

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To appropriately limit the authority to award bonuses to employees and to require approval of high cost Government conferences and reporting regarding Government conferences.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. McCASKILL (for herself and Ms. AYOTTE) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To appropriately limit the authority to award bonuses to employees and to require approval of high cost Government conferences and reporting regarding Government conferences.

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 “Stop Wasteful Federal
5 Bonuses and Conferences Act of 2012”.

1 **SEC. 2. BONUSES.**

2 (a) ADVERSE FINDINGS AND EMPLOYEES UNDER IN-
3 VESTIGATION.—Chapter 45 of title 5, United States Code,
4 is amended by adding at the end the following:

5 “SUBCHAPTER IV—LIMITATIONS ON BONUS
6 AUTHORITY

7 “§ 4531. **Certain forms of misconduct**

8 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

9 “(1) the term ‘adverse finding’ relating to a
10 employee means a determination that the conduct of
11 the employee resulted in fraud, waste, abuse, or a
12 violation of contracting requirements;

13 “(2) the term ‘agency’ has the meaning given
14 that term under section 551; and

15 “(3) the term ‘bonus’ means any bonus or cash
16 award, including—

17 “(A) an award under this chapter;

18 “(B) an award under section 5384; and

19 “(C) a retention bonus under section 5754.

20 “(b) ADVERSE FINDINGS.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of an agency
22 shall not award a bonus to an employee of the agen-
23 cy until 2 years after the end of the fiscal year in
24 which the Inspector General of the agency or the
25 Comptroller General of the United States makes an
26 adverse finding relating to the employee.

1 “(2) PREVIOUSLY AWARDED BONUSES.—If the
2 Inspector General of an agency or the Comptroller
3 General of the United States makes an adverse find-
4 ing relating to an employee, the head of the agency
5 employing the employee, after notice and an oppor-
6 tunity for a hearing, may issue an order directing
7 the employee to repay the amount of any bonus
8 awarded to the employee during the year during
9 which the adverse finding is made.”.

10 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—
11 The table of sections for chapter 45 of title 5, United
12 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
13 lowing:

 “SUBCHAPTER IV—LIMITATIONS ON BONUS AUTHORITY

 “4531. Certain forms of misconduct.”.

14 **SEC. 3. GOVERNMENT CONFERENCES.**

15 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

16 (1) the term “agency” has the meaning given
17 that term under section 551 of title 5, United States
18 Code;

19 (2) the term “conference” means a meeting
20 that—

21 (A) is held for consultation, education, or
22 discussion;

23 (B) is not held entirely at an agency facil-
24 ity;

1 (C) involves costs associated with travel
2 and lodging for some participants; and

3 (D) is sponsored by 1 or more agencies, 1
4 or more organizations that are not agencies, or
5 a combination of such agencies or organiza-
6 tions; and

7 (3) the term “employee” means an employee of
8 an agency.

9 (b) HIGH-COST CONFERENCES.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—An agency may not sponsor
11 a conference the total cost to the Government of
12 which is expected to be more than \$200,000 without
13 the approval of the head of the agency.

14 (2) LIMITATION ON DELEGATION.—The head of
15 an agency may only delegate the authority under
16 this subsection to the Chief Management Officer of
17 the agency or, for an agency that does not have a
18 Chief Management Officer, an employee of the agen-
19 cy in an equivalent position.

20 (c) CONFERENCE REPORTING.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The head of an agency shall
22 submit to each committee of Congress with jurisdic-
23 tion of the activities of the agency a report regard-
24 ing each conference sponsored by the agency.

1 (2) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted by the
2 head of an agency under paragraph (1) shall provide
3 detailed information about the conference, includ-
4 ing—

5 (A) the location of the conference;

6 (B) number of employees attending the
7 conference;

8 (C) a list of the titles of the employees at-
9 tending the conference;

10 (D) the total cost to the Government of the
11 conference; and

12 (E) a breakdown of the cost to the Govern-
13 ment relating to the conference for—

14 (i) scouting for and selecting the loca-
15 tion of the conference;

16 (ii) travel;

17 (iii) lodging;

18 (iv) food;

19 (v) speakers or entertainment; and

20 (vi) gifts provided to conference
21 attendees.