

PERIODICALLY LISTING UPDATES TO  
MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2022

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R E P O R T

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND  
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
UNITED STATES SENATE

TO ACCOMPANY

S. 3650

TO REQUIRE THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF  
PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A  
PUBLIC DIRECTORY OF THE INDIVIDUALS OCCUPYING  
GOVERNMENT POLICY AND SUPPORTING POSITIONS, AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES



DECEMBER 5, 2022.—Ordered to be printed

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U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

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117TH CONGRESS }  
2d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT  
{ 117-218

PERIODICALLY LISTING UPDATES TO MANAGEMENT  
ACT OF 2022

DECEMBER 5, 2022.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and  
Governmental Affairs, submitted the following

**R E P O R T**

[To accompany S. 3650]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, to which was referred the bill (S. 3650) to require the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to establish and maintain a public directory of the individuals occupying Government policy and supporting positions, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with amendment, in the nature of substitute, and recommends that the bill, as amended, do pass.

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I. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

S. 3650, the *PLUM Act of 2022*, directs OPM, in consultation with the General Services Administration, to develop and maintain a publicly accessible website with information on senior leaders in government. The website would replace the current Plum Book, a version of a federal employee directory issued once every four years, which only captures a snapshot in time and typically contains errors such as missing positions and incorrect titles. This bill

would improve the transparency of senior government positions and provide the public with more timely and comprehensive information about political appointees.

## II. BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR THE LEGISLATION

The published list of United States Government Policy and Supporting Positions, referred to as the “Plum Book,” is the current resource available for identifying presidentially appointed or other senior positions within the federal government.<sup>1</sup> The Plum Book originated in 1952 in response to President Eisenhower’s request for list of “plum” positions he could fill at the start of his new Administration.<sup>2</sup> Since 1960, the Plum Book has been published every four years, after each presidential election.<sup>3</sup> The Plum Book lists civil service leadership and support positions, including agency heads, policy executives and advisors, and individuals who closely report to these officials.<sup>4</sup>

Specifically, the types of positions in the Plum Book include: (1) Executive Schedule and salary-equivalent positions; (2) Senior Executive Service and Senior Foreign Service positions; and (3) Schedule C or General Schedule grade 14 (GS-14) positions excepted from competitive service due to the confidential or policy-determining nature of the position duties.<sup>5</sup> The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the House Committee on Oversight and Reform alternate in publishing the Plum Book, using data requested from agencies and compiled by OPM.<sup>6</sup> The most recent Plum Book, published in December 2020, includes data on over 9,000 key positions across the legislative and executive branches of the federal government.<sup>7</sup>

Accurate and up-to-date information on political appointees and other senior leaders serving in the federal government is a critical tool for ensuring transparency. This transparency is needed to inform staffing strategies for preventing and filling vacancies across agencies as well as to enable congressional and public oversight into the federal government. However, a federal leadership directory published and updated only once every four years has significant limitations. During a March 2022 Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee hearing, Kristine Simmons, Vice President of the Partnership for Public Service, affirmed these limitations by noting that the current Plum Book is simply “a snapshot every four years” with “no possibility to correct errors.”<sup>8</sup>

At the same congressional hearing, Stanford Law Professor Anne O’Connell also flagged the value of publicly listing vacancies, as

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Government Publishing Office, United States Government Policy and Supporting Positions (Plum Book) ([www.govinfo.gov/collection/plum-book?path=/GPO/United%20States%20Government%20Policy%20and%20Supporting%20Positions%20%2528Plum%20Book%2529](http://www.govinfo.gov/collection/plum-book?path=/GPO/United%20States%20Government%20Policy%20and%20Supporting%20Positions%20%2528Plum%20Book%2529)) (accessed May 17, 2022).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*; and Amanda Patarino and Troy Cribb, *Improving the Plum Book: The Need to Modernize Information about Federal Leadership*, Partnership for Public Services Center for Presidential Transitions (blog) (Jan. 5, 2021) ([presidentialtransition.org/blog/improving-plum-book/](https://presidentialtransition.org/blog/improving-plum-book/)).

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Government Publishing Office, *supra* note 1.

<sup>4</sup> Office of Personnel Management, Facts & Figures: Plum Book ([www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/senior-executive-service/facts-figures/#url=Plum-Book](http://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/senior-executive-service/facts-figures/#url=Plum-Book)) (accessed May 16, 2022).

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Government Publishing Office, *supra* note 1.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*; and Amanda Patarino and Troy Cribb, *supra* note 2.

<sup>7</sup> House Committee on Oversight and Reform, *U.S. Government Policy and Supporting Positions—2020* (Dec. 2020).

<sup>8</sup> Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Hearing on Examining the Senate Confirmation Process and Federal Vacancies, 117th Cong. (Mar. 3, 2022) (S. Hrg. 117–XX).

“it’s important to know who’s doing what work and if that work is not getting done.”<sup>9</sup> Unfortunately, the Plum Book does not reliably list federal leadership positions that are vacant. For example, the 2020 Plum Book did not list approximately 1,100 vacant Senior Executive Service positions, which comprise around 14% of total positions in the Senior Executive Service.<sup>10</sup> Although Senior Executive Service positions are not presidentially appointed or Senate-confirmed, individuals serving in these roles hold the top managerial, supervisory, and policy positions across federal agencies and departments, classified above the GS 15 level.<sup>11</sup>

The latest Plum Book contained other errors as well, generally in the form of missing information. In the 2020 version of the Plum Book, 10 agencies are missing altogether, 12 agencies are missing in the appendix, and there are hundreds of missing key positions within agencies.<sup>12</sup> It will not be possible to correct any of the current Plum Book errors until late 2024, after the next presidential election.

Even when Plum Book information is accurate at the time of publication, it does not reflect the significant changes to the federal government’s roster that occur over the course of a President’s four-year term, including an up-to-date list of vacancies. The appointments made by Presidents fill positions in the Executive Schedule or those with equivalent pay rates.<sup>13</sup> Presidents are responsible for making political appointments for approximately 4,000 federal positions, with over 1,200 of such positions requiring Senate confirmation.<sup>14</sup> Presidential appointments that also require Senate confirmation are governed by rules and timeline requirements established in the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998.<sup>15</sup> For example, qualified individuals generally may only serve in an “acting” capacity in such vacancies for up to 210 days.<sup>16</sup> Having an accurate list of these vacancies is important both for the President and Congress to ensure adherence to the Federal Vacancy Reform Act requirements.

In 2019, a Government Accountability Office (GAO) report on federal ethics programs found: “There is no single source data on political appointees serving in the executive branch that is publicly available, comprehensive, and timely.”<sup>17</sup> The report considers the current Plum Book as one source of publicly accessible data, but concludes that the Plum Book is not timely.<sup>18</sup> GAO recommends that Congress consider legislation requiring both comprehensive

<sup>9</sup>*Id.*

<sup>10</sup>Emma Jones and Christina Condreay, *The Three Big Mistakes in the 2020 Plum Book*, Partnership for Public Services Center for Presidential Transitions (blog) (Jun. 30, 2021) ([presidentialtransition.org/blog/the-three-big-mistakes-in-the-2020-plum-book/](https://presidentialtransition.org/blog/the-three-big-mistakes-in-the-2020-plum-book/)).

<sup>11</sup>Office of Personnel Management, *Presidential Transition Guide to Federal Human Resources Management Matters: Election Year 2020* (Dec. 2020); and Office of Personnel Management, *Senior Executive Service: Overview & History* ([www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/senior-executive-service/overview-history/](https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/senior-executive-service/overview-history/)) (accessed May 16, 2022).

<sup>12</sup>Emma Jones and Christina Condreay, *supra* note 10.

<sup>13</sup>Office of Personnel Management, *Presidential Transition Guide*, *supra* note 11.

<sup>14</sup>*Biden Political Appointee Tracker*, Washington Post ([www.washingtonpost.com/politics/interactive/2020/biden-appointee-tracker/](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/interactive/2020/biden-appointee-tracker/)) (accessed May 16, 2022).

<sup>15</sup>Pub. L. 105–277, Sec. 151.

<sup>16</sup>5 U.S.C. § 3346.

<sup>17</sup>Government Accountability Office, *Federal Ethics Programs: Government-wide Political Appointee Data and Some Ethics Oversight Procedures at Interior and SBA Could Be Improved* (GAO–19–249) (Mar. 2019).

<sup>18</sup>*Id.*

and timely information on political appointees to be collected and made publicly available.<sup>19</sup>

The *PLUM Act of 2022* would act on the open GAO recommendation by replacing the Plum Book with a publicly accessible, online directory of senior government leaders.<sup>20</sup> OPM would establish and maintain this website with basic information about government positions in a manner that aligns with modern data standards. The bill would effectively modernize the current Plum Book and address the issue of timeliness, improving transparency into federal senior leadership and vacancies to benefit the presidential appointment process, congressional oversight, and accountability to the public.

### III. LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Senator Thomas Carper (D–DE) introduced S. 3650, the *PLUM Act of 2022*, on February 15, 2022, with Senator Mike Braun (R–IN) and Senator Jeff Merkley (D–OR). The bill was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Senator Tammy Duckworth (D–IL) joined as cosponsor on February 16, 2022.

The Committee considered S. 3650 at a business meeting on March 30, 2022. Senator Carper offered a substitute amendment and modification to the substitute amendment. Senator Carper’s substitute amendment and modification to the substitute amendment were adopted by voice vote *en bloc*.

The bill, as amended by the Carper modified substitute amendment, was ordered reported favorably by voice vote *en bloc*, with Senators Peters, Carper, Hassan, Sinema, Rosen, Padilla, Ossoff, Paul, Lankford, Romney, Scott, and Hawley present and with Senators Scott and Hawley recorded as “No.”

### IV. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS OF THE BILL, AS REPORTED

#### *Section 1. Short title*

This section establishes the short title of the bill as the “Periodically Listing Updates to Management Act of 2022” or the “PLUM Act of 2022.”

#### *Sec. 2. Establishment of public website on government policy and supporting positions*

Subsection (a) adds a new section 3330f to title 5, United States Code, entitled “Government policy and supporting position data.”

Subsection (a) of the new section 3330f defines the terms “agency,” “appointee,” “covered website,” “Director,” and “policy and supporting position.” “Policy and supporting position” is defined as positions that are currently included in the Plum Book and may include positions in the Executive Schedule or with equivalent rates of pay, positions in the Senior Executive Service and Senior Foreign Service, Schedule C positions of a confidential or policy-determining character, and any other positions classified at or above level GS–14 that are excepted from the competitive service due to their confidential or policy-determining nature.

<sup>19</sup>*Id.*

<sup>20</sup>*Id.*

Subsection (b) of the new section 3330f directs OPM, within one year after this bill's enactment, to establish and maintain a public website with information on each policy and supporting position in the federal government, including vacant positions. This information will include the name of each individual serving in such position or who previously served in the position. The information will also include any government-wide or agency-wide limits on the total number of positions in the Senior Executive Service or Schedule C positions, as well as the total number of individuals occupying these positions.

Subsection (c) of the new section 3330f describes the type of content OPM is directed to include on the website for each position listed. With respect to each position, the website will include: (1) the agency and agency component; (2) the name of the position; (3) the name of the individual occupying the position; (4) the geographic location of the position; (5) the pay system for the position; (6) the level, grade, or rate of pay; (7) the term or duration of the appointment; (8) the expiration date of time-limited appointments; (9) a unique identifier for each appointee; (10) whether the position is vacant; and (11) for vacant positions, the name of the acting official or official performing the duties of the position.

Subsection (d) of the new section 3330f requires OPM to indicate on the website the date that each agency last updated the data.

Subsection (e) of the new section 3330f directs OPM to ensure the data on the website is available to the public at no cost and in a searchable, sortable, downloadable, and machine-readable format so the data qualifies as an open government data asset.

Subsection (f) of the new section 3330f requires each agency to provide to OPM the relevant information about the positions listed on the website. Within one year of this bill's enactment, OPM must issue instructions to agencies with specific requirements for uploading the required information, including specific data standards, data quality assurance methods, and the timeframe for providing or uploading information. OPM will indicate on the website any agency that fails to provide complete, accurate, and reliable information during the required timeframe. The heads of agencies must upload any updated information regarding policy and supporting positions, appointees, and former appointees to the website at least once each year, starting within 90 days after the website is established. To assist agencies in carrying out these requirements, OPM will set up a central help desk. OPM will also provide information about the data collection standards, quality assurance methods, and reporting timeframes on the website.

Subsection (g) of the new section 3330f describes the responsibility of agencies in providing complete, accurate, and reliable information to OPM for the purposes of the website, including to provide OPM with an explanation and certification that the information meets this standard.

Subsection (h) of the new section 3330f directs OPM, in coordination with the White House Office of Presidential Personnel, to confirm and publish a certification on the website that the information is complete, accurate, reliable, and up-to-date. Members of the public may provide feedback regarding the accuracy of the information on the website, through a process established by OPM.

Subsection (i) of the new section 3330f requires OPM, in consultation with the Archivist of the United States and as soon as practicable after a transitional inauguration day, to archive data compiled on the website for the preceding Administration. The archived data must be publicly available online, either on the website or through a link on the website.

Subsection (b) defines the terms “agency,” “covered website,” “Director,” and “policy and policy and supporting position” in the context of this subsection. These terms have the same meaning as in the new section 3330f of title 5. This subsection directs GAO to conduct a review of the implementation of this bill. In addition, this subsection sunsets the Plum Book on January 1, 2026 and specifies that no additional funding amounts are authorized to be appropriated for this bill.

#### V. EVALUATION OF REGULATORY IMPACT

[Pursuant to the requirements of paragraph 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee has considered the regulatory impact of this bill and determined that the bill will have no regulatory impact within the meaning of the rules. The Committee agrees with the Congressional Budget Office’s statement that the bill contains no intergovernmental or private sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.]

#### VI. CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

U.S. CONGRESS,  
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,  
*Washington, DC, October 31, 2022.*

Hon. GARY C. PETERS,  
*Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs,*  
*U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for S. 3650, the PLUM Act of 2022.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Matthew Pickford.

Sincerely,

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,  
*Director.*

Enclosure.



<b>S. 3650, PLUM Act of 2022</b>			
As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on March 30, 2022			
By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2023	2023-2027	2023-2032
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	2	not estimated
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	<b>Mandate Effects</b>	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2033?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

S. 3650 would require the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to maintain the website for *United States Government Policy and Supporting Positions*, a directory often called the Plum Book that lists government positions and government policies; the print version would be discontinued in 2026. The bill also would require annual updates of the volume and would direct the Government Accountability Office to report on the website's accuracy.

The Government Publishing Office currently maintains the Plum Book's website and makes available a print version, which is revised every four years, alternately by the House Committee on Oversight and Reform and the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

CBO estimates that transferring management of the website to OPM would not have a significant net cost and that discontinuing the print version would reduce costs by an insignificant amount. CBO estimates that the cost of annual updates would be insignificant for any one agency and would total about \$2 million over the 2023–2027 period. Any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

#### VII. CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

### UNITED STATES CODE

\* \* \* \* \*

### TITLE 5—GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION AND EMPLOYEES

\* \* \* \* \*

**PART III—EMPLOYEES**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Subpart B—Employment and Retention**

\* \* \* \* \*

**CHAPTER 33—EXAMINATION, SELECTION, AND  
PLACEMENT**

\* \* \* \* \*

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**Subchapter I—Examination, Certification, and Appointment**

Sec.

3301. Definitions.

\* \* \* \* \*

3330e. Review of official personnel file of former Federal employees before rehiring.

3330f. *Government policy and supporting position data.*

\* \* \* \* \*

**Subchapter I—Examination, Certification, and Appointment**

\* \* \* \* \*

**SEC. 3330f. GOVERNMENT POLICY AND SUPPORTING POSITION DATA**

(a) *DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

(1) *AGENCY.—The term ‘agency’ means—*

(A) *any Executive agency, the United States Postal Service, and the Postal Regulatory Commission;*

(B) *the Architect of the Capitol, the Government Accountability Office, the Government Publishing Office, and the Library of Congress; and*

(C) *the Executive Office of the President and any component within that Office (including any successor component), including—*

(i) *the Council of Economic Advisors;*

(ii) *the Council on Environmental Quality;*

(iii) *the National Security Council;*

(iv) *the Office of the Vice President;*

(v) *the Office of Policy Development;*

(vi) *the Office of Administration;*

(vii) *the Office of Management and Budget;*

(viii) *the Office of the United States Trade Representative;*

(ix) *the Office of Science and Technology Policy;*

(x) *the Office of National Drug Control Policy; and*

(xi) *the White House Office, including the White House Office of Presidential Personnel.*

(2) *APPOINTEE.—The term “appointee”—*

(A) *means an individual serving in a policy and supporting position; and*

(B) includes an individual serving in such a position temporarily in an acting capacity in accordance with—

- (i) section 3345 through 3349d (commonly known as the “Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998”);
- (ii) any other statutory provision described in section 3347(a)(1); or
- (iii) a Presidential appointment described in section 3347(a)(2).

(3) Covered website.—The term “covered website” means the website established and maintained by the Director under subsection (b).

(4) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means the Director of the Office of Personnel Management.

(5) POLICY AND SUPPORTING POSITION.—The term “policy and supporting position”—

(A) means any position at an agency, as determined by the Director, that, but for this section and section 2(b)(3) of the PLUM Act of 2022, would be included in the publication entitled “United States Government Policy and Supporting Positions (commonly referred to as the “Plum Book”); and

(B) may include—

- (i) a position on any level of the Executive Schedule under subchapter II of chapter 53, or another position with an equivalent rate of pay;
- (ii) a general position (as defined in section 3132(a)(9)) in the Senior Executive service;
- (iii) a position in the Senior Foreign Service;
- (iv) a position of a confidential or policy-determining character under schedule C of subpart C of part 213 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation; and
- (v) any other position classified at or above level GS-14 of the General Schedule (or equivalent) that is excepted from the competitive service by law because of the confidential or policy-determining nature of the position duties.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF WEBSITE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the PLUM Act of 2022, the Director shall establish, and thereafter the Director shall maintain, a public website containing the following information for the President in office on the date of establishment and for each subsequent President:

(1) Each policy and supporting position in the Federal Government, including any such position that is vacant.

(2) The name of each individual who—

- (A) is serving in a position described in paragraph (1); or
- (B) previously served in a position described in such paragraph under the applicable President.

(3) Information on—

- (A) any Government-wide or agency-wide limitation on the total number of positions in the Senior Executive Service under section 3133 or 3134 or the total number of positions under schedule C of subpart C of part 213 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations; and

- (B) *the total number of individuals occupying such positions.*
- (c) **CONTENTS.**—*With respect to any policy and supporting position listed on the covered website, the Director shall include—*
- (1) *the agency, and agency component, (including the agency and bureau code used by the Office of Management and Budget) in which the position is located;*
  - (2) *the name of the position;*
  - (3) *the name of the individual occupying the position (if any);*
  - (4) *the geographic location of the position, including the city, State or province, and country;*
  - (5) *the pay system under which the position is paid;*
  - (6) *the level, grade, or rate of pay;*
  - (7) *the term or duration of the appointment (if any);*
  - (8) *the expiration date, in the case of a time-limited appointment;*
  - (9) *a unique identifier for each appointee;*
  - (10) *whether the position is vacant; and*
  - (11) *for any position that is vacant—*
    - (A) *for a position for which appointment is required to be made by the President, by an with the advice and consent of the Senate, the name of the acting official; and*
    - (B) *for other positions, the name of the official performing the duties of the vacant position.*
- (d) **CURRENT DATA.**—*For each agency, the Director shall indicate in the information on the covered website the date that the agency last updated the data.*
- (e) **FORMAT.**—*The Director shall make the data on the covered website available to the public at no cost over the internet in a searchable, sortable, downloadable, and machine-readable format so that the data qualifies as an open Government data asset, as defined in section 3502 of title 44.*
- (f) **AUTHORITY OF DIRECTOR.**—
- (1) **INFORMATION REQUIRED.**—*Each agency shall provide to the Director any information that the Director determines necessary to establish and maintain the covered website, including the information uploaded under paragraph (4).*
  - (2) **REQUIREMENTS FOR AGENCIES.**—*Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the PLUM Act of 2022, the Director shall issue instructions to agencies with specific requirements for the provision or uploading of information required under paragraph (1), including—*
    - (A) *specific data standards that an agency shall follow to ensure that the information is complete, accurate, and reliable;*
    - (B) *data quality assurance methods; and*
    - (C) *the timeframe during which an agency shall provide or upload the information, including the timeframe described under paragraph (4).*
  - (3) **PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY.**—*The Director shall identify on the covered website any agency that has failed to provide—*
    - (A) *the information required by the Director;*
    - (B) *complete, accurate, and reliable information; or*
    - (C) *the information during the timeframe specified by the Director.*

## (4) ANNUAL UPDATES.—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the covered website is established, and not less than once during each year thereafter, the head of each agency shall upload to the covered website updated information (if any) on—

- (i) the policy and supporting positions in the agency;
- (ii) the appointees occupying such positions in the agency; and
- (iii) the former appointees who served in such positions in the agency under the President then in office.

(B) *SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.*—Information provided under subparagraph (A) shall supplement, not supplant, previously provided information under that subparagraph.

(5) *OPM HELP DESK.*—The Director shall establish a central help desk, to be operated by not more than 1 full-time employee, to assist any agency with implementing this section.

(6) *COORDINATION.*—The Director may designate 1 or more agencies to participate in the development, establishment, operation, and support of the covered website. With respect to any such designation, the Director may specify the scope of the responsibilities of the agency so designated.

(7) *DATA STANDARDS AND TIMING.*—The Director shall make available on the covered website information regarding data collection standards, quality assurance methods, and time frames for reporting data to the Director.

(8) *REGULATIONS.*—The Director may prescribe regulations necessary for the administration of this section.

## (g) RESPONSIBILITY OF AGENCIES.—

(1) *PROVISION OF INFORMATION.*—Each agency shall comply with the instructions and guidance issued by the Director to carry out this section, and, upon request of the Director, shall provide appropriate assistance to the Director to ensure the successful operation of the covered website in the manner and within the timeframe specified by the Director under subsection (f)(2).

(2) *ENSURING COMPLETENESS, ACCURACY, AND RELIABILITY.*—With respect to any submission of information described in paragraph (1), the head of an agency shall include—

- (A) an explanation of how the agency ensured the information is complete, accurate, and reliable; and
- (B) a certification that the information is complete, accurate, and reliable.

## (h) INFORMATION VERIFICATION.—

## (1) CONFIRMATION.—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—On the date that is 90 days after the date on which the covered website is established, the Director, in coordination with the White House Office of Presidential Personnel, shall confirm that the information on the covered website is complete, accurate, reliable, and up-to-date.

(B) *CERTIFICATION.*—On the date on which the Director makes a confirmation under subparagraph (A), the Director shall publish on the covered website a certification that the confirmation has been made.

(2) *AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR.*—*In carrying out paragraph (1), the Director may—*

(A) *request additional information from an agency; and*

(B) *use any additional information provided to the Director or the White House Office of Presidential Personnel for the purposes of verification.*

(3) *PUBLIC COMMENT.*—*The Director shall establish a process under which members of the public may provide feedback regarding the accuracy of the information on the covered website.*

(i) *DATA ARCHIVING.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*As soon as practicable after a transitional inauguration day (as defined in section 3349a), the Director, in consultation with the Archivist of the United States, shall archive the data that was compiled on the covered website for the preceding presidential administration.*

(2) *PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.*—*The Director shall make the Data described in paragraph (1) publicly available over the internet—*

(A) *on, or through a link on, the covered website;*

(B) *at no cost; and*

(C) *in a searchable, sortable, downloadable, and machine-readable format.*