

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4894

To amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, to require the budget justifications and appropriation requests of agencies be made publicly available.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 29, 2019

Mr. QUIGLEY (for himself and Mr. COLLINS of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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

A BILL

To amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, to require the budget justifications and appropriation requests of agencies be made publicly available.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Congressional Budget
5 Justification Transparency Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS**
2 **AND APPROPRIATION REQUESTS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Federal Funding
4 Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C.
5 6101 note) is amended to read as follows:

6 **“SEC. 3. FULL DISCLOSURE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.**

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than monthly
8 when practicable, and in any event not less frequently than
9 quarterly, the Secretary (in consultation with the Director
10 and, with respect to information described in subsection
11 (b)(2), the head of the applicable Federal agency) shall
12 ensure that updated information with respect to the infor-
13 mation described in subsection (b) is posted on the website
14 established under section 2.

15 “(b) INFORMATION TO BE POSTED.—

16 “(1) FUNDS.—For any funds made available to
17 or expended by a Federal agency or component of a
18 Federal agency, the information to be posted shall
19 include—

20 “(A) for each appropriations account, in-
21 cluding an expired or unexpired appropriations
22 account, the amount—

23 “(i) of budget authority appropriated;

24 “(ii) that is obligated;

25 “(iii) of unobligated balances; and

1 “(iv) of any other budgetary re-
2 sources;

3 “(B) from which accounts and in what
4 amount—

5 “(i) appropriations are obligated for
6 each program activity; and

7 “(ii) outlays are made for each pro-
8 gram activity;

9 “(C) from which accounts and in what
10 amount—

11 “(i) appropriations are obligated for
12 each object class; and

13 “(ii) outlays are made for each object
14 class; and

15 “(D) for each program activity, the
16 amount—

17 “(i) obligated for each object class;
18 and

19 “(ii) of outlays made for each object
20 class.

21 “(2) BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS.—

22 “(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph—

23 “(i) the term ‘agency’ has the mean-
24 ing given that term in section 101 of title
25 31, United States Code; and

1 “(ii) the term ‘budget justification
2 materials’ means the annual budget jus-
3 tification materials of an agency that are
4 submitted to Congress in support of the
5 budget of the agency, in conjunction with
6 the budget of the United States Govern-
7 ment submitted under section 1105(a) of
8 title 31, United States Code, but does not
9 include budget justification materials that
10 are classified.

11 “(B) INFORMATION.—The information to
12 be posted shall include the budget justification
13 materials of each agency—

14 “(i) for the second fiscal year begin-
15 ning after the date of enactment of this
16 paragraph, and each fiscal year thereafter;
17 and

18 “(ii) to the extent practicable, that
19 were released for any fiscal year before the
20 date of enactment of this paragraph.

21 “(C) FORMAT.—Budget justification mate-
22 rials shall be posted under subparagraph (B)—

23 “(i) in an open format machine read-
24 able and text searchable;

1 “(ii) in a manner that enables users
2 to download individual reports, download
3 all reports in bulk, and download in bulk
4 the results of a search, to the extent prac-
5 ticable; and

6 “(iii) in a structured data format, to
7 the extent practicable.

8 “(D) DEADLINE.—The budget justification
9 materials required to be posted under subpara-
10 graph (B)(i) shall be posted not later than 2
11 weeks after the date on which the budget jus-
12 tification materials are first submitted to Con-
13 gress.

14 “(E) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing
15 in this paragraph shall be construed to author-
16 ize an agency to destroy any budget justifica-
17 tion materials relating to a fiscal year before
18 the fiscal year described in subparagraph
19 (B)(i).”.

20 (b) INFORMATION REGARDING AGENCY BUDGET
21 JUSTIFICATIONS.—Section 1105 of title 31, United States
22 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

23 “(i)(1) The Director of the Office of Management
24 and Budget shall make publicly available on an internet
25 website, and continuously update, a tabular list for each

1 fiscal year of each agency that submits to Congress budget
2 justification materials in support of the budget of the
3 agency, which shall include—

4 “(A) the name of the agency;

5 “(B) a unique identifier that identifies the
6 agency;

7 “(C) to the extent practicable, the date on
8 which the budget justification materials of the agen-
9 cy are first submitted to Congress;

10 “(D) the date on which the budget justification
11 materials of the agency are posted online under sec-
12 tion 3 of the Federal Funding Accountability and
13 Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note);

14 “(E) the uniform resource locator where the
15 budget justification materials submitted to Congress
16 are published on the website of the agency; and

17 “(F) a single data set that contains the infor-
18 mation described in subparagraphs (A) through (E)
19 with respect to the agency for all fiscal years for
20 which budget justifications of the agency are made
21 available under section 3 of the Federal Funding Ac-
22 countability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31
23 U.S.C. 6101 note) in a structured data format.

24 “(2)(A) Each agency that submits to Congress budg-
25 et justification materials in support of the budget of the

1 agency shall make the materials available on the website
2 of the agency.

3 “(B) The Director of Office of Management and
4 Budget shall establish best practices for agencies relating
5 to making available materials under subparagraph (A)(i),
6 which shall include guidelines for using a uniform resource
7 locator that is in a consistent format across agencies and
8 is descriptive, memorable, and pronounceable, such as the
9 format of ‘agencyname.gov/budget’.

10 “(C) If the Director of Office of Management and
11 Budget maintains a public website that contains the budg-
12 et of the United States Government submitted under sub-
13 section (a) and any related materials, such website shall
14 also contain a link to the tabular list required under para-
15 graph (1).

16 “(3) In this subsection, the term ‘budget justification
17 materials’ has the meaning given that term in section 3
18 of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency
19 Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note).”.

○