

HR 3589

COST Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Jul 28, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. (Jul 28, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/3589>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Graves, Sam [R-MO-6]

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 28, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Cost of Services and Translations Act or the COST Act

This bill requires federal agency Chief Financial Officers to include multilingual services accounting information in their mandatory annual reports to the agency head and to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

The bill defines "multilingual services" to include: (1) services provided by interpreters hired by an agency; (2) services resulting in additional expenses which an agency provides to assist its employees or contractors to learn a non-English language; (3) agency preparation, translation, printing, or recordation of materials in a language other than English; and (4) services provided or performed for the federal government by agency employees or contractors that require speaking a non-English language that result in wage differentials or benefits provided by the agency.

The bill requires the annual financial management status report of the OMB to certain congressional committees to contain a Multilingual Services Expenses Report that includes: (1) a summary and analysis of the multilingual services accounting information prepared by each agency Chief Financial Officer, and (2) a description of any changes to the existing financial management structure of the federal government needed to establish an integrated individual agency accounting of all multilingual services conducted by each agency.

The OMB shall issue guidance that an agency Chief Financial Officer must follow in compiling multilingual services accounting information.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 28, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 28, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.