

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 70

To abolish the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2023

Mr. BIGGS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To abolish the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and for other purposes.

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 “Freedom for Farmers
5 Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. ABOLISHMENT OF AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES**
7 **AND DISEASE REGISTRY.**

8 (a) ABOLISHMENT OF AGENCY.—The Agency for
9 Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (in this section re-
10 ferred to as the “Agency”) is abolished effective on the

1 date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this
2 Act.

3 (b) TERMINATION OF FUNCTIONS.—Except as pro-
4 vided in subsection (c)(1), all functions of the Agency shall
5 terminate on the date specified in subsection (a).

6 (c) TRANSFERRED AUTHORITY.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Prior to the date specified in
8 subsection (a), the Secretary of Health and Human
9 Services (in this section referred to as the “Sec-
10 retary”) shall transfer the authority vested in the
11 Agency by section 104(i)(1)(A) of the Comprehen-
12 sive Environmental Response, Compensation, and
13 Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9604(i)(1)(A)) as
14 in effect on the day before the date of enactment of
15 this Act (relating to a national registry of serious
16 diseases and illnesses and a national registry of per-
17 sons exposed to toxic substances) to an appropriate
18 agency within the Department of Health and
19 Human Services.

20 (2) CORRESPONDING TRANSFER OF ASSETS
21 AND PERSONNEL.—In connection with the transfer
22 of authority under paragraph (1), the Secretary may
23 transfer within the Department of Health and
24 Human Services such assets, funds, personnel,
25 records, and other property relating to the trans-

1 ferred authority as the Secretary determines to be
2 appropriate.

3 (d) WIND-UP PERIOD.—

4 (1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term
5 “wind-up period” means the period beginning on the
6 date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the
7 date specified in subsection (a).

8 (2) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Secretary shall be
9 responsible for—

10 (A) the administration and wind-up, dur-
11 ing the wind-up period, of all functions of the
12 Agency that are terminated by this section;

13 (B) the administration and wind-up, dur-
14 ing the wind-up period, of any outstanding obli-
15 gations of the Federal Government under any
16 programs of the Agency that are terminated by
17 this section; and

18 (C) taking such other actions as may be
19 necessary to wind-up any outstanding affairs of
20 the Agency before the end of the wind-up pe-
21 riod.

22 **SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

23 (a) CERCLA.—The Comprehensive Environmental
24 Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42
25 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) in section 104 (42 U.S.C. 9604), by amend-
2 ing subsection (i) to read as follows:

3 “(i) The Secretary of Health and Human Services
4 shall, in cooperation with the States, maintain a national
5 registry of serious diseases and illnesses and a national
6 registry of persons exposed to toxic substances.”;

7 (2) in section 111 (42 U.S.C. 9611)—

8 (A) by striking subsection (c)(4); and

9 (B) by striking subsection (m); and

10 (3) in section 310(a)(2) (42 U.S.C.
11 9659(a)(2)), by striking “and the Administrator of
12 the ATSDR”.

13 (b) OTHER CONFORMING CHANGES.—

14 (1) Section 2704 of title 10, United States
15 Code, is amended by striking subsection (f).

16 (2) Section 405(d)(1) of the Toxic Substances
17 Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2601(d)(1)) is amended by
18 striking “acting through the Director of the Agency
19 for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry,”.

20 (3) Section 209(c)(1)(A) of the Fire Adminis-
21 tration Authorization Act of 1992 (29 U.S.C.
22 671a(c)(1)(A)) is amended by striking “the Admin-
23 istrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Dis-
24 ease Registry,”.

1 (4) Section 118(e)(3)(A) of the Federal Water
2 Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1268(e)(3)(A)) is
3 amended by striking “, in consultation with the Re-
4 search Office, the Agency for Toxic Substances and
5 Disease Registry, and Great Lakes States” and in-
6 serting “, in consultation with the Research Office
7 and Great Lakes States,”.

8 (5) Section 317F(a) of the Public Health Serv-
9 ice Act (42 U.S.C. 247b–7(a)) is amended—

10 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “and the
11 Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Reg-
12 istry”; and

13 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “or the
14 Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Reg-
15 istry”.

16 (6) Section 399S of the Public Health Service
17 Act (42 U.S.C. 280g–7) is amended—

18 (A) in subsection (b)(1)(A)(i)—

19 (i) by inserting “and” at the end of
20 subclause (II);

21 (ii) by striking subclause (III); and

22 (iii) by redesignating subclause (IV)
23 as subclause (III); and

24 (B) in subsection (d)(1)(A)—

25 (i) by striking clause (iv); and

1 (ii) by redesignating clauses (v)
2 through (vii) as clauses (iv) through (vi),
3 respectively.

4 (7) Section 399V–6(e)(5) of the Public Health
5 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g–17(e)(5)) is amended
6 by striking “and the Assessments of Chemical Expo-
7 sures Program of the Agency for Toxic Substances
8 and Disease Registry”.

9 (8) Section 3(c) of the ICCVAM Authorization
10 Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 285l–3(c)) is amended—

11 (A) by striking paragraph (1); and

12 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (2)
13 through (16) as paragraphs (1) through (15),
14 respectively.

15 (9) Section 2201(e) of the Water Infrastructure
16 Improvements for the Nation Act (42 U.S.C. 300j–
17 12 note) is amended by striking “the Director of the
18 Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
19 of” each place it appears.

20 (10) Section 2203 of the Water Infrastructure
21 Improvements for the Nation Act (42 U.S.C. 300j–
22 27) is amended—

23 (A) in subsection (b), by striking “within
24 the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease
25 Registry or the Centers for Disease Control and

1 Prevention at the discretion of the Secretary”
2 and inserting “within the Centers for Disease
3 Control and Prevention”; and

4 (B) in subsection (c)(1)(A), by striking “,
5 within the Agency for Toxic Substances and
6 Disease Registry”.

7 (11) Section 709(a)(7) of the Security and Ac-
8 countability for Every Port Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C.
9 300hh–14(a)(7)) is amended by striking “the Agen-
10 cy for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry,”.

11 (12) Section 3001 of the Solid Waste Disposal
12 Act (42 U.S.C. 6921(b)(1)) is amended by striking
13 “the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Reg-
14 istry and”.

15 (13) Section 3019 of the Solid Waste Disposal
16 Act (42 U.S.C. 6939a) is amended—

17 (A) by striking subsections (b) through
18 (g); and

19 (B) in subsection (a), by striking the sub-
20 section designation and heading.

21 (14) Section 103(d)(2)(A) of the Clean Air Act
22 (42 U.S.C. 7403(d)(2)(A)) is amended by striking
23 “the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Reg-
24 istry,”.

1 (c) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this
2 section apply beginning on the date specified in section
3 2(a).

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