

HR 598

Taxpayers Right-To-Know Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Jan 28, 2015

Current Status: Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 350.

Latest Action: Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 350. (Jan 19, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/598>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Walberg, Tim [R-MI-7]

Party: Republican • **State:** MI • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bost, Mike [R-IL-12]	R · IL		Jan 28, 2015
Rep. Cooper, Jim [D-TN-5]	D · TN		Jan 28, 2015
Rep. Kelly, Mike [R-PA-3]	R · PA		Jan 28, 2015
Rep. Long, Billy [R-MO-7]	R · MO		Jan 28, 2015
Rep. McSally, Martha [R-AZ-2]	R · AZ		Feb 2, 2015
Rep. Pittenger, Robert [R-NC-9]	R · NC		Feb 4, 2015
Rep. Roskam, Peter J. [R-IL-6]	R · IL		Feb 4, 2015
Rep. Olson, Pete [R-TX-22]	R · TX		Feb 5, 2015
Rep. Ryan, Paul D. [R-WI-1]	R · WI		Feb 11, 2015
Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-16]	D · CA		Mar 16, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Reported By	Oct 20, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 3011	Related bill	Jun 6, 2016: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 505.
114 S 282	Identical bill	Jun 24, 2015: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 127.

Taxpayers Right-To-Know Act

(Sec. 2) This bill requires that the website of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) include a program inventory that identifies each program of the federal government for which there is more than \$1 million in annual budget authority. Such inventory shall include: (1) any activity that is commonly referred to as a program by a federal agency, and (2) any activity that is referenced in law as a program after June 30, 2019.

For programs identified in such inventory for which there is more than \$1 million and not more than \$10 million in annual budget authority (smaller programs), the inventory must include:

- an identification of the program activities that are aggregated, disaggregated, or consolidated as part of identifying programs;
- for each such program activity, the amount of funding for the current fiscal year and the previous two fiscal years;
- an identification of the statutes that authorize the program and any major regulations specific to the program;
- a description of the individuals served by a program and beneficiaries who received financial assistance under a program for the most recent fiscal year; and
- links to any evaluation, assessment, or program performance reviews by the agency, an Inspector General, or the Government Accountability Office released during the preceding five years.

For programs identified in such inventory for which there is more than \$10 million in annual budget authority (larger programs), the inventory must include:

- an identification of the program activities that are aggregated, disaggregated, or consolidated as part of identifying programs;
- for each program activity, the amount of funding for the current fiscal year and the previous two fiscal years;
- an estimate of the amount of funding for the program;
- an identification of the statutes that authorize the program and any major regulations specific to the program;
- a description and estimate of the number of individuals served by a program and beneficiaries who received financial assistance under a program for the most recent fiscal year;
- a description of the federal employees who administer the program and other individuals whose salary is paid in full or in part by the federal government through a grant, contract, cooperative agreement, or another form of financial award or assistance;
- links to any evaluation, assessment, or program performance reviews by the agency, an Inspector General, or the Government Accountability Office released during the preceding five years; and
- financial and other information for each program activity required to be reported under the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006.

The OMB shall: (1) archive and preserve the information included in the program inventory; and (2) not later than February 1 of each fiscal year, publish on a public website the total amount of undisbursed grant funding remaining in grant accounts for which the period of availability to the grantee has expired.

(Sec. 3) The bill requires the OMB, not later than June 30, 2018, to: (1) prescribe guidance to implement this Act, and (2) issue guidance to assist agencies in identifying how the program activities used in budget or appropriations accounts correspond with programs identified in the program inventory required by this Act. The OMB may: (1) issue guidance to

agencies to ensure that programs are presented at a similar level of detail across agencies and are not duplicative or overlapping; (2) exempt from the requirements of this Act, based on an analysis of the costs of implementation, agencies that are not required to have a chief financial officer and that have not more than \$10 million in budget authority; and (3) extend the Act's implementation deadline by not more than one year.

Implementation of the requirements in this bill must be completed not later than June 30, 2019.

(Sec. 4) No additional funds may be authorized to carry out the requirements in this bill.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 19, 2016:** Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 350.
- **Jan 12, 2016:** Received in the Senate.
- **Jan 11, 2016:** Mr. Chaffetz moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Jan 11, 2016:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H246-247)
- **Jan 11, 2016:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 598.
- **Jan 11, 2016:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Jan 11, 2016:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H257-258)
- **Jan 11, 2016:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 413 - 0 (Roll no. 34). (text: CR H246-247)
- **Jan 11, 2016:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jan 11, 2016:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 413 - 0 (Roll no. 34). (text: CR H246-247)
- **Oct 20, 2015:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H. Rept. 114-298.
- **Oct 20, 2015:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 227.
- **Jul 22, 2015:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 22, 2015:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Feb 4, 2015:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H765)
- **Jan 28, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 28, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.