

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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January 7, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
FROM: Majority Staff, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
SUBJECT: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Business Meeting

On Tuesday, January 12, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. in room 2154 Rayburn House Office Building, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform will hold a Business Meeting to consider the following bills referred to the Committee:

H.R. 1671, the Government Neutrality in Contracting Act;

H.R. 3023, To amend title 5, United States Code, to modify probationary periods with respect to positions within the competitive service and the Senior Executive Service, and for other purposes;

H.R. ____, the Senior Executive Service Accountability Act;

H.R. ____, the Federal Information Systems Safeguards Act of 2016;

H.R. ____, the Official Personnel File Enhancement Act; and

H.R. ____, the Administrative Leave Reform Act.

H.R. 1671, the Government Neutrality in Contracting Act

The Government Neutrality in Contracting Act would repeal Executive Order 13502, which provided agencies the authority to require project labor agreements (PLAs) on federal government construction projects. The purpose of this bill is to promote economical, efficient, and nondiscriminatory administration and completion of federal construction projects. H.R. 1671 ensures that the federal government remains neutral toward labor relations of contractors and expands job opportunities, particularly among small and disadvantaged businesses and prevents discrimination against contractors and employees based on labor affiliation status. H.R. 1671 accomplishes this by requiring agency heads to ensure that they do not require or prohibit use of PLAs. H.R. 1671 has 97 cosponsors.

H.R. 1671, the Government Neutrality in Contracting Act, was introduced by Rep. Mick Mulvaney (R-SC) on March 26, 2015, and referred to the Committee.

Staff Contact: Julie Dunne of the Majority staff at (202) 225-5074.

H.R. 3023, To amend title 5, United States Code, to modify probationary periods with respect to positions within the competitive service and the Senior Executive Service, and for other purposes

The bill modifies probationary periods with respect to positions in the competitive service and career appointees in the Senior Executive Service. This bill requires a two year probationary period before an appointment in the competitive civil service or an initial appointment as a supervisor or manager becomes final. For positions that require formal training or a license, the two year probationary period begins on the date such formal training is completed or the date such license is granted. The bill also requires agencies to ensure that vacancy announcements clearly state the terms and conditions of the probationary period, employees required to complete a probationary period receive timely notice of the performance requirements needed for successful completion of the probationary period, and certification of such successful completion. For career appointees in the Senior Executive Service, the bill increases the probationary period from one year to two years.

H.R. 3023 was introduced by Rep. Ken Buck (R-CO) on July 10, 2015, and referred to the Committee.

Staff Contact: Janel Fitzhugh of the Majority staff at (202) 225-5074.

H.R. _____, the Senior Executive Service Accountability Act

The Senior Executive Service Accountability Act enhances accountability within the Senior Executive Service. The bill extends the probationary period for career appointees from one year to two years, modifies pay retention for career appointees in the Senior Executive Service removed for underperformance, advances the establishment of performance requirements under the Senior Executive Service performance appraisal system, makes career appointees subject to suspensions for 14 days or less, provides agency heads with the ability to place career appointees subject to removal on mandatory leave, provides for expedited removal procedures of career appointees for performance or misconduct, and provides for mandatory reassignments of career appointees.

The Senior Executive Service Accountability Act will be introduced by Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI).

Staff Contact: Janel Fitzhugh of the Majority staff at (202) 225-5074.

H.R. _____, the Federal Information Systems Safeguards Act of 2016

The Federal Information Systems Safeguards Act of 2016 clarifies the Federal Information Management Security Act (FISMA) statute to strengthen agencies' ability to secure their information technology and information systems as necessary, and in a timely manner, to protect their employees' personally-identifiable information.

Staff Contact: Katie Bailey of the Majority staff at (202) 226-1703.

H.R. _____, the Official Personnel File Enhancement Act

The bill provides that an agency must record any adverse findings from a resolved investigation in a separated employee's official personnel file. The bill accomplishes this by requiring an agency to make a permanent notation in the employee's official personnel record if the employee resigns prior to the resolution of an investigation and such investigation results in an adverse finding.

The bill will be introduced by Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT).

Staff Contact: Janel Fitzhugh and Chris D'Angelo of the Majority staff at (202) 225-5074.

H.R. _____, the Administrative Leave Reform Act

The bill limits the number of days a federal employee may be placed on administrative leave for reasons relating to misconduct or poor performance. Specifically, the bill provides that an employee may not be placed on administrative leave, or any other paid non-duty status without charge to leave, for more than 14 total days in a calendar year for reasons relating to misconduct or performance.

The Administrative Leave Reform Act will be introduced by Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT).

Staff Contact: Janel Fitzhugh and Chris D'Angelo of the Majority staff at (202) 225-5074.