

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1616

AN ACT

To provide for the identification and prevention of improper payments and the identification of strategic sourcing opportunities by reviewing and analyzing the use of Federal agency charge cards.

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Saving Federal Dollars
3 Through Better Use of Government Purchase and Travel
4 Cards Act of 2015”.

5 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

6 In this Act:

7 (1) **IMPROPER PAYMENT.**—The term “improper
8 payment” has the meaning given the term in section
9 2 of the Improper Payments Information Act of
10 2002 (31 U.S.C. 3321 note).

11 (2) **QUESTIONABLE TRANSACTION.**—The term
12 “questionable transaction” means a charge card
13 transaction that from initial card data appears to be
14 high risk and may therefore be improper due to non-
15 compliance with applicable law, regulation or policy.

16 (3) **STRATEGIC SOURCING.**—The term “stra-
17 tegic sourcing” means analyzing and modifying a
18 Federal agency’s spending patterns to better lever-
19 age its purchasing power, reduce costs, and improve
20 overall performance.

21 **SEC. 3. EXPANDED USE OF DATA ANALYTICS.**

22 (a) **STRATEGY.**—Not later than 180 days after the
23 date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Of-
24 fice of Management and Budget, in consultation with the
25 Administrator for General Services, shall develop a strat-
26 egy to expand the use of data analytics in managing gov-

1 ernment purchase and travel charge card programs. These
2 analytics may employ existing General Services Adminis-
3 tration capabilities, and may be in conjunction with agen-
4 cies' capabilities, for the purpose of—

5 (1) identifying examples or patterns of ques-
6 tionable transactions and developing enhanced tools
7 and methods for agency use in—

8 (A) identifying questionable purchase and
9 travel card transactions; and

10 (B) recovering improper payments made
11 with purchase and travel cards;

12 (2) identifying potential opportunities for agen-
13 cies to further leverage administrative process
14 streamlining and cost reduction from purchase and
15 travel card use, including additional agency opportu-
16 nities for card-based strategic sourcing;

17 (3) developing a set of purchase and travel card
18 metrics and benchmarks for high risk activities,
19 which shall assist agencies in identifying potential
20 emphasis areas for their purchase and travel card
21 management and oversight activities, including those
22 required by the Government Charge Card Abuse
23 Prevention Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–194); and

24 (4) developing a plan, which may be based on
25 existing capabilities, to create a library of analytics

1 tools and data sources for use by Federal agencies
2 (including inspectors general of those agencies).

3 **SEC. 4. GUIDANCE ON IMPROVING INFORMATION SHARING**
4 **TO CURB IMPROPER PAYMENTS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
6 date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Of-
7 fice of Management and Budget, in consultation with the
8 Administrator of General Services and the interagency
9 charge card data management group established under
10 section 5, shall issue guidance on improving information
11 sharing by government agencies (including inspectors gen-
12 eral) for the purposes of section 3(a)(1).

13 (b) ELEMENTS.—The guidance issued under sub-
14 section (a) shall—

15 (1) require relevant officials at Federal agencies
16 to identify high-risk activities and communicate that
17 information to the appropriate management levels
18 within the agencies;

19 (2) require that appropriate officials at Federal
20 agencies review the reports issued by charge card-
21 issuing banks on questionable transaction activity
22 (such as purchase and travel card pre-suspension
23 and suspension reports, delinquency reports, and ex-
24 ception reports), including transactions that occur

1 with high risk activities, and suspicious timing or
2 amounts of cash withdrawals or advances;

3 (3) provide for the appropriate sharing of infor-
4 mation related to potential questionable trans-
5 actions, fraud schemes, and high risk activities with
6 General Services Administration Office of Charge
7 Card Management and the appropriate officials in
8 Federal agencies; and

9 (4) include other requirements determined ap-
10 propriate by the Director for the purposes of car-
11 rying out this Act.

12 **SEC. 5. INTERAGENCY CHARGE CARD DATA MANAGEMENT**
13 **GROUP.**

14 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator of General
15 Services and the Director of the Office of Management
16 and Budget shall establish a purchase and travel charge
17 card data management group to develop and share best
18 practices for the purposes described in section 3(a).

19 (b) ELEMENTS.—The best practices developed under
20 subsection (a) shall—

21 (1) cover rules, edits, and task order or con-
22 tract modifications related to charge card-issuing
23 banks;

24 (2) include the review of accounts payable infor-
25 mation and purchase and travel card transaction

1 data of agencies for the purpose of identifying po-
2 tential strategic sourcing and other additional oppor-
3 tunities (such as recurring payments, utility pay-
4 ments, and grant payments) for which the charge
5 cards or related payment products could be used as
6 a payment method; and

7 (3) include other best practices as determined
8 by the Administrator and Director.

9 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—The purchase and travel charge
10 card data management group shall meet regularly as de-
11 termined by the co-chairs, for a duration of three years,
12 and include those agencies as described in section 2 of the
13 Government Charge Card Abuse Prevention Act of 2012
14 (Public Law 112–194) and others identified by the Ad-
15 ministrator and Director.

16 **SEC. 6. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

17 (a) GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION RE-
18 PORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the en-
19 actment of this Act, the Administrator for General Serv-
20 ices shall submit a report to Congress on the implementa-
21 tion of this Act, including the metrics used in determining
22 whether the analytic and benchmarking efforts have re-
23 duced, or contributed to the reduction of, questionable or
24 improper payments as well as improved utilization of card-
25 based payment products.

1 (b) AGENCY REPORTS AND CONSOLIDATED REPORT
2 TO CONGRESS.—Not later than one year after the date
3 of the enactment of this Act, the head of each Federal
4 agency described in section 2 of the Government Charge
5 Card Abuse Prevention Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–
6 194) shall submit a report to the Director of the Office
7 of Management and Budget on that agency’s activities to
8 implement this Act.

9 (c) OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET REPORT
10 TO CONGRESS.—The Director of the Office of Manage-
11 ment and Budget shall submit to Congress a consolidated
12 report of agency activities to implement this Act, which
13 may be included as part of another report submitted to
14 Congress by the Director.

15 (d) REPORT ON ADDITIONAL SAVINGS OPPORTUNI-
16 TIES.—Not later than one year after the date of the enact-
17 ment of this Act, the Administrator of General Services
18 shall submit a report to Congress identifying and explor-
19 ing further potential savings opportunities for government
20 agencies under the Federal charge card programs. This

- 1 report may be combined with the report required under
- 2 subsection (a).

Passed the Senate December 16, 2015.

Attest:

Secretary.

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