117TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H.R. 3609

AUTHENTICATED U.S. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

> To improve public trust in the Federal Government by establishing customer experience as a central measure of performance for agencies and the Federal Government, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 28, 2021

Mr. LOUDERMILK (for himself and Mr. CONNOLLY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Appropriations, 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 improve public trust in the Federal Government by establishing customer experience as a central measure of performance for agencies and the Federal Government, 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 "Trust in Public Service5 Act".
- .
- 6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.
- 7 Congress finds the following:

(1) Although the public believes that the Fed eral Government serves an indispensable role and
 often performs quite well, overall trust in the Fed eral Government is at historic lows.

5 (2) Agencies face competing requirements and 6 respond to evolving and diverse needs in a context 7 of uncertainty and constrained resources. To per-8 form this challenging job for the benefit of the pub-9 lic, experimentation, learning, and failure should be 10 expected and welcomed. Congress must support 11 agencies throughout this process by balancing tradi-12 tional oversight with dedicated efforts to celebrate 13 progress and locate setbacks within a broader con-14 text.

15 (3) Improving public trust requires delivering 16 tangible results that address the needs of the public, 17 including those needs that span agencies or require 18 coordination with State, local, Tribal, or territorial 19 governments. But improving public trust also re-20 quires the Federal Government to consider much 21 more deeply how interaction with the public shapes 22 public perceptions and how communication by the 23 Federal Government can provide better context on 24 the many ways in which the Federal Government 25 serves the public.

 $\mathbf{2}$

1	(4) In terms of public interaction, whether seek-
2	ing a small business loan, veterans' services, Social
3	Security benefits, or other service or information,
4	the people of the United States deserve a customer
5	experience that matches or exceeds that of leading
6	private sector organizations. This level of customer
7	experience means experiences are seamless, con-
8	nected, inclusive, effective, consistent, and reliable.
9	(5) Customer experience (commonly referred to
10	as "CX") is a vital means for agencies to pursue
11	their missions in a more effective and responsive
12	way and at a lower cost, as research shows that cus-
13	tomer experience is linked to—
14	(A) more accurate and timely data submis-
15	sions;
16	(B) increased feedback that improves serv-
17	ices through 3 different means, which include—
18	(i) process, procedure, product, or
19	safety improvement;
20	(ii) uncovering unmet customer needs
21	that require a new or innovative approach;
22	and
23	(iii) informing leadership decision
24	making so that agencies are grounded in
25	improving customer outcomes;

1	(C) improved compliance with agency regu-
2	lations and guidance; and
3	(D) improved workforce morale and reten-
4	tion.
5	(6) Customer experience is also highly cor-
6	related with public trust in the Federal Government
7	and is therefore essential for broader efforts of the
8	Federal Government to earn and maintain the con-
9	sent of the governed.
10	(7) Yet the Forrester's 2020 Federal Customer
11	Experience Index noted that Federal customer expe-
12	rience lags behind all sectors of private industry.
13	While the Federal Government faces constraints that
14	the private sector does not face, including competing
15	requirements, such as balancing speed and com-
16	bating fraud, an obligation to serve the entire public,
17	less nimble workforce and hiring policies, and per-
18	sonnel and spending constraints, the Federal Gov-
19	ernment has both the ability and imperative to im-
20	prove customer experience.
21	(8) Research also shows a strong correlation be-
22	tween employee engagement and the quality of cus-
23	tomer experience. Employees provide better cus-

tomer experience when they feel valued and identify

24

	0
1	experience and confidence in the agency improves,
2	those employees become even more committed, cre-
3	ative, and professional.
4	(9) The Federal Government has made signifi-
5	cant progress on improving customer experience, in-
6	cluding through—
7	(A) efforts within the General Services Ad-
8	ministration, such as the 18F Office, the 10X
9	Program, the U.S. Web Design System, the
10	Digital.gov communities and website, and the
11	Presidential Innovation Fellows Program;
12	(B) the Smarter IT Schedule A hiring au-
13	thority issued by the Director of the Office of
14	Personnel Management;
15	(C) the Technology Modernization Fund
16	established under section 1078 of the National
17	Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018
18	(40 U.S.C. 11301 note), which provides broad
19	authority for information technology moderniza-
20	tion to improve customer experience and public-
21	facing digital services;
22	(D) efforts on employee engagement by the
23	Office of Personnel Management and the Office
24	of Management and Budget;
25	(E) the United States Digital Service;

1	(F) Executive Order 12862 (31 U.S.C.
2	501 note; relating to setting customer service
3	standards) and Executive Order 13571 (76
4	Fed. Reg. 24339; relating to streamlining serv-
5	ice delivery and improving customer service);
6	(G) efforts of the executive branch as of
7	the date of enactment of this Act, including—
8	(i) Section 280 of Circular A11 Part
9	6 (2021) of the Office of Management and
10	Budget; and
11	(ii) the establishment of dedicated in-
12	dividuals at the Office of Management and
13	Budget to work on cross-agency customer
14	experience initiatives and information col-
15	lection reviews;
16	(H) the designation of high-impact service
17	providers and the sharing of feedback perform-
18	ance data, customer experience capacity assess-
19	ments, and customer experience action plans on
20	a dedicated website;
21	(I) individual agencies that are early
22	adopters of customer experience approaches, in-
23	cluding the Veterans Experience Office of the
24	Department of Veterans Affairs; and
25	(J) legislation, including—

- (i) the Digital Accountability and 1 2 Transparency Act of 2014 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note); 3 4 (ii) the 21st Century Integrated Dig-5 ital Experience Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 note); 6 and 7 (iii) pending legislation. 8 (10) With respect to communication, agencies 9 have both a constitutional duty and an operational 10 imperative to better communicate how those agen-11 cies serve the public, including through stories of 12 human-level impact, compelling design, and inter-13 active platforms that make the public feel valued 14 and included, particularly if agencies work in 15 counterintuitive, preventative, or subtle ways. 16 (11) A push towards open government, in par-17 ticular through data.gov, performance.gov, chal-18 lenge.gov, and other transparency efforts, are vital 19 steps to improving public confidence and decision-20 making and service delivery. Additionally, open data is a vital service for the public that researchers, 21 22 businesses, nonprofit organizations, and the public 23 alike can use to innovate, promote economic growth, 24 and take an active role in improving communities
- alongside the Federal Government.

1 (12) But open government is not enough. To 2 truly nourish a debate about the achievements and 3 role of the Federal Government, rather than simply 4 making information available, agencies must commu-5 nicate their mandates, performance, and data in a 6 manner that ensures that the public understands the 7 broader context in which those agencies operate and 8 the real-world impact of those agencies.

9 (13) In performing the tasks described in para-10 graph (12), the Federal Government has broad lati-11 tude to communicate to the public in tailored, cre-12 ative, and compelling ways. Provisions in annual ap-13 propriations Acts typically bar agencies from engag-14 ing in impermissible publicity or propaganda. Al-15 though those provisions prohibit agencies from en-16 gaging in self-aggrandizement, covert propaganda 17 and purely partisan communications, those provi-18 sions do not restrict agencies from engaging in le-19 gitimate activities to inform the public about agency 20 programs. Full compliance with those provisions pre-21 sents no bar for an agency to fully implement the 22 activities authorized and encouraged in this Act. As 23 necessary, agencies may seek decisions and informal 24 technical assistance from the Comptroller General of

1	the United States concerning the applicability of
2	prohibitions against publicity or propaganda.
3	(14) USA.gov and other-Government wide plat-
4	forms, such as login.gov, have the potential to be-
5	come interactive, personalized, and compelling por-
6	tals to the Federal Government and enable the pub-
7	lic to both address its needs, learn about the myriad
8	ways in which the Federal Government improves the
9	lives of the public, and develop a greater sense of
10	pride in the Federal Government. However, the cur-
11	rent incarnations of Government-wide communica-
12	tion platforms fall well short of this vision.
12	SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.
13	SEC. 5. SENSE OF CONGRESS.
13 14	Is it the sense of Congress that—
14	Is it the sense of Congress that—
14 15	Is it the sense of Congress that— (1) agencies must—
14 15 16	Is it the sense of Congress that— (1) agencies must— (A) continue to develop customer-centered
14 15 16 17	Is it the sense of Congress that— (1) agencies must— (A) continue to develop customer-centered mindsets as a means to providing high-quality,
14 15 16 17 18	Is it the sense of Congress that— (1) agencies must— (A) continue to develop customer-centered mindsets as a means to providing high-quality, responsive, inclusive, reliable, transparent, em-
14 15 16 17 18 19	Is it the sense of Congress that— (1) agencies must— (A) continue to develop customer-centered mindsets as a means to providing high-quality, responsive, inclusive, reliable, transparent, em- pathetic, courteous, and efficient services to the
 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 	Is it the sense of Congress that— (1) agencies must— (A) continue to develop customer-centered mindsets as a means to providing high-quality, responsive, inclusive, reliable, transparent, em- pathetic, courteous, and efficient services to the people of the United States; and
 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 	Is it the sense of Congress that— (1) agencies must— (A) continue to develop customer-centered mindsets as a means to providing high-quality, responsive, inclusive, reliable, transparent, em- pathetic, courteous, and efficient services to the people of the United States; and (B) use public feedback and human-cen-
 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 	Is it the sense of Congress that— (1) agencies must— (A) continue to develop customer-centered mindsets as a means to providing high-quality, responsive, inclusive, reliable, transparent, em- pathetic, courteous, and efficient services to the people of the United States; and (B) use public feedback and human-cen- tered design practices to continually improve

	10
1	the bond of trust between the people of the United
2	States and the Federal Government as a whole;
3	(3) to this end, the Federal Government
4	must—
5	(A) adopt a whole-of-Government, inte-
6	grated, and enterprise approach to service deliv-
7	ery;
8	(B) build out the technical capacity of the
9	Federal Government, as has been done with the
10	establishment of the United States Digital
11	Service and the Technology Transformation
12	Service of the General Services Administration,
13	that creates a strategy, accountability, and per-
14	formance framework for identifying and defin-
15	ing experiences and managing improvements
16	across agency delivery systems;
17	(C) enhance customer experience based on
18	an understanding of true needs of the public,
19	rather solely on individual agency or program
20	mandates;
21	(D) identify ambitious agency and Govern-
22	ment-wide customer experience priorities;
23	(E) develop consistent approaches to cus-
24	tomer experience across the Federal Govern-

ment, as consistency is central to building Government-wide trust; and

3 (F) mobilize resources to support the Chief 4 of Staffs, Chief Operating Officers, or equiva-5 lent officials, of agencies and hold those offi-6 cials accountable for customer experience 7 through statutorily-established councils, such as 8 the Performance Improvement Council, the 9 Chief Information Officers Council, the Chief Data Officers Council, the Evaluation Officer 10 11 Council, the Chief Human Capital Officers 12 President's Council. the and Management 13 Council:

14 (4) while the imperative to improve customer 15 experience particularly applies to high-impact service 16 providers, which have frequent interaction with the 17 public or high profiles, all agencies, no matter the 18 scope of the mission of an agency or the manner in 19 which an agency works, have an obligation and op-20 portunity to proactively and effectively communicate 21 how those agencies serve the public as a means to-22 wards increasing responsiveness and contributing to 23 public trust in the Federal Government;

24 (5) to understand if information is effectively25 communicated by agencies, agency communication

1

1	must be tailored to ensure the public receives and
2	understands information through—
3	(A) human-level stories;
4	(B) proactive outreach;
5	(C) modern design, including multimedia;
6	(D) opportunities for public participation;
7	and
8	(E) feedback and testing;
9	(6) to inspire Federal employees and contrac-
10	tors to serve the public in a responsive, creative, and
11	professional manner, agencies must improve em-
12	ployee engagement, including by—
13	(A) regularly soliciting and responding to
14	employee feedback and improving internal agen-
15	cy services, such as human resources and infor-
16	mation technology; and
17	(B) using human-centered design practices;
18	and
19	(7) similarly, when agencies provide information
20	or services to each other, these interactions should
21	be characterized by effectiveness, ease, and respon-
22	siveness to help enable fellow agencies to provide the
23	public with high-quality customer experience.
24	SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.
25	In this Act:

1 (1)AGENCY; CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE; EM-2 PLOYEE ENGAGEMENT; FEDERAL CUSTOMER; FED-3 ERAL EMPLOYEE; HIGH-IMPACT SERVICE PROVIDER; 4 VOLUNTARY CUSTOMER FEEDBACK.—The terms "agency", "customer experience", "employee engage-5 ment", "Federal customer", "Federal employee", 6 "high-impact service provider", and "voluntary cus-7 8 tomer feedback" have the meaning given those terms 9 in section 321 of title 5, United States Code, as 10 added by this Act. (2) DIRECTOR.—The term "Director" means 11 12 the Director of the Office of Management and Budg-13 et. 14 (3) PROPAGANDA AND PUBLICITY.—The term "propaganda and publicity" means information pro-15 duced and disseminated by an agency that is— 16 17 (A) self-aggrandizing or seeks to inflate 18 the reputation of an official; 19 (B) a covert communication in which the 20 agency does not disclose that the agency is the 21 source of the communication; or 22 (C) purely partisan in nature.

1	SEC. 5. ELEVATING CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE AND EM-
2	PLOYEE ENGAGEMENT WITHIN THE FEDERAL
3	GOVERNMENT.
4	(a) Requirements for Customer Experience,
5	PUBLIC COMMUNICATION, AND EMPLOYEE ENGAGE-
6	MENT.—
7	(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 5, United
8	States Code, is amended by adding at the end the
9	following:
10	"Subchapter III—Federal Customer
11	Experience
12	"§ 321. Definitions
13	"In this subchapter:
14	"(1) AGENCY.—The term 'agency'—
15	"(A) has the meaning give the term in sec-
16	tion $306(f)$; and
17	"(B) includes the United States Postal
18	Service.
19	"(2) CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE.—The term 'cus-
20	tomer experience'—
21	"(A) means the ways in which the Federal
22	Government and agencies consider Federal cus-
23	tomers at the center of the decision making
24	process, including by—
25	"(i) understanding needs from the
26	perspective of a Federal customer;

1	"(ii) considering the entire journey of
2	a Federal customer, instead of simply the
3	point of service;
4	"(iii) soliciting and considering vol-
5	untary customer feedback; and
6	"(iv) measuring performance; and
7	"(B) includes a consideration of the factors
8	within any interaction between a Federal cus-
9	tomer and an agency, or between agencies, in-
10	cluding, with respect to the interaction—
11	"(i) ease;
12	"(ii) effectiveness;
13	"(iii) emotional effect;
14	"(iv) perception or trust;
15	"(v) Federal employee interaction;
16	and
17	"(vi) any other factor that impacts
18	the overall trust, satisfaction, and con-
19	fidence of the customer in a program, an
20	agency, or the Federal Government as a
21	whole.
22	"(3) DIRECTOR.—The term 'Director' means
23	the Director of the Office of Management and Budg-
24	et.

1	"(4) Employee engagement.—The term 'em-
2	ployee engagement' means—
3	"(A) the heightened sense of commitment
4	of a Federal employee or contractor to the
5	agency for which the Federal employee works or
6	the contractor performs services and the Fed-
7	eral customers served by the Federal employee
8	or contractor that results in a more efficient,
9	effective, creative, or courteous outcome; and
10	"(B) the extent to which a Federal em-
11	ployee or contractor—
12	"(i) finds personal meaning and pride
13	in the work of the Federal employee or
14	contractor; and
15	"(ii) with respect to the agency served
16	by the Federal employee or contractor,
17	feels—
18	"(I) a sense of belonging in the
19	culture of work of the agency;
20	"(II) valued by the agency and
21	the public; and
22	"(III) that the agency regularly
23	considers and is responsive to feed-
24	back and human-centered design in-

	11
1	sights from the Federal employee or
2	contractor.
3	"(5) FEDERAL CUSTOMER.—The term 'Federal
4	customer'—
5	"(A) means—
6	"(i) a member of the public of the
7	United States; and
8	"(ii) an entity that is directly im-
9	pacted by the Federal Government, includ-
10	ing-
11	"(I) member of the public of the
12	United States, a business, an organi-
13	zation, or an agency of a State or unit
14	of local government, Tribal, or terri-
15	torial that interacts with an agency or
16	Federal program—
17	"(aa) directly;
18	"(bb) through a Federal
19	contractor; or
20	"(cc) through a federally
21	funded program;
22	"(II) an applicant for a Federal
23	job, a Federal employee, a contractor,
24	or a volunteer of the Federal Govern-
25	ment that interacts with an agency or

1	an internal process of an agency, in-
2	cluding—
3	"(aa) hiring;
4	"(bb) on-boarding;
5	"(cc) human resources;
6	"(dd) information tech-
7	nology services; and
8	"(ee) efforts to improve
9	agency performance, including by
10	suggesting process improvements
11	or reporting fraud, waste, or
12	abuse;
13	"(III) an agency that relies on
14	another agency for information or
15	services; and
16	"(IV) the recipient of a Federal
17	award, including a contract, grant, or
18	loan.
19	"(6) FEDERAL EMPLOYEE.—The term 'Federal
20	employee' has the meaning given the term 'employee'
21	in section 2105 of title 5, United States Code.
22	"(7) High-impact service provider.—The
23	term 'high-impact service provider' means an agency
24	or a component of an agency designated as a high-

1	impact service provider in guidance issued by the Di-
2	rector under section $323(b)(4)$.
3	"(8) HUMAN-CENTERED DESIGN.—The term
4	'human-centered design' means an approach towards
5	designing interactive systems, processes, products,
6	services, or information that aims to make those sys-
7	tems, processes, products, services, or information
8	more usable and useful by—
9	"(A) focusing on the users of the systems,
10	processes, or information and the needs and re-
11	quirements of those users; and
12	"(B) applying knowledge of human factors
13	and learning from human feedback and inter-
14	actions with similar systems, processes, or in-
15	formation.
16	"(9) Voluntary customer feedback.—The
17	term 'voluntary customer feedback' means the sub-
18	mission of information, an opinion, appreciation, or
19	a concern by a Federal customer following an inter-
20	action with an agency that is—
21	"(A) solicited by the agency and identified
22	as voluntary in the solicitation; and
23	"(B) voluntarily made by the Federal cus-
24	tomer relating to the particular service of, or
25	interaction with, the agency.

1 "§ 322. Agency requirements

2	"(a) IN GENERAL.—The head of each agency, in
3	order to effectively pursue the mission of the agency, shall
4	develop a high-quality customer experience by—
5	((1)) allocating sufficient resources to and
6	prioritizing—
7	"(A) customer experience capabilities; and
8	"(B) initiatives that may cut across budget
9	accounts or program activities;
10	((2)) requesting and drawing on new expertise
11	and tools relating to customer experience;
12	"(3) adapting Government-wide and global good
13	practices relating to customer experience;
14	"(4) ensuring that the process of each agency
15	for soliciting voluntary customer feedback is as
16	streamlined as possible and requires limited internal
17	review if the collection is within the scope of the
18	guidance provided by the Director;
19	"(5) making use of customer experience re-
20	sources of the Federal Government; and
21	"(6) using human-centered design practices.
22	"(b) TOOLS.—The head of each agency shall—
23	"(1) develop and use tools to—
24	"(A) experiment with different approaches
25	to improve customer experience; and

1	"(B) collect qualitative and quantitative
2	data on customer experience as Federal cus-
3	tomers engage with the agency in a routine,
4	flexible manner, including through human-cen-
5	tered design practices;
6	((2) ensure the tools developed under para-
7	graph (1) ensure the privacy of Federal customers;
8	"(3) use the data collected under paragraph
9	(1)(B) to continually improve customer experience
10	and agency performance; and
11	((4) share the data collected under paragraph
12	(1)(B) with research entities to allow for external
13	analysis.
14	"(c) Voluntary Customer Feedback.—
15	"(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of each agency
16	shall, as appropriate, solicit voluntary customer feed-
17	back from Federal customers.
18	"(2) Assistance.—
19	"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall as-
20	(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall as-
	sist the heads of agencies in carrying out para-
21	
21 22	sist the heads of agencies in carrying out para-
	sist the heads of agencies in carrying out para- graph (1) by—
22	sist the heads of agencies in carrying out para- graph (1) by— "(i) ensuring that the process for

1	"(ii) assisting the heads of agencies in
2	collaborating with other agencies and
3	State, local, Tribal, and territorial govern-
4	ments to understand and respond to the
5	needs of Federal customers—
6	"(I) from the perspectives of
7	those customers; and
8	"(II) not solely from the perspec-
9	tive of the mandates of the agency.
10	"(B) Example.—An example of a situa-
11	tion in which the Director shall assist heads of
12	agencies under subparagraph (A)(ii)(II) is when
13	an opportunity for cross-agency collaboration
14	exists that meets the demonstrated interest of
15	the public of the United States.
16	"(3) REQUIREMENTS.—With respect to any vol-
17	untary customer feedback solicited by the head of an
18	agency, the head of the agency—
19	"(A) may not use the voluntary customer
20	feedback as a basis to provide a Federal cus-
21	tomer with inferior service; and
22	"(B) shall consider privacy concerns and,
23	as appropriate, anonymize the voluntary cus-
24	tomer feedback to—
25	"(i) allow for candid feedback; and

20
"(ii) protect privacy.
"(d) Agency Communication Responsibilities.—
"(1) Public understanding.—The head of
each agency shall seek to—
"(A) increase public understanding of the
mandate of the agency, including the statutes
under which the agency operates and from
which the agency derives the mission of the
agency;
"(B) provide the public with historical and
broader context of programs, policies, context,
and achievements of the agency, including
human level stories of the impact of the agency;
"(C) employ shared design solutions, effec-
tive human-centered design practices, modern
design tools, interactive platforms, and innova-
tive participation methods to engage the public
in the policy process of the agency; and
"(D) tailor the content and format of com-
munications of the agency based on regional or
demographic considerations and human-cen-
tered design practices.
"(2) TOOLS.—The head of each agency shall
develop and use tools to understand the progress of

1	the agency towards achieving the requirements
2	under paragraph (1), including—
3	"(A) testing;
4	"(B) feedback;
5	"(C) focus groups;
6	"(D) public participation; and
7	"(E) human-centered design practices and
8	co-design processes.
9	"(e) Agency Consultation.—
10	"(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than
11	annually, the head of each agency shall consult with
12	the agencies or offices described in section $323(c)(1)$
13	to ensure that the customer experience and commu-
14	nications approaches of the agency—
15	"(A) are engaging and interactive;
16	"(B) incorporate good practices from the
17	private sector and human-centered design; and
18	"(C) employ cutting edge digital tools, in-
19	cluding application programming interfaces and
20	social media and digital experiences.
21	"(2) HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES.—Not less fre-
22	quently than annually, the head of each agency shall
23	consult with the National Archives and Records Ad-
24	ministration, the Library of Congress, or the histo-
25	rians of other relevant entities to obtain advice and

1	multimedia content relating to the historical per-
2	formance of the agency that can be used to provide
3	context on the origins and roles of the agency
4	throughout history, including human level stories of
5	the impact of the agency.
6	"§323. OMB Customer experience guidance
7	"(a) IN GENERAL.—
8	"(1) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 180 days
9	after the date of enactment of the Trust in Public
10	Service Act, the Director shall issue the guidance de-
11	scribed in subsection (b) for—
12	"(A) agencies; and
13	"(B) components of agencies, as appro-
14	priate.
15	"(2) FORMAT.—The Director may issue the
16	guidance required under paragraph (1) in a format
17	chosen by the Director, which may include Circular
18	A–11 of the Office of Management and Budget.
19	"(b) CONTENTS.—The guidance described in this
20	subsection is as follows:
21	"(1) Guidance consistent with this subchapter
22	to assist agencies in achieving high-quality customer
22	
23	experience and continually improving service delivery

•HR 3609 IH

1	"(2) Guidance that requires an agency or com-
2	ponent of an agency to include principles of cus-
3	tomer experience in—
4	"(A) standard operating procedures of the
5	agency or component of the agency;
6	"(B) rules (as defined in section 551 of
7	title 5, United States Code) issued by the agen-
8	cy or component of the agency; and
9	"(C) similar documents of the agency or
10	component of the agency.
11	"(3) Guidance that—
12	"(A) requires an agency to communicate
13	the impact of programs of the agency to the
14	public, including through communication that—
15	"(i) is human-centered, including
16	multimedia and good design;
17	"(ii) uses stories of human impact;
18	"(iii) allows for the public to con-
19	tribute personal accounts;
20	"(iv) is participatory in nature; and
21	"(v) is tailored to regional or demo-
22	graphic considerations; and
23	"(B) reminds agencies that, although pro-
24	visions of annual appropriations Acts typically
25	bar agencies from engaging in impermissible

1	publicity or propaganda, including self-aggran-
2	dizement, covert propaganda, and purely par-
3	tisan communications, those provisions do not
4	restrict agencies from engaging in legitimate ac-
5	tivities to inform the public about agency pro-
6	grams through a communication described in
7	subparagraph (A).
8	"(4) Guidance in which the Director designates
9	certain agencies or components of agencies as high-
10	impact service providers based on the following con-
11	siderations:
12	"(A) Whether an agency or component has
13	a large base of Federal customers served by the
14	agency or component.
15	"(B) Whether an agency or component has
16	a high impact on Federal customers served by
17	the agency or component.
18	"(C) Whether, with respect to an agency
19	or component, the public exchanges time,
20	money, or information with the agency or com-
21	ponent to receive a good, service, or authoriza-
22	tion.
23	"(D) Whether agencies or components
24	have high-profile Federal customer-facing serv-
25	ices, regulatory functions, or informational

1	roles, including operating websites or commu-
2	nication portals of the Federal Government,
3	such as usa.gov.
4	"(E) Other agencies or components, based
5	on factors that give the agency or component
6	an ability to positively or negatively influence
7	the public perception of the Federal Govern-
8	ment.
9	"(5) Guidance that, with respect to high-impact
10	service providers—
11	"(A) establishes service standards, as ap-
12	propriate;
13	"(B) emphasizes resources, expectations,
14	and good practices, including the use of human-
15	centered design; and
16	"(C) requires high-impact service providers
17	to publicly commit to, and report on, Federal
18	customer experience standards, as appropriate.
19	"(6) Guidance that, with respect to agencies or
20	components of agencies that are not high-impact
21	service providers—
22	"(A) highlights that those agencies and
22	components have an obligation to find creative
23 24	means to inform the public about the ways in
<i>∠</i> _⊤	means to morning public about the ways m

1	which those agencies or components serve the
2	public; and
3	"(B) emphasizes expectations, resources,
4	and good practices, including the use of human-
5	centered design, for those agencies and compo-
6	nents, including maximizing the contribution of
7	the agency or component to overall trust in the
8	Federal Government.
9	"(7) Guidance that, with respect to voluntary
10	customer feedback—
11	"(A) provides agencies with best practices,
12	templates, and standards for collecting quali-
13	tative and quantitative data relating to Govern-
14	ment-wide customer experience and voluntary
15	customer feedback;
16	"(B) enables cross-agency benchmarking
17	and the improvement of customer experience;
18	and
19	"(C) includes—
20	"(i) guidelines and support for user
21	data collected from websites and forms re-
22	lating to customer experience, including
23	visits, task completion rates, time taken,
24	drop out points, and other relevant areas;
25	and

"(ii) guidance on voluntary customer 1 2 feedback data collection relating to user comprehension and satisfaction, including 3 4 guidance for how agencies should communicate the purpose of a data collection re-5 6 quest and how the agency uses voluntary 7 customer feedback to influence the policy 8 and programs of the agency.

9 "(8) Guidance that identifies any privacy risks 10 to Federal customers and how those risks and miti-11 gation measures for those risks should be commu-12 nicated to the public.

"(9) Guidance that clearly explains the process
by which agencies and components of agencies shall
solicit voluntary customer feedback and other learning and feedback tools, such as focus groups and
usability testing, which shall—

18 "(A) balance—

19 "(i) quality control and risk manage20 ment relating to the solicitation of vol21 untary customer feedback; and

22 "(ii) reducing unnecessary delay or
23 burdens on agencies and components of
24 agencies that inhibit or slow the solicita25 tion of voluntary customer feedback; and

1	"(B) outline a streamlined process for
2	agencies and components of agencies that dem-
3	onstrate the capability to design and conduct
4	high-quality Federal customer surveys or other
5	capabilities that—
6	"(i) may include—
7	"(I) blanket approvals; and
8	"(II) waivers; and
9	"(ii) does not require re-approval for
10	minimal changes.
11	"(10) Guidance that requires Government-wide
12	employee engagement, including—
13	"(A) the Federal Employee Viewpoint Sur-
14	vey of the Office of Personnel Management;
15	"(B) as appropriate, the collection of addi-
16	tional, real-time voluntary qualitative and quan-
17	titative feedback from Federal employees; and
18	"(C) the development of an explicit em-
19	ployee engagement measure by the Director of
20	the Office of Personnel Management that aligns
21	with existing public sector employee engage-
22	ment measures.
23	((11) Guidance that includes best practices on
24	the appropriate use of metrics by agencies that—

1	"(A) promotes true improvement and
2	learning and the right incentives for Federal
3	employees and the leadership of agencies; and
4	"(B) in order to avoid metrics that create
5	perverse incentives, clarifies that certain cus-
6	tomer experience or employee engagement
7	measures should not be used for adverse per-
8	sonnel actions or promotion.
9	"(c) Collaboration.—
10	"(1) IN GENERAL.—In developing the guidance
11	issued under subsection (a), the Director shall col-
12	laborate with—
13	"(A) the Administrator of General Services
14	with respect to customer experience good prac-
15	tices, including the use of human-centered de-
16	sign, data collection and use, usability testing,
17	evaluation science, behavioral science, human-
18	centered design, the use of agency websites and
19	digital communication tools, and personnel sup-
20	port;
21	"(B) the Director of the Office of Per-
22	sonnel Management with respect to—
23	"(i) employee engagement;
24	"(ii) hiring authorities for recruiting
25	subject matter experts; and

1	"(iii) developing a customer experi-
2	ence-oriented workforce;
3	"(C) the Administrator of the United
4	States Digital Service with respect to personnel,
5	human-centered design, digital experience good
6	practices, and innovation;
7	"(D) the Office of Information and Regu-
8	latory Affairs and the Office of the Federal
9	Chief Information Officer of the Office of Man-
10	agement and Budget with respect to—
11	"(i) providing technical assistance in
12	Government-wide data collection; and
13	"(ii) balancing—
14	"(I) the quality control of agency
15	data collection requests; and
16	"(II) reducing unnecessary delay
17	or burdens on agencies, particularly
18	with voluntary customer feedback and
19	focus groups;
20	"(E) the Office of Science and Technology
21	Policy with respect to good practices in behav-
22	ioral sciences and human-centered design;
23	"(F) the National Archives and Records
24	Administration and the Library of Congress
25	with respect to historical context, multimedia,

1	and stories of agency achievement throughout
2	history; and
3	"(G) any other entity determined appro-
4	priate by the Director.
5	"(2) SUPPORT.—In collaborating with the enti-
6	ties described in paragraph (1), the Director shall
7	ensure that those entities have sufficient resources
8	to carry out the collaboration.
9	"(d) UPDATES.—Not later than 1 year after the date
10	on which guidance is issued under subsection (a), and an-
11	nually thereafter, the Director shall update the guid-
12	ance.".
13	(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
14	tions for chapter 3, United States Code, is amended
15	by adding at the end the following:
	"SUBCHAPTER III—FEDERAL CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE
	"321. Definitions."322. Agency requirements."323. OMB Customer experience guidance.".
16	SEC. 6. RECOGNIZING EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE AND
17	EARLY ADOPTERS.
18	(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director may establish 1
19	or more programs that, on an annual basis, recognize indi-
20	viduals and teams across the Federal workforce, the dedi-
21	cation of which supports—

1	(1) the early adoption of innovative customer
2	experience tools or human-centered design practices
3	by an agency to improve—
4	(A) performance;
5	(B) customer experience; or
6	(C) public communication; or
7	(2) the exceptional delivery by an agency of—
8	(A) results that aligns with the mission of
9	the agency;
10	(B) customer experience;
11	(C) public communication; and
12	(D) the accountable stewardship of re-
13	sources.
14	(b) Public Participation.—A program established
15	under subsection (a) may involve a mechanism to foster
16	participation in the recognition efforts of the program
17	by—
18	(1) members of the general public;
19	(2) Federal employees; and
20	(3) members of Congress or congressional com-
21	mittees.
22	(c) PUBLIC COMMUNICATION.—A program estab-
23	lished under subsection (a) may include year-round and
24	interactive public communication efforts to ensure that the
25	achievements of individuals and teams recognized by the

1	program are communicated to the public in a manner
2	that—
3	(1) is compelling;
4	(2) is tailored to regional and demographic con-
5	siderations; and
6	(3) emphasizes the breadth and scope of ongo-
7	ing and exceptional efforts of the Federal Govern-
8	ment to serve the public.
9	SEC. 7. INTEGRATING CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE INTO TI-
10	TLES 5 AND 31.
11	(a) TITLE 5 AMENDMENTS.—
12	(1) AGENCY STRATEGIC PLANS.—Section 306
13	of title 5, United States Code, is amended—
14	(A) in subsection (a)—
15	(i) in paragraph (8)—
16	(I) by inserting "and agency cus-
17	tomer feedback data" after "the pro-
18	gram evaluations"; and
19	(II) by striking "and" at the end;
20	(ii) in paragraph $(9)(F)$, by striking
21	the period at the end and inserting ";
22	and"; and
23	(iii) by adding at the end the fol-
24	

1	((10) a description of how the goals and objec-
2	tives of the agency contribute to improved customer
3	experience and public confidence in the agency.";
4	and
5	(B) in subsection (f)—
6	(i) by striking "section the term" and
7	inserting "section—
8	"(1) the term";
9	(ii) in paragraph (1), as so des-
10	ignated, by striking the period at the end
11	and inserting a semi colon; and
12	(iii) by adding at the end the fol-
13	lowing:
14	((2) the term 'agency customer' means a Fed-
15	eral customer of an agency; and
16	((3) the term 'customer experience' and 'Fed-
17	eral customer' have the meanings given those terms
18	in section 321.".
19	(2) AGENCY EVIDENCE-BUILDING PLAN.—Sec-
20	tion 312(a) of title 5, United States Code, is amend-
21	ed—
22	(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
23	by inserting "customer experience (as defined in
24	section 321)," before "and regulations"; and

1	(B) in paragraph (1), by inserting "and
2	improve customer experience (as defined in sec-
3	tion 321)" after "support policymaking".
4	(3) Functions of the director of the of-
5	FICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT.—Section
6	1103(c)(2) of title 5, United States Code, is amend-
7	ed—
8	(A) in subparagraph (A)—
9	(i) in clause (i), by striking "and" at
10	the end;
11	(ii) by redesignating clause (ii) as
12	clause (iii); and
13	(iii) by inserting after clause (i) the
14	following:
15	"(ii) ensuring employee engagement (as defined
16	in section 321) is a central component of the strat-
17	egy and priorities of those agencies; and"; and
18	(B) in subparagraph (D), by inserting
19	"and leads to high-quality customer experience
20	(as defined in section 321)" after "workforce".
21	(b) TITLE 31 AMENDMENTS.—
22	(1) Federal government and agency per-
23	FORMANCE PLANS.—
24	(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 1115 of title
25	31, United States Code, is amended—

	39
1	(i) in subsection (a)—
2	(I) in paragraph (5), by striking
3	"and" at the end;
4	(II) in paragraph (6) —
5	(aa) by inserting ", includ-
6	ing factors that make it more dif-
7	ficult for agencies to learn
8	through voluntary customer feed-
9	back, testing, focus groups,
10	human-centered design practices,
11	or otherwise foster active public
12	participation in Government,"
13	after "in nature"; and
14	(bb) by striking the period
15	at the end and inserting "; and";
16	and
17	(III) by adding at the end the
18	following:
19	((7) identify entities, which shall include the
20	Office of Management and Budget and the entities
21	listed in section $323(c)(1)$ of title 5, with mission
22	support and coordination functions to enable other
23	agencies to improve customer experience and em-
24	ployee engagement and request sufficient budgets.";
25	(ii) in subsection (b)—

	10
1	(I) in paragraph (1), by inserting
2	", which shall include at least 1 per-
3	formance goal related to customer ex-
4	perience" after "next fiscal year";
5	(II) in paragraph (5)(A), by in-
6	serting ", including overall employee
7	engagement considerations, which
8	shall include soliciting and responding
9	to feedback from employees' after
10	"performance goals";
11	(III) in paragraph (6), by strik-
12	ing "customer service" and inserting
13	"customer experience";
14	(IV) by redesignating paragraphs
15	(9) and (10) as paragraphs (10) and
16	(11), respectively; and
17	(V) by inserting after paragraph
18	(8) the following:
19	"(9) describe customer experience opportunities
20	and challenges facing the agency and identify—
21	"(A) key interaction points between the
22	agency and the public;
23	"(B) Federal customer needs in relation to
24	the overall agency mission, which may draw
25	from reporting required under section 1116;

1	"(C) capabilities, resources, tradeoffs, con-
2	straints, and risks related to customer experi-
3	ence; and
4	"(D) the linkage between customer experi-
5	ence and employee engagement, including—
6	"(i) cultural strengths and weakness
7	among the workforce that either enable
8	high-quality customer experience or render
9	high-quality customer experience difficult;
10	"(ii) capability, resource, or statutory
11	challenges, tradeoffs, constraints, or risks
12	related to employee engagement; and
13	"(iii) the voice of employees and the
14	extent to which agencies regularly solicit,
15	consider, and respond to employee feed-
16	back;";
17	(iii) by redesignating subsection (h) as
18	subsection (i);
19	(iv) by inserting after subsection (g)
20	the following:
21	"(h) Agencies and components of agencies, particu-
22	larly high-impact service providers (as defined in section
23	321 of title 5), are encouraged to develop more detailed
24	customer experience action plans in coordination with the
25	Office of Management and Budget."; and

1	(v) in subsection (i), as so redesig-
2	nated, by striking paragraph (3) and in-
3	serting the following:
4	"(3) 'customer experience', the term 'employee
5	engagement', and the term 'Federal customer' have
6	the meanings given such terms in section 321 of title
7	5;''.
8	(B) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMEND-
9	MENTS.—
10	(i) Section 1122(a)(1)(D) of title 31,
11	United States Code, is amended by strik-
12	ing "section 1115(h)" and inserting "sec-
13	tion 1115".
14	(ii) Section 6401(2)(A) of title 31,
15	United States Code, is amended by strik-
16	ing "section 1115(h)" and inserting "sec-
17	tion 1115".
18	(2) AGENCY PERFORMANCE REPORTING.—Sec-
19	tion 1116(a) of title 31, United States Code, is
20	amended by inserting ", which shall include cus-
21	tomer experience as a central component" after
22	"performance".
23	(3) FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND AGENCY PRI-
24	ORITY GOALS.—Section 1120(a)(1)(B) of title 31,
25	United States Code, is amended—

1	(A) in clause (iv), by striking "and" at the
2	end;
3	(B) in clause (v), by adding "and" at the
4	end; and
5	(C) by adding at the end the following:
6	"(vi) customer experience.".
7	(4) TRANSPARENCY OF PROGRAMS, PRIORITY
8	GOALS, AND RESULTS.—Section 1122(c) of title 31,
9	United States Code, is amended—
10	(A) in paragraph (8), by striking "and" at
11	the end;
12	(B) in paragraph (9), by striking the pe-
13	riod at the end and inserting "; and"; and
14	(C) by adding at the end the following:
15	"(10) an assessment of overall trust in the Fed-
16	eral Government and customer experience, including
17	an assessment of—
18	"(A) agency and sector-specific (such as
19	health) considerations, progress, and achieve-
20	ments;
21	"(B) shortcomings and where more
22	progress must be made;
23	"(C) external constraints; and
24	"(D) human-level case studies of high per-
25	formance.".

1	SEC. 8. ADEQUATELY RESOURCING CUSTOMER EXPERI-
2	ENCE AND EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT.
3	(a) Including Customer Experience in Fed-
4	eral Citizen Services Fund.—
5	(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 323 of title 40,
6	United States Code, is amended—
7	(A) by striking the section heading and in-
8	serting "Federal Citizen Services
9	Fund"; and
10	(B) in subsection (a), by striking "purpose
11	of" and all that follows and inserting "purpose
12	of—
13	"(1) disseminating Federal Government infor-
14	mation to the public;
15	"(2) improving—
16	"(A) customer experience (as defined in
17	section 321 of title 5);
18	"(B) mechanisms for public participation
19	in the Federal Government; and
20	"(C) communication of the Federal Gov-
21	ernment to the public, including tailored mes-
22	saging and human-centered stories of the im-
23	pact of the Federal Government, including
24	through human-centered design practices; and
25	"(3) other related purposes.".

1 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of 2 sections for chapter 3 of title 40, United States 3 Code, is amended by striking the item relating to 4 section 323 and inserting the following: "323. Federal Citizen Services Fund.". 5 (b) OMB TRANSFER AUTHORITY.— 6 (1) IN GENERAL.—With the approval of the Di-7 rector, the head of an agency may transfer funds 8 available to the agency from appropriations to fi-9 nance customer experience activities. 10 (2) AMOUNT.—The amounts transferred by the 11 head of an agency under paragraph (1) may not ex-12 ceed \$10,000,000 in a fiscal year. 13 (3)LIMITATION.—The AGGREGATE total 14 amount of transfers approved by the Director under 15 paragraph (1) may not exceed \$50,000,000 in a fis-16 cal year. 17 (4) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 30 days be-18 fore the date on which the head of an agency exe-19 cutes a transfer authorized under paragraph (1), the 20 head of the agency shall notify the Committee on 21 Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on 22 Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

23 (5) SUNSET.—The authority to make a transfer
24 under this subsection shall terminate on September
25 30, 2026.

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 30 days after
4 the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall estab5 lish the Office of Customer Experience.

6 (b) CHIEF CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE OFFICER.—The
7 Office of Customer Experience shall be led by the Chief
8 Customer Experience Officer of the United States, who
9 shall be appointed by the Director.

(c) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Chief Customer Experience Officer of the United States shall have demonstrated
training and experience in—

13 (1) complex inter-organizational coordination;

14 (2) management;

(3) establishing customer experience programswithin service delivery organizations;

(4) customer experience disciplines, such as
product management, understanding the true needs
of customers, experience and perception measurement, and human-centered design research;

21 (5) employee engagement; and

22 (6) public communications or marketing.

23 (d) FUNCTIONS.—The Chief Customer Experience24 Officer of the United States shall—

(1) serve as a voice for the public within senior
level interagency policy processes, including by—

1	(A) advocating for the means to solicit and
2	respond to public feedback and human-centered
3	design insights to inform program and service
4	design and delivery;
5	(B) enhancing public participation in the
6	planning, execution, and evaluation of agency
7	programs; and
8	(C) providing the public with timely and
9	compelling communication about the impact of
10	the policy and programs of the Federal Govern-
11	ment that is tailored to regional or demographic
12	considerations;
13	(2) serve as the chief official responsible for im-
14	proving public trust in the Federal Government, in-
15	cluding by, in consultation with the heads of agen-
16	cies—
17	(A) establishing ambitious Government-
18	wide, sector-specific (such as health), and agen-
19	cy targets; and
20	(B) identifying Government-wide focal
21	points, including call centers, and agency and
22	Government-wide public websites using human-
23	centered design practices;
24	(3) in collaboration with the Deputy Director
25	for Management—

1	(A) establish priorities, goals, and targets
2	that are cross-agency, sector-specific (such as
3	health), experience-specific (such as retirement),
4	Government-wide, and agency-specific;
5	(B) assess needs and opportunities to im-
6	prove customer experience; and
7	(C) convene Chief Operating Officers, or
8	equivalent officials, of agencies through meet-
9	ings of the President's Management Council, or
10	similar means to—
11	(i) align resources with priorities;
12	(ii) assign responsibility; and
13	(iii) ensure accountability;
14	(4) in collaboration with the heads of the agen-
15	cies listed in section 323(c)(1) of title 5, United
16	States Code—
17	(A) develop a Government-wide service de-
18	livery strategy to serve as a focal point for the
19	public and include customer service standards
20	in the strategy, as appropriate;
21	(B) capture and develop Government-wide
22	and sector-specific best practices for—
23	(i) customer experience;
24	(ii) employee engagement;

1	(iii) design of websites and interactive
2	portals, online forms, social media, and
3	other digital platforms of agencies; and
4	(iv) communication;
5	(C) encourage cross-agency efforts relating
6	to improving customer experience; and
7	(D) pilot and implement innovative tech-
8	nologies and strategies from human-centered
9	design to improve customer experience;
10	(5) identify—
11	(A) life moments of Federal Government
12	customers in which agencies have a role; and
13	(B) other key focal points or interactions
14	that are particularly salient for interaction of
15	the public with the Federal Government;
16	(6) in collaboration with the heads of agencies
17	and State and municipal governments, develop inno-
18	vative and collaborative means to improve how the
19	Federal Government meets the current and future
20	needs of the public;
21	(7) develop a framework to help agencies accu-
22	rately assess the true costs, benefits, and costs of in-
23	action with respect to improving customer experi-
24	ence, taking into account the many benefits of im-

	00
1	proved public engagement, including receiving more
2	accurate and timely public data inputs; and
3	(8) in collaboration with the heads of relevant
4	agencies, develop good practices on customer experi-
5	ence and employee engagement, including through
6	engagement and dialogue with advocacy groups, pri-
7	vate sector organizations, and foreign government
8	officials.
9	SEC. 10. INTEGRATING CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE INTO THE
10	RESPONSIBILITIES OF KEY AGENCY OFFI-
11	CIALS.
12	(a) Performance Improvement Officers and
13	THE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL.—Section
14	1124 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—
15	(1) in subsection $(a)(2)$ —
16	(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (B)
17	through (F) as subparagraphs (C) through (G),
18	respectively;
19	(B) by inserting after subparagraph (A)
20	the following:
21	"(B) in consultation with agency staff re-
22	sponsible for customer experience and commu-
23	nications, advise the head of the agency and the
24	Chief Operating Officer, or an equivalent offi-
25	cial, on the agency contribution to public trust

1	in Government, including through customer ex-
2	perience, mechanisms for public participation in
3	Government, and communication with the pub-
4	lic on agency performance, consistent with sub-
5	paragraph (G);";
6	(C) in subparagraph (D), as so redesig-
7	nated, by inserting ", with an emphasis on cus-
8	tomer experience" before the semicolon;
9	(D) in subparagraph (E), as so redesig-
10	nated, by inserting "and soliciting voluntary
11	customer experience feedback" after "agency
12	performance";
13	(E) in subparagraph (F), as so redesig-
14	nated, by striking "and" at the end;
15	(F) in subparagraph (G), as so redesig-
16	nated, by striking the period at the end and in-
17	serting "; and"; and
18	(G) by adding at the end the following:
19	"(H) in collaboration with other relevant
20	officials, revise and update the website of the
21	agency and develop and implement proactive
22	public outreach strategies that emphasize
23	human-level stories of impact, geographic or de-
24	mographic considerations of the target audi-
25	ence, and human centered design, in collabora-

1	tion with other agency officials and support
2	agencies, including the United States Digital
3	Service and the General Services Administra-
4	tion."; and
5	(2) in subsection $(b)(2)$ —
6	(A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ",
7	especially related to customer experience" be-
8	fore the semicolon;
9	(B) in subparagraph (D), by inserting "es-
10	pecially customer experience, and barriers to
11	developing and enhancing public trust in Gov-
12	ernment," after "performance issues,"; and
13	(C) in subparagraph (H) by inserting "and
14	customer experience" after "performance im-
15	provement experiences".
16	(b) Agency Chief Human Capital Officers.—
17	Section 1401(1) of title 5, United States Code, is amended
18	by inserting ", with an emphasis on enhancing employee
19	engagement (as defined in section 321)" before the semi-
20	colon.
21	(c) Authorities and Functions of Chief Human
22	CAPITAL OFFICERS.—Section 1402(a)(4) of title 5,
23	United States Code, is amended to read as follows:
24	"(4) the hiring and performance management
25	authorities for developing and advocating a culture

1	of continuous learning and employee engagement (as
2	defined in section 321) to attract and retain employ-
3	ees with superior abilities, motivation, and pride in
4	their work who will contribute to overall agency per-
5	formance and customer experience (as defined in
6	section 321), which shall be delegated to the Chief
7	Human Capital Officer by the Director of the Office
8	of Personnel Management;".
9	(d) Chief Information Officer Authorities.—
10	Section 11319(d)(1) of title 40, United States Code, is
11	amended—
12	(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (C), (D),
13	(E), (F), (G), and (H) as subparagraphs (D), (E),
14	(F), (G), (H), and (I), respectively; and
15	(2) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the fol-
16	lowing:
17	"(C) to improve customer experience (as
18	defined in section 321 of title 5) through tar-
19	geted information technology improvement and
20	analytics;".
21	(e) Program Management Improvement Offi-
22	CER AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT POLICY COUNCIL.—
23	Section 1126 of title 31, United States Code, is amend-
24	ed—
25	(1) in subsection $(a)(2)(B)$ —

1	(A) in clause (i)—
2	(i) in subclause (I), by striking "and"
3	at the end;
4	(ii) in subclause (II), by striking the
5	period at the end and inserting "; and";
6	and
7	(iii) by adding at the end the fol-
8	lowing:
9	"(III) training that emphasizes
10	customer experience."; and
11	(B) in clause (iii), by striking "career
12	paths and career" and inserting "employee en-
13	gagement, career paths, and career"; and
14	(2) in subsection $(b)(2)(C)$ —
15	(A) in clause (i), by striking "career devel-
16	opment and" and inserting "employee engage-
17	ment, career development, and"; and
18	(B) in clause (ii), by inserting ", including
19	customer experience" after "project manage-
20	ment".
21	(f) CHIEF DATA OFFICERS AND CHIEF DATA OFFI-
22	CER COUNCIL.—
23	(1) CHIEF DATA OFFICERS.—Section 3520(c)
24	of title 44, United States Code, is amended—

1	(A) in paragraph (7), by inserting ", in-
2	cluding data use relating to customer experi-
3	ence and employee engagement" after "data
4	use"; and
5	(B) in paragraph (12), by inserting ", in-
6	cluding data use relating to customer experi-
7	ence and employee engagement" after "data
8	use''.
9	(2) CHIEF DATA OFFICER COUNCIL.—Section
10	3520A(b)(3) of title 44, United States Code, is
11	amended by inserting ", including policymaking re-
12	lating to customer experience and employee engage-
13	ment" after "policymaking".
14	SEC. 11. CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE OFFICERS FOR AGENCY
15	COMPONENTS.
16	(a) DESIGNATION.—
17	
	(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of an agency may
18	(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of an agency may designate 1 or more Lead Customer Experience Offi-
18 19	
	designate 1 or more Lead Customer Experience Offi-
19	designate 1 or more Lead Customer Experience Offi- cers for a component of the agency that presents
19 20	designate 1 or more Lead Customer Experience Offi- cers for a component of the agency that presents significant customer experience opportunities or
19 20 21	designate 1 or more Lead Customer Experience Offi- cers for a component of the agency that presents significant customer experience opportunities or challenges.
19 20 21 22	designate 1 or more Lead Customer Experience Offi- cers for a component of the agency that presents significant customer experience opportunities or challenges. (2) HIGH-IMPACT SERVICE PROVIDERS.—It is

1	(3) QUALIFICATIONS.—A Lead Customer Expe-
2	rience Officer of a component of an agency des-
3	ignated under paragraph (1) shall have dem-
4	onstrated training and experience in—
5	(A) agency leadership;
6	(B) management;
7	(C) policy;
8	(D) customer experience;
9	(E) employee engagement;
10	(F) digital experience;
11	(G) public communications; or
12	(H) marketing.
13	(b) FUNCTIONS.—The Lead Customer Experience
14	Officer of a component of an agency shall—
15	(1) report directly to the head of the component
16	or the deputy head of the agency;
17	(2) be included in the budget formulation proc-
18	ess of the component;
19	(3) recommend modifications to policies of
20	agencies to incorporate customer experience as an
21	essential priority, including—
22	(A) rules (as defined in section 551 of title
23	5, United States Code); and
	o, Olifical States Couc), and

1	(4) issue directives, guidance, or policies for the
2	component on customer experience that articulate
3	how strategy and mission link to customer experi-
4	ence management and outcomes;
5	(5) participate in agency peer-learning and
6	sharing and ensure that customer experience prac-
7	tices are informed by good practices from the private
8	sector or other agencies;
9	(6) in concert with agency-wide efforts and con-
10	sistent with guidance of the Office of Management
11	and Budget, assess and measure the overall public
12	perceptions of the component;
13	(7) coordinate the development, resourcing, and
14	implementation of customer experience priorities;
15	(8) engage employees and contractors of the
16	component in customer experience and employee en-
17	gagement, including through process reforms, train-
18	ing, workshops, and other interventions designed to
19	shift the culture of the component to increasingly
20	focus on measuring customer experience and the
21	outcomes that the component produces, such as im-
22	proved trust; and
23	(9) serve as the liaison of the component to
24	other components of the agency, other agencies, and

25 the Office of Management and Budget on improving

3 SEC. 12. PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT VOLUNTARY CUS4 TOMER FEEDBACK REFORM.

5 (a) APPLICATION OF PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT
6 TO COLLECTION OF VOLUNTARY FEEDBACK.—Sub7 chapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code
8 (commonly known as the "Paperwork Reduction Act"), is
9 amended—

11 (A) in paragraph (22), by striking "and"
12 at the end;

(1) in section 3502—

(B) in paragraph (23), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and
(C) by adding at the end the following:
"(24) the term 'voluntary customer feedback'
has the meaning given the term in section 321 of
title 5."; and

19 (2) in section 3518(c)(1)—

20 (A) in subparagraph (C), by striking "or"
21 at the end;
22 (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the
23 period at the end and inserting "; or"; and

24 (C) by adding at the end the following:

	00
1	"(E) by an agency that is voluntary cus-
2	tomer feedback.".
3	(b) Guidelines for Voluntary Customer Feed-
4	BACK.—Each agency that solicits voluntary customer feed-
5	back shall ensure that—
6	(1) responses to the solicitation of voluntary
7	customer feedback remain anonymous and are not
8	traced to specific individuals or entities;
9	(2) individuals and entities who decline to par-
10	ticipate in the solicitation of voluntary customer
11	feedback are not treated differently by the agency
12	for purposes of providing services or information;
13	(3) the solicitation does not include more than
14	10 questions;
15	(4) the voluntary nature of the solicitation is
16	clear;
17	(5) the proposed solicitation of voluntary cus-
18	tomer feedback will contribute to improved customer
19	service;
20	(6) solicitations of voluntary customer feedback
21	are limited to 1 solicitation per interaction with an
22	individual or entity;
23	(7) to the extent practicable, the solicitation of
24	voluntary customer feedback is made at the point of
25	service with an individual or entity;

1	(8) instruments for collecting voluntary cus-
2	tomer feedback are accessible to individuals with dis-
3	abilities in accordance with section 508 of the Reha-
4	bilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794d); and
5	(9) internal agency data governance policies re-
6	main in effect with respect to the collection of vol-
7	untary customer feedback from individuals and enti-
8	ties.
9	SEC. 13. EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATING AGENCY PER-
10	FORMANCE TO THE PUBLIC.
11	(a) 21st Century IDEA.—Section 6(4) of the 21st
12	Century Integrated Digital Experience Act (44 U.S.C.
13	3501 note) is amended—
14	(1) by striking "customers, identify areas" and
15	inserting "customers, identify—
16	"(A) areas";
17	(2) in subparagraph (A), as so designated, by
18	adding "and" at the end; and
19	(3) by adding at the end the following:
20	"(B) opportunities to provide—
21	"(i) a more engaging customer experi-
22	ence (as defined in section 321 of title 5,
23	United States Code) through human-level
24	content, such as stories of individual im-
25	pact or multimedia testimonials; and

1	"(ii) design improvements of websites
2	and interactive portals, online forms, social
3	media, and other digital platforms of agen-
4	cies and the Federal Government;".
5	(b) USA.gov and Agency Websites.—
6	(1) E-government act of 2002.—The E-Gov-
7	ernment Act of 2002 (44 U.S.C. 3501 note) is
8	amended—
9	(A) in section $204(a)$ —
10	(i) in paragraph (1)—
11	(I) by striking "and promote an"
12	and inserting "and promote—
13	"(A) an";
14	(II) in subparagraph (A), as so
15	designated, by striking the period at
16	the end and inserting "; and"; and
17	(III) by adding at the end the
18	following:
19	"(B) a well-designed interactive experience
20	for visitors to the Internet-based system main-
21	tained under subparagraph (A) that—
22	"(i) is tailored to the needs of indi-
23	vidual visitors;
24	"(ii) includes context about the im-
25	pact and achievements of the Federal Gov-

1	ernment, including human-level multimedia
2	stories; and
3	"(iii) offers visitors an opportunity to
4	submit—
5	"(I) voluntary customer feed-
6	back, as defined in section 321 of title
7	5, United States Code; and
8	"(II) information about personal
9	experiences with the Federal Govern-
10	ment of visitors."; and
11	(ii) in paragraph (2), by adding at the
12	end the following:
13	"(E) The inclusion of an interactive map
14	of the United States that—
15	"(i) allows visitors of the integrated
16	system to view the human-level impact of
17	programs and policies of agencies, tailored
18	by the geographic region and demographic
19	profile of the visitor; and
20	"(ii) links to the websites of agencies
21	and components of agencies in order for
22	visitors to obtain additional information.";
23	and
24	(B) in section $207(f)(1)$ —

1	(i) in the matter preceding subpara-
2	graph (A), by striking "Not later than 2
3	years after the effective date of this title"
4	and inserting "Not later than 2 years after
5	the date of enactment of the Trust in Pub-
6	lic Service Act";
7	(ii) in subparagraph (A)—
8	(I) in clause (iii), by striking
9	"and" at the end;
10	(II) in clause (iv), by striking
11	"and" at the end; and
12	(III) by adding at the end the
13	following:
14	"(v) historical context and stories
15	about the impact and achievements of the
16	agency; and
17	"(vi) human-level stories of the impact
18	of the agency, including multimedia
19	testimonials from the public;"; and
20	(iii) by striking subparagraph (B) and
21	inserting the following:
22	"(B) minimum agency goals to assist pub-
23	lic users to—
24	"(i) navigate agency websites, includ-
25	ing—

1	"(I) the speed of retrieval of
2	search results;
3	"(II) the relevance of the results;
4	"(III) tools to aggregate and
5	disaggregate data; and
6	"(IV) security protocols to pro-
7	tect information; and
8	"(ii) efficiently and easily obtain serv-
9	ices of the agency and information to bet-
10	ter understand the mission and impact of
11	the agency and have an emotionally posi-
12	tive experience while obtaining those serv-
13	ices and information, including—
14	"(I) measures to ensure the cus-
15	tomer experience (as defined in sec-
16	tion 321 of title 5, United States
17	Code), of public users, which may in-
18	clude—
19	"(aa) task completion rates;
20	"(bb) time taken to complete
21	a task;
22	"(cc) drop out points; and
23	"(dd) user comprehension
24	and satisfaction measurements;

	00
1	"(II) visual presentations of
2	curated testimonials segmented by ge-
3	ographic and demographic profiles;
4	and
5	"(III) functionality that allows
6	website visitors to submit voluntary
7	customer feedback (as defined in sec-
8	tion 321 of title 5, United States
9	Code) or personal testimonials
10	through text or multimedia functions;
11	and
12	"(C) instructions for agencies to assess the
13	minimum agency goals described in subpara-
14	graph (B) through testing, focus groups, and
15	voluntary customer feedback (as defined in sec-
16	tion 321 of title 5, United States Code)".
17	(2) AGENCY REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year
18	after the date of enactment of this Act, the head of
19	each agency shall submit to the Director a report
20	on—
21	(A) any changes made to the website of
22	the agency and the digital experience of visitors
23	to the website of the agency in accordance with
24	guidance issued under section 207(f) of the E-

1	Government Act of 2002 (44 U.S.C. 3501
2	note), as amended by this Act; and
3	(B) any collaboration or consultation relat-
4	ing to the customer experience of the agency
5	with an agency described in section $323(c)(1)$ of
6	title 5, United States Code, as added by this
7	Act.
8	(3) OMB REPORT.—Not later than 30 days
9	after the date on which the Director receives the re-
10	ports from the heads of agencies under paragraph
11	(2), the Director shall submit to Congress a report
12	summarizing those reports.
13	SEC. 14. PARTICIPATORY GOVERNMENT AND CIVIC DIA-
13 14	SEC. 14. PARTICIPATORY GOVERNMENT AND CIVIC DIA- LOGUE ADVISORY COUNCIL.
14	LOGUE ADVISORY COUNCIL.
14 15	LOGUE ADVISORY COUNCIL. (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
14 15 16	LOGUE ADVISORY COUNCIL. (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section: (1) COUNCIL.—The term "Council" means the
14 15 16 17	LOGUE ADVISORY COUNCIL. (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section: (1) COUNCIL.—The term "Council" means the Participatory Government and Civic Dialogue Advi-
14 15 16 17 18	LOGUE ADVISORY COUNCIL. (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section: (1) COUNCIL.—The term "Council" means the Participatory Government and Civic Dialogue Advi- sory Council.
14 15 16 17 18 19	LOGUE ADVISORY COUNCIL. (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section: (1) COUNCIL.—The term "Council" means the Participatory Government and Civic Dialogue Advi- sory Council. (2) STATE.—The term "State" means—
 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 	LOGUE ADVISORY COUNCIL. (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section: (1) COUNCIL.—The term "Council" means the Participatory Government and Civic Dialogue Advi- sory Council. (2) STATE.—The term "State" means— (A) a State;
 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 	LOGUE ADVISORY COUNCIL. (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section: (1) COUNCIL.—The term "Council" means the Participatory Government and Civic Dialogue Advi- sory Council. (2) STATE.—The term "State" means— (A) a State; (B) the District of Columbia;
 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 	LOGUE ADVISORY COUNCIL. (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section: (1) COUNCIL.—The term "Council" means the Participatory Government and Civic Dialogue Advi- sory Council. (2) STATE.—The term "State" means— (A) a State; (B) the District of Columbia; (C) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

1	(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director, in coordination
2	with the Chief Customer Experience Officer of the United
3	States appointed under section 9(b), shall establish an ad-
4	visory council to be known as the "Participatory Govern-
5	ment and Civic Dialogue Advisory Council" for the pur-
6	pose of providing the recommendations described in sub-
7	section (e).
8	(c) Membership.—
9	(1) IN GENERAL.—The Council shall consist of
10	22 members appointed by the Director, of whom—
11	(A) 4 shall be representatives of a non-
12	profit organization or foundation;
13	(B) 4 shall be representatives of agencies
14	who have the responsibility to foster, or relevant
15	experience in fostering, public participation in
16	the prioritization of the policy, regulation, exe-
17	cution, or evaluation of the Federal Govern-
18	ment;
19	(C) 4 shall be representatives of a State,
20	local, Tribal, or territorial government;
21	(D) 4 shall be representatives of academic
22	or research institutions;
23	(E) 4 shall be representatives of busi-
24	nesses; and

1	(F) 2 shall be representatives of media or-
2	ganizations.
3	(2) Geographic diversity.—The Director
4	shall ensure that—
5	(A) the membership of the Council is geo-
6	graphically diverse; and
7	(B) not more than 2 of the members de-
8	scribed in subparagraphs (A) through (E) of
9	paragraph (1) represent the same State.
10	(3) TERMS; VACANCIES.—
11	(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
12	graph (C), each member of the Council shall be
13	appointed for a term of 3 years.
14	(B) TERM LIMITS.—Members of the Coun-
15	cil may be appointed for not more than 2 con-
16	secutive terms.
17	(C) INITIAL TERMS.—The terms of the ini-
18	tial members of the Council may be 1, 2, or 3
19	years in order to establish a rotation in which
20	the Director appoints $\frac{1}{3}$ of the members of the
21	Council each year.
22	(D) VACANCIES.—Any member appointed
23	to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration
24	of the term for which the member's predecessor
25	was appointed shall be appointed only for the

1	remainder of that term. A member may serve
2	after the expiration of that member's term until
3	a successor has taken office.

4 (d) MEETINGS.—The Director shall convene the5 Council not less frequently than biannually.

6 (e) DUTIES.—The Council, on a continuous basis,
7 shall provide to the Director written recommendations, in8 cluding any recommendations relating to the 2-year plan
9 required under subsection (h), that—

10 (1) focus on furthering a virtuous cycle in
11 which responsive political institutions foster a
12 healthy civic culture of participation and responsi13 bility to ensure that political institutions are respon14 sive and inclusive;

(2) evaluate, and recommend improvements for,
opportunities for active and substantive public participation in the prioritization, design, implementation, and evaluation of the policies of the Federal
Government in order to—

20 (A) enhance the quality of the policies of21 the Federal Government; and

(B) increase the legitimacy of processesand outcomes of the Federal Government;

24 (3) identify opportunities created by digital
25 platforms to—

1	(A) facilitate and enhance the interaction
2	between the public and the Federal Govern-
3	ment; and
4	(B) incorporate innovations in
5	participatory democracy gleaned from—
6	(i) agencies;
7	(ii) State, local, Tribal, and territorial
8	governments; and
9	(iii) governments across the world;
10	(4) evaluate, and recommend improvements
11	for—
12	(A) civic dialogue and debate across the
13	United States, with an emphasis on bridging
14	differences and highlighting shared values; and
15	(B) efforts to counterbalance cynical, vitri-
16	olic, and unproductive civil conversations on so-
17	cial media by finding common ground; and
18	(5) assess, and recommend improvement for,
19	the role of the Federal Government in using the con-
20	vening power and resources of the Federal Govern-
21	ment to complement—
22	(A) private and philanthropic funding;
23	(B) civic education at all educational levels
24	and structures; and
25	(C) the media.

1 (f) COMPENSATION.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Members of the Council may
3 not receive compensation for the performance of
4 services for the Council.

5 (2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Members of the 6 Council shall be allowed travel expenses, including 7 per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized 8 for employees of agencies under subchapter I of 9 chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while 10 away from their homes or regular places of business 11 in the performance of services for the Council.

(3) VOLUNTARY SERVICE PERMITTED.—Notwithstanding section 1342 of title 31, United States
Code, the Secretary may accept the voluntary and
uncompensated services of members of the Council.
(g) PERMANENCE.—Section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to
the Council.

19 (h) 2-YEAR PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
the date of enactment of this Act, the Director, in
consultation with the Council and the heads of appropriate agencies, shall submit to Congress a 2-year
plan on participatory government and civic dialogue.

1	(2) CONTENTS.—The plan required under para-
2	graph (1) shall include—
3	(A) a description of the problem relating to
4	public participation in the Federal Government
5	and civic dialogue;
6	(B) recommendations for agency and con-
7	gressional action to improve public participation
8	in the Federal Government, including—
9	(i) good practices;
10	(ii) a selection of illustrative mecha-
11	nisms for agencies that can enable agencies
12	to offer meaningful and impactful opportu-
13	nities for public participation; and
14	(iii) a list of resources available to
15	agencies to enable agencies to adopt and
16	pilot recommendations;
17	(C) recommendations for agency and con-
18	gressional action to improve civic conversation
19	in the United States, including new—
20	(i) agency programs;
21	(ii) legislative authorities; or
22	(iii) funding; and
23	(D) a description of the concrete actions
24	that agencies should take relating to the mis-

1	ginning on the date on which the plan is sub-
2	mitted under paragraph (1).
3	(3) Development and implementation.—In
4	developing and implementing the plan required
5	under paragraph (1), the Director shall take into ac-
6	count other efforts of the Federal Government to
7	improve participatory government and civic dialogue,
8	including customer experience initiatives and broader
9	Federal Government communication.
10	SEC. 15. GAO REPORTS.
11	(a) Report on Agency Efforts.—
12	(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
13	the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller
14	General of the United States shall submit to Con-
15	gress a report that includes an assessment of agency
16	efforts to enhance customer experience and improve
17	communication with the public.
18	(2) CONTENTS.—To the extent relevant infor-
19	mation is available, the report required under para-
20	graph (1) shall include the following:
21	(A) An assessment of the extent to which
22	selected agencies actively assesses public con-
23	fidence in the agency and programs of those
24	agency, including by conducting surveys, con-
25	vening focus groups, soliciting voluntary cus-

tomer feedback, making use of public data, fos-
tering public participation in the Federal Gov-
ernment, and evaluating communication tools
and strategies.
(B) An assessment of the experience of
agencies, specific sectors, such as healthcare,
and the Federal Government as a whole in im-
proving customer experience, including whether
guidance on customer experience, as of the date
of enactment of this Act, is sufficient to sup-
port the efforts of agencies.
(C) An assessment of—
(i) agencies with high-performing cus-
tomer experience, including strategies that
enable successful efforts; and
(ii) agencies that have not adopted
customer experience culture or initiatives
and the challenges those agencies faced in
that adoption.
(D) An assessment of the compliance of
agencies with requirements relating to customer
experience, digital experience, and communica-
experience, digital experience, and communica- tion (including through websites), including re-

	10
1	(i) the 21st Century Integrated Dig-
2	ital Experience Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 note);
3	and
4	(ii) other relevant authorities, includ-
5	ing this Act.
6	(E) Any other matter the Comptroller
7	General of the United States determines impor-
8	tant to assessing customer experience or en-
9	hancing confidence in agencies or the Federal
10	Government as a whole.
11	(b) Report on Best Practices.—
12	(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
13	the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller
14	General of the United States shall submit to Con-
15	gress a report that includes an examination of best
16	practices in customer experience—
17	(A) across the Federal Government; and
18	(B) in State, local, Tribal, territorial, and
19	foreign governments.
20	(2) CONTENTS.—To the extent relevant infor-
21	mation is available, the report required under para-
22	graph (1) shall include the following:
23	(A) An examination of the experience of
24	agencies with sharing, disseminating, and
25	adopting customer experience best practices

1	from other agencies and recommendations for
2	improvement.
3	(B) An examination of successful efforts
4	by State, local, and foreign governments to im-
5	prove or create high quality, integrated cus-
6	tomer experience, especially in the digital do-
7	main, in order to identify useful lessons.
8	(C) Any other matter the Comptroller Gen-
9	eral of the United States determines important
10	to assessing customer experience or enhancing
11	confidence in agencies or the Federal Govern-
12	ment as a whole.

 \bigcirc