

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 264

To require a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks by the Comptroller General of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 27, 2015

Mr. PAUL (for himself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BURR, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HELLER, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. KIRK, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEE, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. VITTER, Mr. PERDUE, Mrs. CAPITO, and Ms. HIRONO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

A BILL

To require a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks by the Comptroller General of the United States, 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 “Federal Reserve
5 Transparency Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUDIT REFORM AND TRANSPARENCY FOR THE**
2 **BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RE-**
3 **SERVE SYSTEM.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 714 of
5 title 31, United States Code, or any other provision of law,
6 an audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve
7 System and the Federal reserve banks under subsection
8 (b) of such section 714 shall be completed within 12
9 months of the date of enactment of this Act.

10 (b) REPORT.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—A report on the audit re-
12 quired under subsection (a) shall be submitted by
13 the Comptroller General to the Congress before the
14 end of the 90-day period beginning on the date on
15 which such audit is completed and made available to
16 the Speaker of the House, the majority and minority
17 leaders of the House of Representatives, the major-
18 ity and minority leaders of the Senate, the Chairman
19 and Ranking Member of the committee and each
20 subcommittee of jurisdiction in the House of Rep-
21 resentatives and the Senate, and any other Member
22 of Congress who requests it.

23 (2) CONTENTS.—The report under paragraph
24 (1) shall include a detailed description of the find-
25 ings and conclusion of the Comptroller General with
26 respect to the audit that is the subject of the report,

1 together with such recommendations for legislative
 2 or administrative action as the Comptroller General
 3 may determine to be appropriate.

4 (c) REPEAL OF CERTAIN LIMITATIONS.—Subsection
 5 (b) of section 714 of title 31, United States Code, is
 6 amended by striking all after “in writing.”.

7 (d) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—
 8 Section 714 of title 31, United States Code, is amended
 9 by striking subsection (f).

10 **SEC. 3. AUDIT OF LOAN FILE REVIEWS REQUIRED BY EN-**
 11 **FORCEMENT ACTIONS.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the
 13 United States shall conduct an audit of the review of loan
 14 files of homeowners in foreclosure in 2009 or 2010, re-
 15 quired as part of the enforcement actions taken by the
 16 Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
 17 against supervised financial institutions.

18 (b) CONTENT OF AUDIT.—The audit carried out pur-
 19 suant to subsection (a) shall consider, at a minimum—

20 (1) the guidance given by the Board of Gov-
 21 ernors of the Federal Reserve System to inde-
 22 pendent consultants retained by the supervised fi-
 23 nancial institutions regarding the procedures to be
 24 followed in conducting the file reviews;

1 (2) the factors considered by independent con-
2 sultants when evaluating loan files;

3 (3) the results obtained by the independent con-
4 sultants pursuant to those reviews;

5 (4) the determinations made by the independent
6 consultants regarding the nature and extent of fi-
7 nancial injury sustained by each homeowner as well
8 as the level and type of remediation offered to each
9 homeowner; and

10 (5) the specific measures taken by the inde-
11 pendent consultants to verify, confirm, or rebut the
12 assertions and representations made by supervised
13 financial institutions regarding the contents of loan
14 files and the extent of financial injury to home-
15 owners.

16 (c) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 6-month
17 period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act,
18 the Comptroller General shall issue a report to the Con-
19 gress containing all findings and determinations made in
20 carrying out the audit required under subsection (a).

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