

S 942

Government Charge Card Abuse Prevention Act of 2009

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Apr 30, 2009

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel. (Oct 28, 2009)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/942>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]

Party: Republican • **State:** IA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Apr 30, 2009
Sen. Lieberman, Joseph I. [ID-CT]	ID · CT		Apr 30, 2009
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		May 19, 2009
Sen. Begich, Mark [D-AK]	D · AK		Jul 20, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	Oct 28, 2009
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Reported By	Sep 21, 2009
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Oct 8, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HR 2189	Identical bill	Jan 12, 2010: Referred to the Subcommittee on Readiness.
111 HR 216	Related bill	May 4, 2009: Referred to the Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization, and Procurement.

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Government Charge Card Abuse Prevention Act of 2009 - Requires each executive agency, except for the Department of Defense (DOD), to establish and maintain specified safeguards and internal controls for official purchase cards and convenience checks, including measures to ensure that: (1) records are kept of each card holder and applicable transaction limits; (2) rebates and refunds based on prompt payment, sales volume, or other agency actions on card accounts are reviewed for accuracy; (3) periodic reviews are performed to determine whether each cardholder needs a card; (4) effective systems, techniques, and technologies are used to prevent or identify fraudulent purchases; and (5) steps are taken to recover the cost of erroneous, improper, or illegal purchases made with a purchase card or convenience check through salary offsets. Establishes similar requirements for DOD.

Requires the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to review existing guidance and prescribe additional guidance governing the implementation of the safeguards and internal controls. Requires each agency head to provide for appropriate adverse personnel actions or other punishment, including dismissal, in cases where employees violate agency policies implementing the guidance or make improper, erroneous, or illegal purchases. Requires the guidance to direct each agency head with more than \$10 million in purchase card spending annually and each Inspector General to jointly report to the Director on such violations semiannually.

Lists actions that each agency Inspector General should take, including to conduct periodic assessments of agency purchase card or convenience check programs to identify and analyze risks of illegal, improper, or erroneous purchases and payments in order to develop a plan for periodic audits of transactions.

Amends the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998 to require each agency to establish safeguards and internal controls over federal contractor-issued travel charge cards to ensure the proper, efficient, and effective use of such cards.

Requires agencies that have employees who use a travel charge card that is billed directly to the U.S. government to establish and maintain specified internal control activities, including requirements to: (1) compare items submitted on an employee's travel voucher with items paid for using a centrally billed account on any related travel; (2) dispute unallowable and erroneous charges and track disputed transactions to ensure appropriate resolution; and (3) submit requests to servicing airlines for refunds for fully or partially unused tickets and to track unused tickets to ensure appropriate resolution.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 28, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
- **Oct 8, 2009:** Received in the House.
- **Oct 8, 2009:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Oct 8, 2009:** Referred to House Oversight and Government Reform
- **Oct 8, 2009:** Referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **Oct 8, 2009:** Referred to House Armed Services
- **Oct 7, 2009:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S10243-10245; text as passed Senate: CR S10243-10245)
- **Oct 7, 2009:** Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S10243-10245; text as passed Senate: CR S10243-10245)
- **Sep 21, 2009:** Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Reported by Senator Lieberman without amendment. With written report No. 111-76.
- **Sep 21, 2009:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 163.
- **May 20, 2009:** Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Apr 30, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 30, 2009:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S4968)
- **Apr 30, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.