

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3427

AN ACT

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to review all clean water-related technical assistance authorities of the Environmental Protection Agency, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Water Resources Tech-
3 nical Assistance Review Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. GAO REPORT ON CLEAN WATER TECHNICAL ASSIST-**
5 **ANCE.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
7 date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
8 of the United States shall initiate a comprehensive review
9 of all covered technical assistance.

10 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The Comptroller General shall
11 include in the review required under subsection (a) the fol-
12 lowing:

13 (1) A description of all covered technical assist-
14 ance available to States, Tribes, local governments,
15 and non-governmental organizations, including—

16 (A) the regions and populations that are
17 served through the provision of technical assist-
18 ance; and

19 (B) a summary of the activities and ac-
20 tions carried out through covered technical as-
21 sistance during the 5-year period preceding this
22 Act.

23 (2) A comprehensive review of how the Admin-
24 istrator of the Environmental Protection Agency,
25 through the Water Technical Assistance initiative
26 (known as “WaterTA initiative”), identifies, selects,

1 and partners with technical assistance providers to
2 support communities, including—

3 (A) a description of the criteria, evaluation
4 process, and contracting mechanisms used for
5 selecting such providers;

6 (B) a description of the extent of coordina-
7 tion with State, Tribal, and regional partners in
8 the selection and deployment of such providers;

9 (C) a description of how such providers are
10 matched to meet the needs of local commu-
11 nities, including any pre-engagement scoping
12 activities or community consultations;

13 (D) a description of how such providers
14 identify communities in need of technical assist-
15 ance, including economically distressed commu-
16 nities, and conduct outreach to such commu-
17 nities;

18 (E) a description of the scope and types of
19 assistance delivered through such initiative; and

20 (F) a list of communities that received
21 technical assistance support through such ini-
22 tiative, including the type and cost of assistance
23 received by each such community and a sum-
24 mary of the outcomes associated with the provi-
25 sion of such assistance.

1 (3) An analysis of any duplication of covered
2 technical assistance available through multiple pro-
3 grams of the Environmental Protection Agency.

4 (4) An evaluation of how the provision of cov-
5 ered technical assistance builds capacity in commu-
6 nities to access other water infrastructure programs
7 carried out by the Administrator.

8 (5) An assessment of the needs of economically
9 distressed communities eligible to receive assistance
10 under a clean water infrastructure program carried
11 out by the Administrator that are not addressed
12 through covered technical assistance.

13 (6) An evaluation of how the Administrator car-
14 ries out covered technical assistance in coordination
15 with other Federal agencies providing technical as-
16 sistance related to water infrastructure.

17 (7) An evaluation of how covered technical as-
18 sistance supports communities in understanding,
19 identifying, and implementing alternative and cost-
20 effective technologies and features of treatment
21 works that achieve long-term savings and improved
22 outcomes in addressing water quality challenges.

23 (c) REPORT.—Upon the completion of the review con-
24 ducted under subsection (a), the Comptroller General shall
25 submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infra-

1 structure of the House of Representatives and the Com-
2 mittee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate
3 a report containing—

4 (1) the findings of such review; and

5 (2) any recommendations to improve covered
6 technical assistance.

7 (d) PLAN FOR COMPLIANCE.—Not later than 90 days
8 after the Comptroller General submits the report required
9 under subsection (c), and annually thereafter for a period
10 of 5 years, the Administrator shall submit to the Com-
11 mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House
12 of Representatives and the Committee on Environment
13 and Public Works of the Senate a plan detailing any ac-
14 tions the Administrator has taken to comply with the rec-
15 ommendations contained in such a report.

16 (e) COVERED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE DEFINED.—
17 In this section, the term “covered technical assistance”
18 means a technical assistance authority, initiative, or pro-
19 gram of the Environmental Protection Agency that is re-
20 lated to clean water infrastructure.

Passed the House of Representatives September 15,
2025.

Attest:

Clerk.

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