

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2414, the Working Dog Health and Welfare Act of 2023.

As of February 2022, there are nearly 5,500 working dogs that have served in the Federal Government. They are tasked with many jobs, including the detection of explosives, narcotics, and missing persons.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the Working Dog Health and Welfare Act, S. 2414, requires agencies that manage working dog programs to implement recommendations that were made by the GAO in 2022 to improve the health and welfare and safety of working dogs.

It would also require any new program to comply with these recommendations. Agencies and contractors across the government use working dogs to support critical mission areas, such as law enforcement and security.

As of February 2022, Federal Government entities employed over 5,600 dogs. They help to detect explosives and narcotics, they conduct patrols and search and rescue missions, they help detect and apprehend suspects, and they support wildlife management. However, there is currently no consensus health and welfare standard that applies to the management of Federal working dogs.

In its report, GAO identified 18 critical issues important to the health and welfare of working dogs, which the agencies should address. That includes recommendations on everything from detection of abuse, neglect, and emergency medical care, to rest, length of on-duty time, and then canine retirement.

GAO found that of the 40 Federal working dog programs that are directly managed by Federal agencies, only 9 addressed all of these issues as important to the health and welfare of the dogs.

The bill requires all departments, agencies, and contractors managing working dog programs on behalf of an agency to implement these recommendations within 6 months of the bill's enactment.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this commonsense bill for animal welfare and animal rights and for those dogs who work hard in the Federal Government, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. YAKYM).

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 2414, the Working Dog Health and Welfare Act. I was happy to work with Senator BRAUN and be the sponsor of the bipartisan House companion bill, H.R. 6950.

Over 5,500 working dogs perform various tasks in the 40 programs across the Federal Government. These impressive animals are essential to the daily operations of law enforcement and to our national defense.

They keep us safe by chasing down criminals and by finding deadly narcotics. Famously, a Delta Force working dog named Conan heroically helped neutralize the leader of ISIS, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, in a raid in Syria back in 2019.

They also help with disaster relief and search and rescue efforts. These hardworking and heroic canines deserve the best care, but a government accountability audit found that none of the 40 working dog programs were satisfactory across all 18 aspects of care.

This legislation is simple. It requires government agencies with working dog programs to implement the GAO's sensible recommendations for health and welfare of these remarkable working dogs that are in their care.

I am very proud to sponsor the House companion bill for this legislation, and I encourage its passage.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I urge everybody to support this fine legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill to protect working dogs within the Federal Government, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BURLISON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2414.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1800

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT RISK REDUCTION ACT

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 4716) to amend section 7504 of title 31, United States Code, to improve the single audit requirements.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 4716

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 "Financial Management Risk Reduction Act".

SEC. 2. SINGLE AUDIT IMPROVEMENTS.

Section 7504 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “, and” and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) participate in and furnish information for the review under subsection (e); and

“(4) identify recipients that expend \$300,000 or more in Federal awards or such other amount specified by the Director under section 7502(a)(3) during the recipient's fiscal year but did not undergo an audit in accordance with this chapter.”;

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by adding “and” at the end;

(B) by striking paragraph (2); and

(C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2); and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(d) Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, and every 2 years thereafter, the Director shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives a report listing the recipients identified under subsection (a)(4).

“(e)(1) The Director shall designate 1 or more Federal agencies to conduct a Government-wide analysis of single audit quality, which may include a consideration of the results of reviews of single audit quality by—

“(A) Federal agencies;

“(B) inspectors general of Federal agencies;

“(C) State auditors; and

“(D) external peer reviews conducted in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards.

“(2) Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, and every 6 years thereafter, the Federal agencies designated under paragraph (1) shall complete a Government-wide analysis of single audit quality.

“(3) The Director shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives and make publicly available a summary of the results of each review under paragraph (2).

“(f) Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subsection—

“(1) the Administrator of General Services, in coordination with the Director, the Council on Federal Financial Assistance (or any successor thereto), and key management single audit liaisons of Federal agencies designated as described in section 200.513 of title 2, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor thereto), shall develop analytic tools to use audit data in the Federal clearinghouse to identify cross-Governmental risks to Federal award funds; and

“(2) the Director, in coordination with the Administrator of General Services, the Council on Federal Financial Assistance (or any successor thereto), and key management single audit liaisons of Federal agencies designated as described in section 200.513 of title 2, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor thereto), shall develop a strategy to use audit data in the Federal clearinghouse to identify cross-Governmental risks to Federal award funds.

“(g) Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Comptroller General of the United States shall complete an evaluation of—

“(1) the effectiveness of the strategy and analytic tools developed under subsection (f);

“(2) reporting burdens for auditors and audited entities and the capacity of auditors and audited entities to fulfill the requirements under this chapter; and

“(3) the responsiveness of Federal agencies to repeat single audit findings and corrective action plans.”.

SEC. 3. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act or the amendments made by this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BURLISON) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BURLISON. 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.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Financial Management Risk Reduction Act of 2024, which will improve the quality and completeness of financial audit data of large Federal grant recipients.

If an entity receives Federal financial assistance from the Federal Government, we should be able to closely review their financial statements and expenditures of Federal funds to ensure that every transaction is legitimate.

I thank my House Oversight Committee colleague, Representative MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE, for leading the House companion of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this sensible reform, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of S. 4716, the Financial Management Risk Reduction Act, led by my esteemed colleague, Chairman GARY PETERS of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with Senator RON JOHNSON as his co-lead. I also thank Representative GREENE for leading the House companion.

Mr. Speaker, it appears financial management risk reduction is, indeed, an issue that speaks to everybody on both sides of the aisle. The bill would improve the quality and usability of independent audit data and enhance oversight of Federal funds.

The Single Audit Act of 1984 requires Federal grant recipients that receive more than \$750,000 to report an independent audit of their internal financial controls annually to the government. It sought to increase accountability while reducing burden on grant recipients by mandating a single, consolidated audit rather than audits on a discrete grant-by-grant basis. In 2022, over 40,000 State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments and not-for-profits submitted single audits.

The Financial Management Risk Reduction Act addresses recommendations made by the GAO, which were aimed at increasing the usability of single audit information to reduce Federal financial management risk. The bill codifies certain portions of OMB's Uniform Grants Guidance requiring

agencies to conduct quality control reviews on its audits and directs OMB to coordinate a governmentwide audit quality review every 6 years.

Finally, the bill would direct OMB to create a governmentwide strategy on financial risk regarding single audits and instructs GSA to create analytic tools to use single audit data more effectively.

This is a good bill that will improve the quality and accessibility of audit data, increasing the transparency and accountability of Federal spending.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, which will improve the quality and completeness of financial audit data of large Federal grant recipients, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BURLISON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 4716.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FEDERAL IMPROVEMENT IN TECHNOLOGY PROCUREMENT ACT

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9595) to improve Federal technology procurement, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9595

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 Improvement in Technology Procurement Act" or the "FIT Procurement Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **ACQUISITION WORKFORCE.**—The term "acquisition workforce" means employees of an executive agency who are responsible for procurement, contracting, program or project management that involves the performance of acquisition-related functions, or others as designated by the Chief Acquisition Officer, senior procurement executive, or head of the contracting activity.

(2) **ADMINISTRATOR.**—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy.

(3) **CHIEF ACQUISITION OFFICER.**—The term "Chief Acquisition Officer" means a Chief Acquisition Officer appointed pursuant to section 1702 of title 41, United States Code.

(4) **CROSS-FUNCTIONAL.**—The term "cross-functional" means a structure in which individuals with different functional expertise or from different areas of an organization work together as a team.

(5) **EXECUTIVE AGENCY.**—The term "executive agency" has the meaning given the term in section 133 of title 41, United States Code.

(6) **EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING.**—The term "experiential learning" means on-the-job expe-

riences or simulations that serve to enhance workforce professional skills.

(7) **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY.**—The term "information and communications technology"—

(A) has the meaning given the term in section 4713(k) of title 41, United States Code; and

(B) includes information and communications technologies covered by any definition contained in the Federal Acquisition Regulation, including a definition added after the date of the enactment of this Act by the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council pursuant to notice and comment.

(8) **RELEVANT COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.**—The term "relevant committees of Congress" means the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives.

(9) **SENIOR PROCUREMENT EXECUTIVE.**—The term "senior procurement executive" means a senior procurement executive designated pursuant to section 1702(c) of title 41, United States Code.

(10) **SMALL BUSINESS.**—The term "small business" has the meaning given the term "small business concern" in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

SEC. 3. ACQUISITION WORKFORCE.

(a) **EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Acquisition Institute shall establish a pilot program to consider the incorporation of experiential learning into the Federal Credentials Program, the Federal Acquisition Certification-Contracting Officer's Representative Program, and the Federal Acquisition Certification for Program and Project Managers Program, or any successor program.

(b) **TRAINING ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY ACQUISITION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Federal Acquisition Institute, in coordination with the Administrator, the Administrator of General Services, and the Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government, and in consultation with the heads of other executive agencies as determined to be appropriate by the Director of the Federal Acquisition Institute, shall develop and implement or otherwise provide a cross-functional information and communications technology acquisition training program for acquisition workforce members involved in acquiring information and communications technology. The training shall do the following:

(A) Include learning objectives related to market research, communicating with industry and industry perspectives on the procurement process, including how investment decisions are impacted by Government communication and engagement, developing requirements, acquisition planning, best practices for developing and executing outcome-based contracts, and source selection strategy, evaluating proposals, and awarding and administering contracts for information and communications technology.

(B) Include learning objectives that provide a basic understanding of key technologies executive agencies need, such as cloud computing, artificial intelligence and artificial intelligence-enabled applications, and cybersecurity solutions.

(C) Include learning objectives that encourage the use of commercial or commercially available off-the-shelf technologies to the greatest extent practicable.

(D) Include case studies of lessons learned from Federal information and communications technology procurements and contracts, and related matters as determined to