Purpose: To require the evaluation and consolidation of duplicative green building programs.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—113th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. 2262

To promote energy savings in residential buildings and industry, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on ________________________ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by ______________

Viz:

1. On page 82, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following:

SEC. 4. EVALUATION AND CONSOLIDATION OF DUPLICATIVE GREEN BUILDING PROGRAMS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—The term “administrative expenses” has the meaning given the term by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget under section 504(b)(2) of the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (31 U.S.C. 1105 note; Public Law 111–85), except that the term shall include, for
purposes of that section and this section, with respect to an agency—

(A) costs incurred by the agency and costs incurred by grantees, subgrantees, and other recipients of funds from a grant program or other program administered by the agency; and

(B) expenses related to personnel salaries and benefits, property management, travel, program management, promotion, reviews and audits, case management, and communication about, promotion of, and outreach for programs and program activities administered by the agency.

(2) APPLICABLE PROGRAMS.—The term “applicable programs” means the programs listed in Table 9 (pages 348-350) of the report of the Government Accountability Office entitled “2012 Annual Report: Opportunities to Reduce Duplication, Overlap and Fragmentation, Achieve Savings, and Enhance Revenue”.

(3) APPROPRIATE SECRETARIES.—The term “appropriate Secretaries” means—

(A) the Secretary;

(B) the Secretary of Agriculture;

(C) the Secretary of Defense;
(D) the Secretary of Education;
(E) the Secretary of Health and Human Services;
(F) the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development;
(G) the Secretary of Transportation;
(H) the Secretary of the Treasury;
(I) the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;
(J) the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology; and
(K) the Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(4) SERVICES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the term “services” has the meaning given the term by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The term “services” shall be limited to activities, assistance, and aid that provide a direct benefit to a recipient, such as—

(i) the provision of medical care;
(ii) assistance for housing or tuition;
or
(iii) financial support (including grants and loans).

(b) Report.—

(1) In general.—Not later than October 1, 2014, the appropriate Secretaries shall submit to Congress and post on the public Internet websites of the agencies of the appropriate Secretaries a report on the outcomes of the applicable programs.

(2) Requirements.—In reporting on the outcomes of each applicable program, the appropriate Secretaries shall—

(A) determine the total administrative expenses of the applicable program;

(B) determine the expenditures for services for the applicable program;

(C) estimate the number of clients served by the applicable program and beneficiaries who received assistance under the applicable program (if applicable);

(D) estimate—

(i) the number of full-time employees who administer the applicable program; and

(ii) the number of full-time equivalents (whose salary is paid in part or full
by the Federal Government through a
grant or contract, a subaward of a grant
or contract, a cooperative agreement, or
another form of financial award or assist-
ance) who assist in administering the ap-
plicable program;

(E) describe the type of assistance the ap-
plicable program provides, such as grants, tech-
nical assistance, loans, tax credits, or tax de-
ductions;

(F) describe the type of recipient who ben-
efits from the assistance provided, such as indi-
vidual property owners or renters, local govern-
ments, businesses, nonprofit organizations, or
State governments; and

(G) identify and report on whether written
program goals are available for the applicable
program.

(c) PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than
January 1, 2015, the appropriate Secretaries shall jointly
submit to Congress a report that includes—

(1) an analysis of whether any of the applicable
programs should be eliminated or consolidated, in-
cluding any legislative changes that would be nec-
necessary to eliminate or consolidate the applicable programs; and

(2) ways to improve the applicable programs by establishing program goals or increasing collaboration so as to reduce the overlap and duplication identified in—

(A) the 2011 report of the Government Accountability Office entitled “Federal Initiatives for the NonFederal Sector Could Benefit from More Interagency Collaboration”; and

(B) the report of the Government Accountability Office entitled “2012 Annual Report: Opportunities to Reduce Duplication, Overlap and Fragmentation, Achieve Savings, and Enhance Revenue”.

(d) PROGRAM ELIMINATIONS.—Not later than January 1, 2015, the appropriate Secretaries shall—

(1) identify—

(A) which applicable programs are specifically required by law; and

(B) which applicable programs are carried out under the discretionary authority of the appropriate Secretaries;

(2) eliminate those applicable programs that are not required by law; and
(3) transfer any remaining applicable projects and nonduplicative functions into another green building program within the same agency.