.....

(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To require Federal agency heads to submit an annual assessment on staffing needs of information technology contracting officers and contracting officer's representatives, to require the heads to submit a plan on information technology acquisition workforce staffing and development using the assessments, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. WALKINSHAW introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require Federal agency heads to submit an annual assessment on staffing needs of information technology contracting officers and contracting officer's representatives, to require the heads to submit a plan on information technology acquisition workforce staffing and development using the assessments, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''IT Acquisition Readiness Act''.

SEC. 2. ANNUAL ASSESSMENT AND PLAN ON STAFFING NEEDS OF IT CONTRACTING OFFICERS AND CONTRACTING OFFICER'S REPRESENTATIVES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter the head of each agency shall conduct an assessment with respect to the agency's information technology contracting officers and information technology contracting officer's representatives. Each such assessment shall identify—

(1) the staffing needs of the agency for information technology contracting officers and information technology contracting officer's representatives, including any gaps between existing staffing levels and staffing levels necessary to meet the agency's information technology acquisition needs; and

(2) the skills and competencies of individuals occupying such positions, including identifying any gaps in the skills and competencies necessary to effectively perform such roles.

(b) PLAN.—The head of each agency shall develop and implement an information technology acquisition

workforce staffing and development plan using the assessments conducted under subsection (a). Each plan shall—

(1) include training, recruitment, and retention strategies to address identified gaps in the workforce, including strategies to use technology, automation, and modernized contract writing and workflow systems to reduce administrative burden on such personnel; and

(2) be developed based on quality workload information, including the quantity and complexity of individual workloads.

(c) SUBMISSION TO OPM AND OMB.—The head of each agency shall submit the assessment and plan developed under subsection (a) and (b), respectively, to the Office of Personnel Management and the Office of Management and Budget.

(d) RESPONSIBILITIES OF OPM AND OMB.—

(1) OPM.—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall be responsible for supporting workforce development activities related to skills, training, recruitment, and retention.

(2) OMB.—The Director of the Office of Management and budget shall be responsible for coordinating implementation across agencies and submitting an annual report to Congress on plans received

under this section and the implementation of such plans.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term ''agency'' means an agency described in section 901(b) of title 31, United States Code;

(2) the term ''information technology contracting officer'' means a contracting officer whose primary assignment or portfolio consists of the procurement of information technology; and

(3) the term ''information technology contracting officer's representative'' means an individual designated by a contracting officer to perform technical or administrative functions related to a contract for information technology.