

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2392

To improve the effectiveness of the Government's collection, analysis, and dissemination of business information by using modern interactive data technologies.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 13, 2009

Mr. ISSA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

A BILL

To improve the effectiveness of the Government's collection, analysis, and dissemination of business information by using modern interactive data technologies.

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 "Government Informa-
5 tion Transparency Act".

6 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO STANDARDIZATION**
7 **OF COLLECTION, ANALYSIS, AND DISSEMINA-**
8 **TION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION.**

9 (a) PURPOSES.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The purpose of this Act is to
2 provide, to the maximum extent practicable, for the
3 Federal Government to standardize the collection,
4 analysis, and dissemination of business and financial
5 information regarding business activities of compa-
6 nies through the use of a single data standard
7 known as eXtensible Business Reporting Language.

8 (2) ADDITIONAL PURPOSES.—In addition, the
9 purposes of this Act are—

10 (A) to require the use of the eXtensible
11 Business Reporting Language standard to es-
12 tablish common definitions and structures that
13 will maximize to the extent practicable the com-
14 parability and interoperability of data collected
15 and held by Executive agencies; and

16 (B) to provide for continued upgrading
17 and maintenance of such common definitions
18 and structures to remain current and of max-
19 imum utility as technologies and industry-spe-
20 cific or agency-specific content evolve over time.

21 (b) BEST PRACTICES.—Within 90 days after the date
22 of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office
23 of Management and Budget, acting through the Office of
24 Information and Regulatory Affairs, shall prepare and dis-
25 seminate to Executive agencies guidance documents re-

1 guarding best practices to accomplish the purposes set forth
2 in subsection (a).

3 (c) ESTABLISHMENT OF AGENCY PROCEDURES.—

4 Within 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act,
5 the head of each agency shall establish procedures for ac-
6 complishing the purposes set forth in subsection (a) within
7 the agency concerned.

8 (d) PUBLIC ACCESS TO INTERACTIVE DATA.—Upon

9 establishment of the procedures required by subsection (c),
10 the head of each agency shall ensure that the information
11 collected under the standard is accessible to the general
12 public to the extent permitted by law.

13 **SEC. 3. ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

14 Within 180 days after the date of the enactment of
15 this Act, and annually thereafter on the anniversary of
16 such date, the Director of the Office of Management and
17 Budget shall submit to the Committee on Oversight and
18 Government Reform of the House of Representatives and
19 the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental
20 Affairs of the Senate a report on the status of the imple-
21 mentation of this Act.

22 **SEC. 4. DEFINITION.**

23 In this Act;

24 (1) AGENCY.—The term “agency” means any
25 executive department, military department, Govern-

1 ment corporation, Government controlled corpora-
2 tion, independent establishment, or other establish-
3 ment in the executive branch of the Government (in-
4 cluding the Executive Office of the President), or
5 any independent regulatory agency, but does not in-
6 clude—

7 (A) the Government Accountability Office;

8 (B) the Federal Election Commission;

9 (C) the governments of the District of Co-
10 lumbia and of the territories and possessions of
11 the United States, and their various subdivi-
12 sions; or

13 (D) Government-owned contractor-oper-
14 ated facilities, including laboratories engaged in
15 national defense research and production activi-
16 ties.

17 (2) EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, MILITARY DE-
18 PARTMENT, GOVERNMENT CORPORATION, GOVERN-
19 MENT CONTROLLED CORPORATION, INDEPENDENT
20 ESTABLISHMENT.—The terms “Executive depart-
21 ment”, “military department”, “Government cor-
22 poration”, “Government controlled corporation”, and
23 “independent establishment” have the meanings
24 given those terms by chapter 1 of title 5, United
25 States Code.

1 (3) INDEPENDENT REGULATORY AGENCY.—The
2 term “independent regulatory agency” has the
3 meaning given that term by section 3502(5) of title
4 44, United States Code.

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