and able to move forward without unintended consequences, S. 1941 would clarify that changes to the Standards would not propagate automatically for any non-statistical use by a domestic assistance program. Changes for non-statistical uses could only take effect if the relevant agency determines that they support the purposes of the program and are in the public interest, and if such changes are affirmatively adopted through notice-and-comment rulemaking.

OMB and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) would both be required to publicly report on the current uses and impacts of core-based statistical areas in distributing federal services, benefits, and funding.

S. 1941 would also require OMB to ensure that future changes to the Standards include a public report containing the scientific basis, criteria, and methodology for the change, and that such changes are not influenced by any non-statistical considerations such as impact on program administration or delivery.

¹ Congressional Research Service, *Metropolitan Area Designations by OMB: History, 2010 Standards, and Uses* (R42005) (June 6, 2014) (online at www.crs.gov/Reports/R42005?source=search&guid=230da38e5bb74b2c8b7dbd30a91c6e81&index=3).

² Office of Management and Budget, Recommendations from the Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Area Standards Review Committee to the Office of Management and Budget Concerning Changes to the 2010 Standards for Delineating Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas, 86 Fed. Reg. 5263 (Jan. 19, 2021) (notice and request for comment).

³ Office of Management and Budget, *Press Release: Office of Management and Budget Announces 2020 Standards for Delineating Core Based Statistical Areas* (July 13, 2021) (online at www.whitehouse.gov/omb/briefing-room/2021/07/13/office-of-management-and-budget-announces-2020-standards-for-delineating-core-based-statistical-areas/); Brookings, *The New “Rural”? The Implications of OMB’s Proposal to Redefine Nonmetro America* (Mar. 18, 2021) (online at www.brookings.edu/research/the-new-rural-the-implications-of-ombs-proposal-to-define-nonmetro-america/).

B. Amendments

Amendments may be offered.

Staff contact: Emily Burns at (202) 225-5051.

II. S. 3510, THE DISASTER RESILIENCY PLANNING ACT

A. Summary

S. 3510 was introduced by Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Chairman Gary Peters and Senator Rick Scott on January 13, 2022. The bill passed the Senate by unanimous consent on June 22, 2022. Companion legislation in the House, H.R. 7863, is led by Rep. Troy Carter.

In 2021, GAO released a report on the efforts of federal agencies to mitigate the impact of natural disasters on federal property and assets. In the five years preceding the report, billions of taxpayer dollars were appropriated to help repair assets from natural disasters. To better protect these federal assets and taxpayer dollars in the face of the escalating frequency and severity of natural disasters, the report recommended that OMB direct agencies to incorporate natural disaster risk information assessments into asset management investment decisions. That recommendation remains open today.⁴

To address this recommendation, S. 3510 would direct OMB to establish guidance within 180 days of enactment for the incorporation of natural disaster resilience into the real property asset management and investment decisions of federal agencies. As recommended by GAO, agencies would be required to incorporate their natural disaster risk information assessments into such decisions. OMB would also be required to report to Congress on the guidance, and to later brief Congress on its implementation.

B. Amendments

Amendments may be offered.

Staff contact: Emily Burns at (202) 225-5051.

⁴ Government Accountability Office, *Federal Real Property Asset Management: Additional Direction in Government-Wide Guidance Could Enhance Natural Disaster Resilience* (GAO-21-596) (Sep. 14, 2021) (online at www.gao.gov/products/gao-21-596).

III. H.R. 8466, THE CHAI SUTHAMMANONT HEALTHY FEDERAL WORKPLACES ACT OF 2022

A. Summary

The Chai Suthammanont Healthy Federal Workplaces Act of 2022 was introduced by Government Operations Subcommittee Chairman Connolly, along with Chairwoman Maloney and Rep. Shontel Brown, on July 21, 2022.

The bill would require each agency to establish a plan containing procedures and policies to protect the safety of federal employees, contractors, and subcontractors physically present at any covered worksite during a nationwide public health emergency declared for an infectious disease, and to ensure continuity of operations. The plan must detail public health protocols the agency will follow during such a declaration, including testing, identification and notification of individuals who may have been exposed, cleaning, occupancy limits, use of personal protective equipment, and protections for employees whose work requires them to travel off-site.

H.R. 8466 would require each agency to publish its plan on its website and communicate its plan to employees, contractors, and subcontractors. OMB also would make public links to each agency's plan centrally available on its website.

The Office of the Inspector General for each agency would report to Congress on plan implementation, and GAO would issue a report on the lessons learned during the coronavirus pandemic on improving health and safety at federal agencies during nationwide public health emergencies.

The Committee reported favorably an earlier iteration of this bill (H.R. 978) on May 13, 2021, that would require agencies to develop safety plans for workplace reentry that were specific to the coronavirus pandemic. H.R. 8466 would require an agency to develop plans in preparation for any future nationwide public health emergency declaration for an infectious disease to protect the health of employees and contractors, and to ensure continuity of operations throughout the emergency.

B. Amendments

The Chairwoman will offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS).

Staff contacts: Wendy Ginsberg and Christina Parisi at (202) 225-5051.

IV. H.R. 8665, THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION MODERNIZATION ACT

A. Summary

H.R. 8665 would amend the U.S. Code to remove pronouns in references to the Archivist of the United States.

B. Amendments

The Chairwoman will offer an ANS.

Staff contact: Erinn Sauer at (202) 225-5051.

V. H. RES 1243, OF INQUIRY REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT TRANSMIT CERTAIN DOCUMENTS IN HIS POSSESSION TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES RELATING TO THE BIDEN FAMILY’S INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SCHEMES AND RELATED INFORMATION

A. Summary

On July 21, 2022, Ranking Member Comer introduced H. Res. 1243, Of Inquiry Requesting the President Transmit Certain Documents in His Possession to the House of Representatives Relating to the Biden Family’s International Business Schemes and Related Information. H. Res. 1243 requests that President Biden transmit documents in his possession regarding the President’s son, brother, and sister-in-law; certain other individuals; certain business entities; and other matters.

B. Amendments

The Chairwoman will offer an ANS.

Staff contacts: Courtney Callejas, William Ryan, and Arthur Ewencyk at (202) 225-5051.

VI. H.R. _____, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HOME RULE EXPANSION ACT

A. Summary

H.R. ___, the District of Columbia Home Rule Expansion Act of 2022, will be introduced by Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton prior to the business meeting. The bill would eliminate the congressional review period for D.C. legislation, give D.C. the authority to prosecute all D.C. crimes, and give D.C. the authority to grant clemency for D.C. crimes.

The bill would eliminate the congressional review period for D.C. legislation. The D.C. Home Rule Act requires D.C. to transmit legislation to Congress for a review period, with exceptions. The legislation takes effect upon the expiration of the review period, unless a joint resolution of disapproval is enacted during the review period.⁵

The bill would give D.C. the exclusive authority to prosecute all D.C. crimes. Currently, the U.S. Attorney for D.C. has the authority to prosecute most D.C. crimes committed by adults

⁵ Pub. L. No. 93-198 (1973).

and some by juveniles. D.C. has the authority to prosecute some D.C. crimes committed by adults and most by juveniles.⁶

The bill would allow individuals to be treated as federal employees for purposes of employee benefits if they are employees of the U.S. Attorney for D.C. on the day before D.C. has the authority to prosecute all D.C. crimes and continue to be employed by the D.C. prosecutor. D.C. would be treated as the employing agency for such benefits.

The bill would give D.C. the exclusive authority to grant clemency for D.C. crimes. Currently, the President exercises the authority to grant clemency for D.C. crimes.⁷

B. Amendments

The Chairwoman will offer an ANS.

Staff contacts: Ethan Van Ness and Brad Truding at (202) 225-5051 and (202) 225-8050, respectively.

VII. POSTAL NAMING MEASURES

- H.R. 6630, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1400 N Kraemer Blvd. in Placentia, California, as the ‘PFC Jang Ho Kim Post Office Building.’”
- H.R. 6631, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4770 Eureka Ave in Yorba Linda, California, as the ‘Cottle Centanni Post Office Building.’”
- H.R. 7082, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2200 North George Mason Drive in Arlington, Virginia, as the ‘Jesus Antonio Collazos Post Office Building.’”
- H.R. 7832, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 396 California Avenue in West Covina, California, as the ‘Esteban E. Torres Post Office Building.’”
- H.R. 7873, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 400 Southern Avenue Southeast in Washington, District of Columbia, as the ‘District of Columbia Servicemembers and Veterans Post Office.’”
- H.R. 7988, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 79125 Corporate Centre Drive in La Quinta, California, as the ‘Corporal Hunter

⁶ Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, *About the Public Safety Division* (online at www.oag.dc.gov/about-oag/our-structure-divisions/about-public-safety-division) (accessed Sept. 6, 2022).

⁷ U.S. Const. art. II, § 2, cl. 1.

Lopez Memorial Post Office Building.”

- H.R. 8025, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 South 1st Street in Minneapolis, Minnesota, as the ‘Martin Olav Sabo Post Office.’”
- H.R. 8026, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 825 West 65th Street in Minneapolis, Minnesota, as the ‘Charles W. Lindberg Post Office.’”
- H.R. 8203, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 651 Business Interstate Highway 35 North Suite 420 in New Braunfels, Texas, as the ‘Bob Krueger Post Office.’”
- H.R. 8217, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 430 South Knowles Avenue in New Richmond, Wisconsin, as the ‘Captain Robert C. Harmon and Private John R. Pierson Post Office Building.’”
- H.R. 8218, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 619 Hewett Street in Neillsville, Wisconsin, as the ‘Corporal Mitchel Red Cloud, Jr. Post Office.’”
- H.R. 8226, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 236 Concord Exchange North in South Saint Paul, Minnesota, as the ‘Officer Leo Pavlak Post Office Building.’”
- H.R. 8248, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 609 Portsmouth Avenue in Greenland, New Hampshire, as the ‘Chief Michael Maloney Post Office Building.’”
- H.R. 8370, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 415 High Street in Freeport, Pennsylvania, as the ‘Corporal Joseph Rodney Chapman Post Office.’”
- H.R. 8630, “To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 400 North Main Street in Belen, New Mexico, as the ‘U.S. Senator Dennis Chávez Post Office.’”

VII. 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 and to Christina Parisi at 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.