

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 67

To improve retrospective reviews of Federal regulations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2025

Mr. BIGGS of Arizona (for himself and Mr. CRANE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

A BILL

To improve retrospective reviews of Federal regulations, 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 “Modernizing Retro-
5 spective Regulatory Review Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. IMPROVING RETROSPECTIVE REVIEWS OF EXIST-**
7 **ING FEDERAL REGULATIONS.**

8 (a) REPORT ON AVAILABILITY OF EXISTING REGU-
9 LATIONS IN MACHINE-READABLE FORMAT.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Di-
3 rector of the Office of Management and Budget, act-
4 ing through the Administrator and in consultation
5 with the Director of GPO, the Archivist, and the Di-
6 rector of the Federal Register, shall submit to the
7 appropriate congressional committees, a report on
8 the progress of the Federal Government in making
9 regulations of agencies available in machine-readable
10 format.

11 (2) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report re-
12 quired by paragraph (1) shall include—

13 (A) an assessment of whether regulations
14 of agencies have been made available in a ma-
15 chine-readable format to the public; and

16 (B) information regarding the recognition
17 by the Administrative Committee of the Federal
18 Register of the eCFR maintained by the Direc-
19 tor of the Federal Register and the Director of
20 GPO as an official legal edition of the Code of
21 Federal Regulations.

22 (b) GUIDANCE ON USING TECHNOLOGY TO CONDUCT
23 RETROSPECTIVE REVIEWS.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months
25 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Di-

1 rector of the Office of Management and Budget, act-
2 ing through the Administrator, shall issue guidance
3 on how the head of the agency can—

4 (A) identify, procure, and use technology
5 (including algorithmic tools and artificial intel-
6 ligence) to more efficiently, cost-effectively, and
7 accurately conduct any retrospective review of
8 the existing regulations of the agency, including
9 to more efficiently, cost-effectively, and accu-
10 rately identify through any such review regula-
11 tions of the agency that—

12 (i) are obsolete, ineffective, insuffi-
13 cient, excessively burdensome, or redun-
14 dant;

15 (ii) should be improved;

16 (iii) contain typographic errors;

17 (iv) contain inaccurate cross-ref-
18 erences; or

19 (v) contradict or overlap with each
20 other, or any standards of the agency; and

21 (B) adequately train personnel of the agen-
22 cy on how to use such technology.

23 (2) DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDANCE.—In devel-
24 oping the guidance required pursuant to paragraph
25 (1), the Administrator shall take into account any

1 assessment or information included in the report re-
2 quired by subsection (a).

3 (c) AGENCY RETROSPECTIVE REVIEW PLAN.—Not
4 later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this
5 Act, the head of each agency shall submit to the Adminis-
6 trator and the appropriate congressional committees a
7 plan that—

8 (1) includes a detailed strategy for imple-
9 menting the guidance issued pursuant to subsection
10 (b) with respect to the regulations of the agency;

11 (2) identifies any regulation of the agency, or
12 categories of regulations of the agency, that the
13 head of the agency—

14 (A) is required by law to review after the
15 applicable regulation is issued; or

16 (B) determines would benefit from being
17 reviewed after the regulation is issued; and

18 (3) includes any additional information, data,
19 or ex-post analysis determined necessary or useful
20 by the head of the agency.

21 (d) AGENCY IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 180
22 days after the date on which the head of an agency sub-
23 mits the plan required by subsection (c), the head of the
24 agency shall implement the strategy included in such plan

1 with respect to any retrospective review of an existing reg-
2 ulation of the agency.

3 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FED-
5 ERAL REGISTER.—The term “Administrative Com-
6 mittee of the Federal Register” means the Com-
7 mittee established under section 1506 of title 44,
8 United States Code.

9 (2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
10 trator” means the Administrator of the Office of In-
11 formation and Regulatory Affairs.

12 (3) AGENCY.—The term “agency” has the
13 meaning given that term in section 3502 of title 44,
14 United States Code.

15 (4) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
16 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
17 mittees” means—

18 (A) the Committee on Oversight and Gov-
19 ernment Reform of the House of Representa-
20 tives; and

21 (B) the Committee on Homeland Security
22 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

23 (5) DIRECTOR OF GPO.—The term “Director of
24 GPO” means the Director of the Government Pub-
25 lishing Office.

1 (6) MACHINE-READABLE.—The term “machine-
2 readable” has the meaning given the term in section
3 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

4 (7) RETROSPECTIVE REVIEW OF AN EXISTING
5 REGULATION OF THE AGENCY.—The term “retro-
6 spective review of an existing regulation of the agen-
7 cy” means a review of a regulation of the agency
8 conducted after the regulation has been issued, in-
9 cluding any such review required by law or deter-
10 mined appropriate by the head of the agency.

○