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Management and Communications

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STATUTORY
PROVISIONS
RELATING TO GAO:
FISCAL YEARS 1975 -
1990

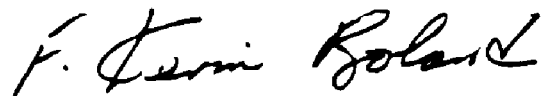


Foreword

From 1952 through 1985, the Annual Report of the Comptroller General of the United States included an appendix covering the legislation enacted during each fiscal year that related to the function and duties of the U.S. General Accounting Office. Each year, short summaries provided information on audits required of GAO, provisions for access to records, requirements to review and/or report on specified programs, or special duties assigned to the Comptroller General. The summaries also provided information on Public Law number, date, title, and statutory citations.

Beginning in 1986, the appendix on legislation relating to GAO's work was no longer included in the Comptroller General's Annual Report. For historical purposes, the Office of Information Management and Communications (OIMC) has continued the preparation of summaries of the legislative provisions. Statutory Provisions Relating to GAO: Fiscal Years 1975 - 90 offers easy access to 15 years of legislative information and includes Public Laws enacted from the 94th through the 101st Congresses. The summaries for 1975 - 85 are reprints of material previously published in the Annual Reports.

The major contributor to this publication was Judith Hatter of the Information Services Center, OIMC.



F. Kevin Boland
Director
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Management and Communications

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Abbreviations

ACIPA	American Consortium on International Public Administration
AFDC	Aid to Families With Dependent Children
AIDS	acquired immune deficiency syndrome
BLA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
CBO	Congressional Budget Office
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980
CHAMPUS	Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services
DEA	Drug Enforcement Administration
DOD	Department of Defense
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
FDIC	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
FSLIC	Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation
GAO	General Accounting Office
GSA	General Services Administration
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services
HMO	health maintenance organization
INTOSAI	International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions
IRS	Internal Revenue Service
JFMIP	Joint Financial Management Improvement Program
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NIH	National Institutes of Health
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPM	Office of Personnel Management
RTC	Resolution Trust Corporation
SBA	Small Business Administration
SEC	Securities and Exchange Commission
SEED	Support for East European Democracy
U.S.C.	United States Code
VA	Veterans Administration

Legislation Enacted During Fiscal Year 1975

Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974

Public Law 93-344, July 12, 1974, 88 Stat. 297, the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, establishes a new congressional budget process, Committees on the Budget in each House, the Congressional Budget Office, and a procedure providing congressional control over the impoundment of funds by the executive branch.

The Director of the Congressional Budget Office is authorized to obtain information, data, estimates, and statistics developed by GAO, the Library of Congress, and the Office of Technology Assessment and, upon agreement with them, to use their services, facilities, and personnel with or without reimbursement. (88 Stat. 303)

The Comptroller General's authority to review and evaluate the results of government programs and activities carried on under existing law is revised and restated in an amendment to section 204 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970.

The act requires GAO to develop and recommend to the Congress methods for reviewing and evaluating government programs and activities and authorizes establishing, within GAO, an Office of Program Review and Evaluation that may employ experts and consultants as stipulated. (88 Stat. 326)

Title VIII of the law pertaining to fiscal and budgetary information and controls revises sections 201-203 of the Legislative Reorganization Act.

The Comptroller General, singly or in cooperation with others, must perform certain functions with respect to collecting and disseminating fiscal, budgetary, and program-related information, briefly delineated as follows:

- developing standardized data processing and information systems;
- developing standard terminology, definitions, classifications, and codes;
- conducting a continuing program to identify needs of committees and members of Congress for information, assisting congressional committees in developing their information needs, and monitoring recurring reporting requirements of the Congress;
- developing an up-to-date inventory and directory of sources and information systems;
- assisting committees and members in obtaining, appraising, and analyzing information;

- developing a central file of data and information to meet recurring requirements of the Congress; and
- participating in a cooperative effort to provide information to state and local governments so that accurate and timely determinations of the impact of federal assistance can be made. (88 Stat. 327-329)

Title X of the law, which is separately titled the Impoundment Control Act of 1974, delineates the Comptroller General's role with respect to congressional consideration of proposed rescissions, reservations, and deferrals of budget authority.

Among other responsibilities, the Comptroller General is empowered, through attorneys of his own selection, to bring civil action in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to require that budget authority be made available for obligation. The Comptroller General must first submit to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate an explanatory statement of the circumstances giving rise to the action contemplated. (88 Stat. 333, 335-337)

Legal Services Corporation

Public Law 93-355, July 25, 1974, 88 Stat. 378, the Legal Services Corporation Act of 1974, adds a new title X to the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, providing for the transfer of the legal services program from the Office of Economic Opportunity to a newly established Legal Services Corporation.

The financial transactions of the Corporation for any fiscal year during which federal funds are available to finance any portion of its operations may be audited by GAO in accordance with rules and regulation prescribed by the Comptroller General. The audit results are to be made available to the Congress and to the President of the United States.

GAO representatives are provided (1) access to records necessary to facilitate the audit and (2) full facilities for verifying transactions with the balances and securities held by depositories, fiscal agents, and custodians.

The Corporation must file with the Comptroller General the report of an annual audit of the Corporation accounts, to be conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by independent certified public accountants.

The Corporation must also make annual financial audits of those receiving financial assistance and submit copies of such reports to the Comptroller General, who may inspect records pertaining to the disposition or use of funds received from the Corporation.

The Corporation and the Comptroller General may not look at any reports or records subject to the attorney-client privilege. (88 Stat. 387-388)

Waiver of Claims

Public Law 93-359, July 25, 1974, 88 Stat. 393, authorizes the waiver of claims of the United States arising from erroneous payments of pay and allowances to certain legislative branch officers and employees.

An amendment to section 5584 of title 5 of the U.S. Code extends to the Government Printing Office, the Library of Congress, the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, and the Botanic Garden the same authority vested in an executive agency head and allows the Comptroller General, in amounts aggregating more than \$500, to waive collection of erroneous payments of pay and allowances, other than transportation expenses and relocation benefits, where collection would be against equity and good conscience and not in the best interest of the government. (88 Stat. 393)

The Secretary of the Senate is authorized to waive collection of such payments made to the Vice President, a Senator, or an officer or an employee whose pay is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate if the claim is not the subject of an exception made by the Comptroller General in an accountable officer's account.

An application for waiver is to be investigated by the Financial Clerk of the Senate and the Comptroller General if the claim is for more than \$500. (88 Stat. 394)

The Speaker of the House of Representatives may waive collection of an erroneous payment made to an officer or an employee whose pay is disbursed by the Clerk of the House if the claims is not the subject of an exception made by the Comptroller General in the account of any accountable officer or official. (88 Stat. 395)

Renegotiation Act Evaluation

Public Law 93-368, August 7, 1974, 88 Stat. 420, exempts from duty certain equipment and repairs for vessels operated by or for any agency of the United States where the entries were made in connection with vessels

arriving before January 5, 1971. The law also requires that the staff of the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation, in consultation with the staffs of the Renegotiation Board, GAO, the Cost Accounting Standards Board, and the Joint Economic Committee, comprehensively study and investigate the operation and the effect of the Renegotiation Act of 1951, as amended, to determine whether the act should be extended beyond December 31, 1975, and, if so, how the administration of the act can be improved. (88 Stat. 423)

Appropriation for GAO

Public Law 93-371, August 13, 1974, 88 Stat. 424, the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1975, provides an appropriation of \$121,376,000 for GAO for salaries and expenses for fiscal year 1975, including, but not to exceed, \$4,000 for special studies of governmental financial practices and procedures (these funds are to be expended upon certification of the Comptroller General); services of experts and consultants authorized under 5 U.S.C. 3109 at rates not to exceed a per diem rate equivalent to the rate for a GS-18; the hire of one passenger motor vehicle; advance payments in foreign countries; rental of living quarters in foreign countries; and travel benefits comparable with those granted to single Agency for International Development employees.

This appropriation and appropriations for administrative expenses of any other department or agency that is a member of the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program (JFMIP) and the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum shall be available to finance an appropriate share of costs, including but not limited to the salary of the Executive Secretary, secretarial support for JFMIP, and necessary travel expenses of nonfederal Forum participants. Payments to either the Forum or JFMIP may be credited as reimbursement to any appropriation from which costs involved are initially financed. (88 Stat. 443)

Election Reform—District of Columbia Campaign Finance

Public Law 93-376, August 14, 1974, 88 Stat. 446, the District of Columbia Campaign Finance Reform and Conflict of Interest Act, establishes within the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics the office of Director of Campaign Finance.

The Board and the Director may request assistance from the Comptroller General, including audits and investigations determined to be necessary. The Comptroller General shall assist with or without reimbursement, as

agreed by the Board, the Director, and the Comptroller General. (88 Stat. 456)

Education Statistics and Information

Public Law 93-380, August 21, 1974, 88 Stat. 484, the Education Amendments of 1974, adds a new section 406 to the General Education Provisions Act, which establishes a National Center for Education Statistics to collect and disseminate statistics and other data related to education in the United States and other nations.

The Center is to participate, with other federal agencies needing educational data, in forming a consortium to provide direct joint access to all educational data received by the Center through automatic data processing.

The Library of Congress, GAO, the Senate Committees on Labor and Public Welfare and Appropriations, and the House Committees on Education and Labor and Appropriations shall be considered federal agencies for this purpose. (88 Stat. 558)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 is added to the General Education Provisions Act by a new section 438.

This section provides that no funds be made available under any applicable program to any state or local educational agency, any institution of higher education, any community college, any school, any agency offering a preschool program, or any other education institution that has a policy of permitting the release of personally identifiable student records or files without written parental consent. But, the Comptroller General; the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare; an administrative head of an education agency; or a state educational authority may look at student or other records that may be necessary in connection with the audit and the evaluation of federally supported education programs or the enforcement of federal legal requirements relating to such programs.

When the collection of personally identifiable data is specifically authorized by federal law, any data collected with respect to individual students shall not include information (including social security numbers) that will permit personal identification of such students or their parents after the data obtained have been collected. (88 Stat. 572-573)

The General Education Provisions Act is amended at section 434(a) to provide GAO, until 5 years after the project or undertaking is completed, access to records of recipients of federal funds under any applicable program that pertains to a grant, subgrant, contract, subcontract, loan, or another arrangement. (88 Stat. 568)

Housing and Community Development

Public Law 93-383, August 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 633, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, establishes a program of community development block grants.

The financial transactions of fund recipients, insofar as they relate to the community development grants, may be audited by GAO under rules and regulations prescribed by the Comptroller General, who may see records necessary to facilitate the audit. (88 Stat. 640)

Title II of the law revises and restates the United States Housing Act of 1937.

Under the act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development must (1) prepare annually and submit a budget program for wholly owned government corporations, as provided by the Government Corporation Control Act, as amended, and (2) maintain an integral set of accounts to be audited annually by GAO in accordance with the principles and procedures applicable to commercial transactions, as provided by the Government Corporation Control Act, as amended. No other audit is required. (88 Stat. 666)

Small Business Administration

Public Law 93-386, August 23, 1974, 88 Stat. 742, the Small Business Amendments of 1974, requires GAO to conduct a full-scale audit of the Small Business Administration, including all field offices, and submit the audit results to the Congress not later than 6 months from the date of the act. (88 Stat. 750)

Office of Federal Procurement Policy

Public Law 93-400, August 30, 1974, 88 Stat. 796, the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act, establishes within the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) an Office of Federal Procurement Policy to be headed by an Administrator appointed by the President of the United States with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The Administrator and personnel in the Administrator's office must furnish such information as the Comptroller General may require for the discharge of his responsibilities. For this purpose, the Comptroller General is provided access to Office records. (88 Stat. 800)

Section 206(a)(4) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 is amended to transfer from the General Services Administration to the Federal Procurement Policy Administrator authority to prescribe standardized forms and procedures, except those the Comptroller General is authorized by law to prescribe, and standard purchase specifications. (88 Stat. 800)

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

Public Law 93-404, August 31, 1974, 88 Stat. 803, the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1975, provides for a GAO audit of all financial transactions of the Trust Territory, including transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by the Trust Territory. The audit is to be made in accordance with the Budget and Accounting Act of 1921 and the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950. (88 Stat. 813)

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Public Law 93-406, September 2, 1974, 88 Stat. 829, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, establishes the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation as a wholly owned government corporation within the Department of Labor.

The financial transactions of the Corporation are subject to GAO audit under the Government Corporation Control Act. (88 Stat. 1005)

For use by the Corporation in carrying out its duties, four revolving funds are established in the U.S. Treasury in connection with (1) plans other than multiemployer plans and (2) multiemployer plans and nonbasic benefits for both types of plans. Each fund is available to pay, among other things, the operational and administrative expenses of the Corporation, including reimbursement of the expenses incurred by the Department of the Treasury in maintaining the funds and by the Comptroller General in auditing the Corporation. (88 Stat. 1010)

Grants to States

Public Law 93-415, September 7, 1974, 88 Stat. 1109, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, adds a new chapter 319 to title 18

of the U.S. Code, which establishes within the Bureau of Prisons a National Institute of Corrections.

The Institute is authorized, among other powers, to make grants and enter into contracts with federal, state, and general units of local government; public and private agencies; educational institutions; organizations; and individuals. Recipients of assistance must keep any records the Institute prescribes; the Institute and the Comptroller General may see recipients' records that are pertinent to the grants. (88 Stat. 1141)

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Education

Public Law 93-422, September 21, 1974, 88 Stat. 1154, the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Education Act Amendments of 1974, extends for 3 years the Drug Abuse Education Act of 1970 and changes its name to the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Education Act.

Section 4 of the act is amended to require that recipients of federal assistance keep records that show the amount and the disposition by the recipients of the assistance, the total cost of the project or the undertaking in connection with the assistance, the amount of that portion of the cost of the project or the undertaking supplied by other sources, and such other records as will facilitate an effective audit.

The Comptroller General is provided access, until 3 years expire after completion of the project or undertaking, to relevant recipient records. (88 Stat. 1157)

Energy Research and Development Administration and Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Public Law 93-438, October 11, 1974, 88 Stat. 1233, the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, abolishes the Atomic Energy Commission and establishes an independent executive agency, the Energy Research and Development Administration, and an independent regulatory commission to be known as the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The Comptroller General audit provision in section 166 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, is deemed applicable, respectively, to the nuclear and nonnuclear activities under title I, which establishes the Administration, and to the activities under title II, which establishes the Commission. (88 Stat. 1251)

The Comptroller General must audit, review, and evaluate, not later than 60 months after the effective date of the act, how title II provisions are

implemented. The audit report, to be prepared and submitted to the Congress, is to contain but not be limited to (1) an evaluation of the effectiveness of the licensing and the related regulatory activities of the Commission and the operations of the Office of Nuclear Safety Research and the Bureau of Nuclear Materials Security; (2) an evaluation of the effect of such Commission activities on the efficiency, the effectiveness, and the safety with which the activities licensed under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, are carried out; and (3) recommendations concerning any legislation deemed necessary for improving the implementation of title II. (88 Stat. 1251)

Election Reform—Federal Election Commission

Public Law 93-443, October 15, 1974, 88 Stat. 1263, the Federal Election Campaign Act Amendments of 1974, establishes a Federal Election Commission to which is transferred the responsibilities vested in the Comptroller General under titles I and III of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971.

The Comptroller General must continue to carry out his responsibilities under the act until all members of the Commission and its general counsel are appointed and qualified. The Comptroller General, the Secretary of the Senate, and the Clerk of the House shall then meet with the Commission and arrange for the transfer, within 30 days, of copies of appropriate records, documents, memorandums, and other papers associated with carrying out their responsibilities under titles I and III of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 and chapter 95 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. (88 Stat. 1286)

Railroad Retirement Payments

Public Law 93-445, October 16, 1974, 88 Stat. 1305, amends the Railroad Retirement Act of 1937 to revise the retirement system for employees of employers covered under it.

The Railroad Retirement Board, under the section 7 (b)(4) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1937, as amended, from time to time must certify to the Secretary of the Treasury the name and the address of each individual entitled to receive a payment, the amount of such payment, and the time when it should be made. The Secretary of the Treasury, through the Division of Disbursements Department of the Treasury and before the audit by GAO, shall make payment in accordance with the certification by the Board. (88 Stat. 1339)

Conservation Programs on Public Lands

Public Law 93-452, October 18, 1974, 88 Stat. 1369, extends and expands the authority for carrying out conservation and rehabilitation programs on military reservations and authorizes the implementation of such programs on certain public lands.

The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, in cooperation with the state agencies, must plan, develop, maintain, and coordinate programs for conserving wildlife, fish, and game.

The states may enter into cooperative agreements with the Secretaries, and under the terms of each agreement, GAO may see the records for audit and examination purposes. (88 Stat. 1371)

Bonneville Power Administration

Public Law 93-454, October 18, 1974, 88 Stat. 1376, the Federal Columbia River Transmission System Act, provides that the provisions of the Government Corporation Control Act apply to the Bonneville Power Administration in the same manner as they apply to wholly owned government corporations.

The financial transactions of the Administration are to be audited by the Comptroller General at such times and to such extent as he deems necessary, thus exempting him from an annual audit requirement. The results of each audit are to be reported to the Congress within 6-1/2 months following the end of the fiscal year covered by the audit. (88 Stat. 1380)

Accountable Officers—Relief From Liability

Public Law 93-459, October 20, 1974, 88 Stat. 1384, revises 44 U.S.C. 308, relating to the functions of the disbursing and certifying officers of the Government Printing Office.

The Comptroller General is authorized to relieve the certifying officers of liability for any payment when they based the certifications on official records; when they did not know or could not reasonably have ascertained the facts; or when the obligations were incurred in good faith, payments were not specifically contrary to a statute, and the United States received value for the payments.

The Comptroller General may also relieve certifying officers of liability for overpayment for transportation services when the overpayments were made because administrative examination made before payment did not

include verification of transportation rates, freight classifications, or land grant deductions.

The certifying officers and employees may apply for and obtain a Comptroller General decision on any question of law involved in a payment on any voucher presented to them for certification. (88 Stat. 1385)

Commodity Futures Trading Commission

Public Law 93-463, October 23, 1974, 88 Stat. 1392, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission Act of 1974, establishes a Commodity Futures Trading Commission to strengthen the regulation of futures trading.

The Comptroller General is to review and audit the Commission and, for this purpose, have access to information he requires regarding the Commission's powers, duties, organization, transactions, operations, and activities.

The reports are not to include data and information that would separately disclose the business transactions of any person or trade secrets or names of customers, although such data may be provided upon request by any committee of either House of Congress acting within the scope of its jurisdiction. (88 Stat. 1352)

National Commission on Electronic Fund Transfers

Public Law 93-495, October 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1500, increases deposit insurance from \$20,000 to \$40,000, provides full insurance for public unit deposits of \$100,000 per account, and establishes a National Commission on Electronic Fund Transfers.

The National Commission on Electronic Fund Transfers, composed of 26 members, including the Comptroller General or his delegate, must investigate and recommend appropriate administrative action and legislation necessary in connection with possible development of public or private electronic fund transfer systems. (88 Stat. 1508)

Additionally, the Comptroller General is authorized to make detailed audits of the books and records of the Commission and report the results of any such audit to the Congress. (88 Stat. 1510)

National Railroad Passenger Corporation

Public Law 93-496, October 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1526, the Amtrak Improvement Act of 1974, provides financial assistance to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation.

Section 805(2)(A) of the Rail Passenger Service Act of 1970 is amended to require the Comptroller General to annually make a performance audit of the activities and the transactions of the Corporation in accordance with generally accepted management principles and under rules and regulations prescribed by the Comptroller General. (88 Stat. 1531)

GAO may also see pertinent records of financial assistance recipients. (88 Stat. 1530)

Fire Prevention and Control

Public Law 93-498, October 29, 1974, 88 Stat. 1535, the Federal Fire Prevention Act of 1974, provides the Secretary of Commerce and the Comptroller General access to the records of recipients of contracts, grants, and other forms of assistance that are pertinent to activities under the act, for the purpose of audit or for the purpose of determining if a proposed activity is in the public interest. (88 Stat. 1548)

Joint Funding Simplification

Public Law 93-510, December 5, 1974, 88 Stat. 1604, the Joint Funding Simplification Act of 1974, provides authority to expedite procedures for considering and approving projects drawing upon more than one federal assistance program and to simplify project operating requirements.

Section 8 provides for establishing joint management funds to more effectively administer funds drawn from more than one federal program or appropriation in support of projects under the act.

The Comptroller General and the head of the federal agency responsible for administering such a fund may see the pertinent records of the recipients of money from the fund. (88 Stat. 1607)

Non-Appropriated- Fund Activities

Public Law 93-516, December 7, 1974, 88 Stat. 1617, the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1974, contains at section 211 a requirement that the Comptroller General regularly and periodically audit all non-appropriated-fund activities that receive income from vending machines on federal property.

The Comptroller General is to prescribe rules and regulations for making the audit and have access to records he deems necessary. (88 Stat. 1630)

Public Water Systems Safety

Public Law 93-523, December 16, 1974, 88 Stat. 1660, the Safe Drinking Water Act, adds a new title XIV to the Public Health Service Act concerning safety of public water systems.

Recordkeeping and inspection requirements for suppliers of water, those subject to primary drinking water regulation or an underground injection control program, those who are subject to permit or order requirements, and grantees are delineated by a new section 1445 of the act.

The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Comptroller General are provided access for audit purposes to pertinent records of grant recipients.

A fine of not more than \$5,000 may be levied for failure to comply with recordkeeping or records access requirements. (88 Stat. 1687)

Federal Paperwork Commission

Public Law 93-556, December 27, 1974, 88 Stat. 1789, establishes a Commission on Federal Paperwork to study and investigate statutes, policies, rules, regulations, procedures, and practices of the federal government relating to information gathering, processing, and dissemination and managing and controlling these activities.

The Commission is to be composed of 14 members, including the Comptroller General. (88 Stat. 1790)

Unemployment Assistance

Public Law 93-567, December 31, 1974, 88 Stat. 1845, the Emergency Jobs and Unemployment Assistance Act of 1974, establishes at title II a temporary federal program of special unemployment assistance for workers who are unemployed during a period of aggravated unemployment and who are not eligible for unemployment allowance under any other law.

Each state entering an agreement with the Secretary of Labor, pursuant to which it makes payments of special unemployment assistance, shall be paid by the United States from time to time, before audit or settlement by

GAO, such amounts as the Secretary of Labor deems necessary to carry out the provisions of title II in the state. (88 Stat. 1850)

Public Law 93-572, December 31, 1974, 88 Stat. 1869, the Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act of 1974, provides that any state whose unemployment compensation law is approved by the Secretary of Labor may enter into an agreement with the Secretary for payment of emergency unemployment compensation. The Secretary of Labor must certify to the Secretary of the Treasury the sums payable to each state. The Secretary, before audit or settlement by GAO, is to pay the state, in accordance with such certification, by transfers from the extended unemployment compensation account to the account of the state in the Unemployment Trust Fund. (88 Stat. 1871)

Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace

Public Law 93-585, January 2, 1975, 88 Stat. 1918, provides for grants to the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace, Stanford University, California, as a memorial to the late President Herbert Hoover.

Grants may be used for constructing a new educational building to be used by the Hoover Institution and for equipping the building. The Comptroller General may see the records of the Institution that are pertinent to the grant. (88 Stat. 1919)

General Accounting Office Act of 1974

Public Law 93-604, January 2, 1975, 88 Stat. 1959, the General Accounting Office Act of 1974, revises and restates certain functions of the Comptroller General.

The law has eight titles:

- Title I, Statistical Sampling Procedures in the Examination of Vouchers;
- Title II, Audit of Transportation Payments;
- Title III, Audit of Nonappropriated Fund Activities;
- Title IV, Employment of Experts and Consultants;
- Title V, General Accounting Office Building;
- Title VI, Audits of Government Corporations;
- Title VII, Revision of Annual Audit Requirements; and
- Title VIII, Limitation of Time of Claims and Demands. (88 Stat. 1959-1965)

Trade Reform Adjustment Assistance

Public Law 93-618, January 3, 1975, 88 Stat. 1978, Trade Act of 1974, provides in title II, "Relief From Injury Caused by Import Competition," for establishing several types of adjustment assistance programs and requires at section 280 that the Comptroller General make a study of the newly established programs and report the study results to the Congress no later than January 31, 1980.

The study to evaluate (1) the effectiveness of the programs in aiding workers, firms, and communities in adjusting to changed economic conditions resulting from changes in the patterns of international trade and (2) the coordination of the administration of the programs and other government programs that provide unemployment compensation and relief to depressed areas.

In carrying out his responsibilities, the Comptroller General, to the extent practical, is to avail himself of the assistance of the Departments of Labor and Commerce. The Secretaries of Labor and Commerce are to make available to the Comptroller General any assistance necessary for an effective evaluation of these programs. (88 Stat. 2040)

The Comptroller General may also see those records of recipients of adjustment assistance necessary to facilitate an effective audit. (88 Stat. 2033)

One type of assistance established by the law is adjustment assistance for workers. The Secretary of Labor must, from time to time, certify to the Secretary of the Treasury, for payment to each cooperating state, the sums necessary to enable the state, as agent of the United States, to make payments.

The Secretary of the Treasury, before audit or settlement by GAO, is to pay the State in accordance with the certification from a new trust fund, to be known as the Adjustment Assistance Trust Fund. (88 Stat. 2025)

Transportation of Government-Financed Passengers and Property

Public Law 93-623, January 3, 1975, 88 Stat. 2102, the International Air Transportation Fair Competition Practices Act of 1974, amends the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 by adding a new section 1117 requiring that preference be given to U.S. carriers when the U.S. government arranges for transporting by air personnel or property to or between foreign ports.

The Comptroller General is to disallow any expenditure from appropriated funds, for payment for such personnel or cargo transportation, to an air carrier not holding a certificate under section 401 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 unless satisfactory proof of necessity is shown. (88 Stat. 2104)

Health Planning and Resources Development

Public Law 93-641, January 4, 1975, 88 Stat. 2225, the National Health Planning and Resources Development Act of 1974, amends the Public Health Service Act to ensure the development of a national health policy and of effective state and area health planning and resources development programs.

The new title XV of the act includes three separate provisions authorizing the Comptroller General access to records for audit purposes (1) incident to the disposition of amounts received from the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare under the title and under section 1640, regarding development grants for area health services development funds (88 Stat. 2235); (2) respecting state agencies pertinent to the disposition of amounts received from the Secretary under the title (88 Stat. 2245); and (3) relative to entities receiving federal assistance. (88 Stat. 2273)

Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation

Public Law 93-642, January 4, 1975, 88 Stat. 2276, the Harry S. Truman Memorial Scholarship Act, establishes as an independent part of the executive branch the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation for the purpose of awarding scholarships to persons who demonstrate outstanding potential for and who plan to pursue a career in public service. The Comptroller General must audit the Foundation, under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe, and may see Foundation records necessary to facilitate the audit. (88 Stat. 2279)

Headstart and Native American Programs

Public Law 93-644, January 4, 1975, 88 Stat. 2291, the Headstart, Economic Opportunity, and Community Partnership Act of 1974, extends certain programs under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 and provides for increased involvement of state and local governments in antipoverty efforts.

The Headstart Follow-Through Act, which constitutes title V of the 1964 act, gives GAO access to pertinent records of recipients of financial assistance for planning, conducting, administering, and evaluating a

Headstart program for children from low-income families who have not reached the age of compulsory school attendance. (88 Stat. 2305)

A new title VIII, Native American Programs Act of 1974, is added to the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 to promote economic and social self-sufficiency of American Indians, Hawaiian Natives, and Alaskan Natives.

Recipients of financial assistance for Native American projects must let the Comptroller General see pertinent records. (88 Stat. 2326)

Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance

Public Law 93-683, January 4, 1975, 88 Stat. 2203, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, requires that each recipient of federal financial assistance from the Secretaries of the Interior or Health, Education, and Welfare keep prescribed records, including records that fully show the amount and disposition by the recipient of the proceeds of assistance, the cost of the project or the undertaking, and other records, to facilitate an effective audit.

The Comptroller General and the appropriate Secretary may see pertinent records until the expiration of 3 years after completion of the project or the undertaking. (88 Stat. 2205)

Foreign Aid Programs

Public Law 94-11, March 26, 1975, 89 Stat. 17, the Foreign Assistance and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1975, gives GAO to have access to records of the Inspector General, Foreign Assistance, unless the President certifies that he has forbidden the Inspector General to furnish the records and the reason for doing so. (89 Stat. 24)

Budget Rescission

Public Law 94-14, April 8, 1975, 89 Stat. 70, rescinds certain budget authority recommended in the message of the President of November 26, 1974 (H. Doc. 93-398). These rescissions are modified by the message of the President of January 30, 1975 (H. Doc. 94-39), and by the communication of the Comptroller General of November 6, 1974 (H. Doc. 93-391), transmitted pursuant to the Impoundment Control Act of 1974. (89 Stat. 70)

Public Law 94-15, April 8, 1975, 89 Stat. 75, rescinds certain budget authority recommended in the message of the President of January 30,

1975 (H. Doc. 94-39), and in the communications of the Comptroller General of February 7, 1975 (H. Doc. 94-46), and February 14, 1975 (H. Doc. 94-50), transmitted pursuant to the Impoundment Control Act of 1974. (89 Stat. 75)

Federal Government Travel Costs

Public Law 94-22, May 19, 1975, 89 Stat. 84, the Travel Expense Amendments Act of 1975, requires that the Administrator of General Services, in consultation with the Comptroller General, the Secretaries of Transportation and Defense, and representatives of organizations of government employees, periodically investigate the cost to employees of travel and operation of privately owned vehicles while on official business and report the results to the Congress at least once a year.

In conducting the investigations, the Administrator is to review and analyze, among other factors, depreciation of the original vehicle cost; costs of gasoline and oil (excluding taxes); costs of maintenance, accessories, parts, and tires; insurance costs; and state and federal taxes. (89 Stat. 85)

Securities Information Regulation

Public Law 94-29, June 4, 1975, 89 Stat. 97, the Securities Acts Amendments of 1975, would, among other things, facilitate the collection and the public dissemination of information concerning the holdings of and transactions in securities by institutional investment managers.

The Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is amended by adding a new subsection 13(f), requiring the Securities and Exchange Commission to consult with:

- the Comptroller General,
- OMB,
- the appropriate regulatory agencies, and
- Federal and State authorities that directly or indirectly require reports from institutional investment managers of information, national securities exchanges, and registered securities associations

in order to (1) achieve uniform, centralized reporting of information concerning the securities holdings of and transactions by or for the accounts over which institutional investment managers exercise investment discretion and (2) avoid unnecessarily duplicative reporting by,

and minimize the compliance burden on, institutional investment managers. (89 Stat. 120)

Second Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1975

Community Services Administration

Public Law 94-32, June 12, 1975, 89 Stat. 173, the Second Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1975, which appropriates \$492,400,000 for the operations of the Community Services Administration (established by Public Law 93-644, the Headstart, Economic Opportunity, and Community Partnership Act of 1974), contains (1) a proviso limiting the availability of funds for any grant until the Director has determined that the grantee is qualified to administer the funds and programs involved in the proposed grant and (2) a further proviso requiring that all grant agreements give GAO access to grantee records bearing exclusively upon the Federal grant. (89 Stat. 181)

Appropriation for GAO

This law also provides GAO an additional appropriation of \$3,613,000 for fiscal year 1975 to cover increased pay costs authorized by or pursuant to law. (89 Stat. 195)

Appropriations for GAO

Public Law 94-41, June 27, 1975, 89 Stat. 225, makes continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1976 and gives GAO amounts necessary for continuing projects and activities that were carried out in fiscal year 1975 and for which appropriations, funds, or other authority would be available in the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act for fiscal year 1976. (89 Stat. 225)

Legislation Enacted During Fiscal Year 1976

Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1976

Office of the Attending Physician

Public Law 94-59, July 25, 1975, 89 Stat. 269, the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1976, establishes in the Treasury of the United States a revolving fund for the Office of the Attending Physician into which all money received from drug sales or any other source is to be deposited. The fund is to be available without fiscal year limitation for purchasing drugs for resale by the Office.

The Office's activities are subject to GAO audit, and the audit reports are to be furnished to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, the appropriate committees of the Congress, and the Clerk of the House. The Comptroller General is provided access to such records as he deems necessary to perform the audits.

The net profit established by the GAO audit, after any impairment of capital is restored, is to be transferred to the general fund of the Treasury. (89 Stat. 284)

Appropriation for GAO

Public Law 94-59 also provides an appropriation of \$135,930,000 for GAO for salaries and expenses for fiscal year 1976, including, but not to exceed, \$5,000 for special studies of governmental financial practices and procedures (these funds are to be expended upon certification of the Comptroller General); services of experts and consultants authorized under 5 U.S.C. 3109 at rates not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent for a GS-18; hire of one passenger motor vehicle; advance payments in foreign countries; and travel benefits comparable with those granted to single employees of the Agency for International Development.

This appropriation and appropriations for administrative expenses of any other department or agency that is a member of the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program (JFMIP) and the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum shall be available to finance the appropriate share of costs, including but not limited to the salary of the Executive Secretary, secretarial support for JFMIP, and necessary travel expenses of nonfederal Forum participants. Payments to either the Forum

or JFMP may be created as reimbursements to any appropriation from which costs involved are initially financed.

For the fiscal year transition period, July 1 through September 30, 1976, an appropriation of \$35,800,000 for salaries and expenses is provided GAO, including, but not to exceed, \$1,250 to be expended on the certification of the Comptroller General for special studies of governmental financial practices and procedures. (89 Stat. 297-298)

Community Mental Health Centers Program

Public Law 94-63, July 29, 1975, 89 Stat. 304, the Special Health Revenue Sharing Act of 1975, revises and extends the health revenue-sharing program, the family planning programs, the community mental health centers program, the program for migrant health centers and community health centers, the National Health Service Corps program, and the programs for assistance for nurse training.

The Comptroller General is provided access to records for the purpose of audit of recipients of assistance relating to the community mental health centers program under section 240 of the Community Mental Health Centers Act, as amended by section 303 of this law. (89 Stat. 332)

Executive Salary Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act

Public Law 94-82, August 9, 1975, 89 Stat. 419, contains at title II the Executive Salary Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act, which provides a mechanism for cost-of-living adjustment in federal executive salaries.

The Comptroller General, the Deputy Comptroller General, and the General Counsel of GAO are included in this adjustment process by an amendment to section 203(a), (b), and (c) of the Federal Legislative Salary Act of 1964. (89 Stat. 421)

Developmental Disabilities Services and Facilities Construction

Public Law 94-103, October 4, 1975, 89 Stat. 486, the Developmentally Disabled Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, amends part A of the Developmental Disabilities Services and Facilities Construction Act to provide at section 105 for GAO access to records of recipients of developmental disabilities services and facilities construction grants. (89 Stat. 498)

Child Nutrition Program

Public Law 94-105, October 7, 1975, 89 Stat. 511, the National School Lunch Act and Child Nutrition Act of 1966 Amendments of 1975, amends section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to require that the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare establish an advisory committee to determine and recommend in detail how, using accepted scientific methods, the health benefits of the special supplemental food program for pregnant or lactating women and nutritional-risk infants may best be evaluated. The study is to consider the usefulness of the medical data collected and the methodology used by the Department of Agriculture and the Comptroller General before March 30, 1975. (89 Stat. 520)

Appropriated Fund Expenditure Prerequisite or Exemption

Public Law 94-116, October 17, 1975, 89 Stat. 581, the Department of Housing and Urban Development-Independent Agencies Appropriation Act, 1976, and Public Law 94-378, August 9, 1976, 90 Stat. 1095, the Department of Housing and Urban Development-Independent Agencies Appropriation Act, 1977, each provide that no funds appropriated by the act be expended unless such expenditure is subject to GAO audit or is specifically exempt by law from such an audit. (89 Stat. 601, 90 Stat. 1110)

John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

Public Law 94-119, October 21, 1975, 89 Stat. 608, which authorizes appropriations for services necessary to non-performing-arts functions of the John F. Kennedy Center, adds a new subsection 6(f) to the John F. Kennedy Center Act to authorize GAO to regularly review and audit the accounts of the Kennedy Center, to determine the Center's ability to pay its share of future operating costs, and to ensure that the cost-of-living formula fairly and accurately reflects the use of the building. (89 Stat. 608)

Pay Comparability for Physicians, Dentists, and Health Care Personnel

Public Law 94-123, October 22, 1975, 89 Stat. 669, the Veterans Administration Physician and Dentist Pay Comparability Act of 1975, requires that the Comptroller General report to the Congress no later than August 31, 1976, on (1) an investigation of short-term and long-term problems facing the departments and agencies in recruiting and retaining qualified physicians and dentists; (2) an evaluation of the extent to which the implementation of a uniform system of pay, allowances, and benefits for all physicians and dentists employed in departments and agencies would alleviate or solve such problems; (3) an evaluation of such other solutions to these problems deemed appropriate; and (4) alternative suggested courses of legislative or administrative action and cost estimates. (89 Stat. 673)

No later than March 1, 1977, the Comptroller General is to report to the Congress on an investigation and an analysis of recruitment and retention problems, both nationwide and geographically, of health care personnel other than physicians and dentists in the Department of Medicine and Surgery with respect to basic pay and premium and overtime rates. (89 Stat. 674)

The law delineates certain information to be included in the report on each investigation, evaluation, or analysis and specifies whom the Comptroller General should consult during these activities. (89 Stat. 673, 674, 675)

National Productivity and Quality of Working Life

Public Law 94-136, November 28, 1975, 89 Stat. 733, the National Productivity and Quality of Working Life Act of 1975, creates the National Center for Productivity and Quality of Working Life as an independent executive branch agency.

A primary function of the Center is to develop and establish a national policy for productivity growth in the public and private sectors of the United States.

The Comptroller General is to audit, review, and evaluate the Center's implementation of the act.

Not less than 30 months nor more than 36 months after the effective date of the act, the Comptroller General is to submit a report to the Congress that is to contain, but not be limited to, (1) an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Center's activities; (2) an evaluation of the effect of the Center's activities on the efficiency and the effectiveness of affected federal agencies in carrying out their assigned duties under the act; and (3) recommendations concerning any legislation deemed necessary for improving the implementation of the act. (89 Stat. 742)

Loans to New York City

Public Law 94-143, December 9, 1975, 89 Stat. 797, the New York City Seasonal Financing Act of 1975, establishes a New York City Seasonal Financing Fund to be administered by the Secretary of the Treasury for the purpose of making loans to the city or to a financing agent acting on behalf of the city concerning its financial affairs.

No loan may be made for the benefit of any state or city unless GAO is authorized to make audits, as may be deemed appropriate by either the Secretary of the Treasury or GAO, of the records and the transactions of the state or political subdivision. GAO is to report the results of any audit to the Secretary and the Congress. (89 Stat. 799)

Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1976

Senate Sergeant at Arms Lease Agreement

Public Law 94-157, December 18, 1975, 89 Stat. 826, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1976, requires GAO to examine the terms of a proposed lease by the Senate Sergeant at Arms of the North Capitol Plaza Building and report to the Senate on its reasonableness. GAO is to consider such factors as rental rates for similar space, advantages of proximity, and possible alternative arrangements. The examination is to be done before approval by the Senate. (89 Stat. 832)

Accountable Officers—Relief From Liability

Public Law 94-157 also provides that the disbursing officer of the Library of Congress disburse funds appropriated for the Congressional Budget Office (COB) and that the Library of Congress provide financial management support as may be required and mutually agreed to by the Library of Congress and COB.

All vouchers certified for payment by certifying officers of the Library of Congress must also be certified by an officer or an employee of COB who has written authority to certify payments from COB appropriations.

The Comptroller General is authorized to relieve certifying officers of liability for any payment when they based the certifications on official records; when they did not know or could not have reasonably ascertained the facts; or when the obligations were incurred in good faith, payments were not specifically contrary to a statute, and the United States received value for the payments.

The Comptroller General may also relieve certifying officers of liability for overpayment for transportation services when the overpayments were made because administrative examination made before payment did not

include verification of transportation rates, freight classifications, or land grant deductions. (89 Stat. 836)

Appropriations for GAO

Public Law 94-157 also provides GAO an additional \$1,292,000 appropriation for fiscal year 1976 for salaries and expenses. (89 Stat. 837)

Energy Policy and Conservation Act

Public Law 94-163, December 22, 1975, 89 Stat. 871, the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, has as its purpose to increase domestic energy supplies and availability, to restrain energy demand, and to prepare for energy emergencies.

Part A, Energy Data Base and Energy Information, of title V of the law provides at section 501 that the Comptroller General may conduct examinations to verify the accuracy, the reliability, and the adequacy of energy or financial information with respect to the books, the records, the papers, or other documents of:

- any person who is required to submit energy information to the Federal Energy Administration, the Department of the Interior, or the Federal Power Commission pursuant to any rule, regulation, order, or other legal process of the Administration, the Department or the Commission;
- any person engaged in the production, the processing, the refining, the transportation by pipeline, or the distribution (at other than the retail level) of energy resources (1) if the person has furnished, directly or indirectly, energy information (without regard to whether such information was furnished pursuant to legal requirements to any federal agency (other than the Internal Revenue Service) and (2) if the Comptroller General determines that such information has been or is being used or considered in whole or in part, by a federal agency in carrying out its responsibilities; or
- any vertically integrated petroleum company with respect to financial information of such company related to energy resource exploration, development, and production and the transportation, the refining, and the marketing of energy resources and energy products.

The Comptroller General shall conduct such examinations if requested to do so by any committee of the Congress having legislative or oversight responsibilities under the rules of the House of Representatives or of the Senate, with respect to energy matters or any of the laws administered by the Department, the Commission, or the Administration. (89 Stat. 956)

To carry out his authority under section 501, the Comptroller General may sign and issue subpoenas, require any person to submit information, and administer oaths. He may enter and inspect any business premise or facility. He is provided access to any energy information within the possession of any federal agency (other than the Internal Revenue Service) as is necessary to carry out his responsibilities.

Reporting requirements are delineated, and they include preparing and submitting to the Congress an annual report on the exercise of the verification examination authority. The report is to specifically identify any deficiencies in energy information or financial information reviewed by the Comptroller General and discuss any corrective action taken by the person or the company examined. (89 Stat 957-958)

Section 504 delineates penalty assessment for noncompliance with any general or special order of the Comptroller General. Through attorneys of his own selection, the Comptroller General may bring civil action in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. The section also establishes a procedure to follow in case of refusal to obey a subpoena issued by the Comptroller General. (89 Stat. 959-960)

For the purpose of developing a reliable energy data base related to producing crude oil and natural gas, the Securities and Exchange Commission is to take steps to ensure development and observance of accounting practices to be followed in preparing accounts by persons engaged, in whole or in part, in producing crude oil or natural gas in the United States.

The Securities and Exchange Commission is to consult with the Federal Energy Administration, GAO, and the Federal Power Commission concerning accounting practices to be developed. (89 Stat. 958)

Title I of the law, Matters Relating to Domestic Supply, provides for guarantee loans as incentives for developing new underground coal mines and gives GAO access to the records of loan recipients. (89 Stat. 877)

GAO also has access to the records of recipients of federal assistance concerning development and implementation of state energy conservation plans. (89 Stat. 935)

Part B, Energy Conservation Program and Consumer Products Other Than Automobiles, and Part D, Industrial Energy Conservation, of Title III,

Improving Energy Efficiency, each state that any information submitted under the part shall not be considered energy information as defined by section 11(e)(1) of the Energy Supply and Environmental Coordination Act of 1974 for purposes of any verification examination authorized by the Comptroller General under section 501 of this act. (89 Stat. 928, 938)

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

Public Law 94-165, December 23, 1975, 89 Stat. 977, the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act 1976, and Public Law 94-373, July 31, 1976, 90 Stat. 1043, the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1977, each provide for GAO audit of all financial transaction of the Trust Territory, including transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by the Trust Territory. The audit shall be made in accordance with the Budget and Accounting Act, 1921, and the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950. (89 Stat. 988, 90 Stat. 1053)

Nonnuclear Energy Information

Public Law 94-187, December 31, 1975, 89 Stat. 1063, which authorizes appropriations for the Energy Research and Development Administration, adds a new section 17 to the Federal Nonnuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974 that requires the Administrator to establish and maintain a central source of information on all energy resources and technology.

The Administrator is required, upon request, to provide the information to GAO and others when they need it to carry out their duties, but the information is not to be released to the public (89 Stat. 1075)

Public Broadcasting Corporation

Public Law 94-192, December 31, 1975, 89 Stat. 1099, which provides long-term financing for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and which is popularly called Public Broadcasting Financing Act of 1975, includes an amendment to section 396(i) of the Communications Act of 1934 requiring that officers and directors of the Corporation be available to testify before appropriate committees of the Congress concerning, among other things, reports by the Comptroller General on the audit of the financial transaction of the Corporation made pursuant to section 396(l) of the act. (89 Stat. 1100)

Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act of 1976

Public Law 94-210, February 5, 1976, 90 Stat. 31, the Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act of 1976, has as its purpose to improve the quality of rail services in the United States through regulatory reform, coordination of rail services and facilities, and rehabilitation and improvement financing.

The Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Fund is established to provide capital needed by railroads, to the extent of appropriated funds, for facilities maintenance, rehabilitation, improvements, acquisition, and such other financial uses as the Secretary of the Treasury approves.

The law also establishes an obligation guarantee fund to be administered by the Secretary as a revolving fund in connection with the guarantee of obligations used to acquire or to rehabilitate and improve facilities or equipment.

The Comptroller General is authorized to audit the operations of the Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Fund and the obligation guarantee fund in accordance with rules and regulations he may prescribe.

The Comptroller General is provided access to records necessary to facilitate an audit, including full facilities for verifying transactions with the balances or securities held by depositories, fiscal agents, and custodians.

The Comptroller General is also provided access to records of any person or entity that has entered into a financial transaction with or involving the Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Fund, the obligation guarantee fund, or the Secretary to the extent deemed necessary by the Comptroller General to facilitate an audit.

A report of each audit is to be made to the Congress. The report is to contain all information the Comptroller General deems necessary to inform the Congress of the financial operations and condition of the Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Fund and the obligation guarantee fund and any recommendations he deems advisable. The report is to describe in detail any program, expenditure, or other financial transaction or undertaking observed that the Comptroller General deems to have been carried on or made without lawful authority or that is inconsistent with the purposes and provisions of the law. (90 Stat. 81)

Title III of the Regional Rail Reorganization Act of 1973 is amended with the addition of a new section 307, which authorizes the Comptroller General to audit the programs, the activities, and the financial operations of the Consolidated Rail Corporation for any period during which (1) federal funds are being used to finance any portion of its operations or (2) federal funds have been invested. The audits are to be conducted under rules and regulations prescribed by the Comptroller General, and he is to report to the Congress at such times and to such extent as he considers necessary to keep the Congress informed of the security of federal funds and guarantees. The Comptroller General, to the extent appropriate, is to recommend how to achieve greater economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in programs, activities, and operations.

For audit purposes the Comptroller General is provided access to records belonging to or in use by the Corporation. (90 Stat. 99)

With respect to local rail service assistance, the Comptroller General is provided access to records of financial assistance recipients that pertain to the grants, the contracts, or other arrangements.

The Secretary of Transportation and the Comptroller General are to regularly conduct, or cause to be conducted, a financial audit and a performance audit. Such audits may be conducted by independent certified or licensed public accountants and management consultants approved by the Secretary and the Comptroller General. (90 Stat. 132)

Recipients of rail service continuation financial assistance are to keep records that fully disclose the amount and the disposition of the proceeds of the assistance, the total cost of the project or the undertaking for which the assistance was used, the portion of the project's cost supplied by other sources, and other records to facilitate an effective audit. GAO is provided access to the records for audit purposes. (90 Stat. 142)

Ellender Fellowship for Disadvantaged Students

Public Law 94-277, April 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 399, extends through fiscal year 1980 a program of grants for Allen J. Ellender fellowships for disadvantaged secondary school students and their teachers. The grants are to be made by the Commissioner of Education to the Close Up Foundation of Washington, D.C., to increase understanding of the federal government.

The law that established the grant program, Public Law 92-506, October 19, 1972, 86 Stat. 907, provided the Comptroller General access to records pertinent to any grant.

Medical Device Standards Contribution

Public Law 94-295, May 28, 1976, 90 Stat. 539, the Medical Device Amendments of 1976, amends the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for the safety and the effectiveness of medical devices intended for human use. A new section 514 is added to the act, which establishes performance standards for class II medical devices.

Regarding accepting an offer to develop a proposed performance standard for a device, the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare may agree to contribute to the offeror's development cost if the contribution is likely to result in a more satisfactory standard than would otherwise be developed.

The Secretary is to prescribe regulations governing development of standards by persons whose offers are accepted. These regulations are to provide, among other things, that the Secretary and the Comptroller General be given access to records relevant to the development contributions for audit purposes. (90 Stat. 550)

Appropriations for GAO

Public Law 94-303, June 1, 1976, 90 Stat. 597, the Second Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1976, provides additional appropriations of \$967,000 for GAO salaries and expenses for fiscal year 1976 and \$242,000 for the transition period July 1 through September 30, 1976. (90 Stat. 618)

GAO is also provided appropriations of \$3,352,000 for fiscal year 1976 and \$1,106,000 for the fiscal year transition period to cover increased pay costs authorized by or pursuant to law. (90 Stat. 631, 645)

Foreign Aid Programs

Public Law 94-330, June 30, 1976, 90 Stat. 771, the Foreign Assistance and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1976 and the period ending September 30, 1976, gives GAO access to records of the Inspector General, Foreign Assistance, unless the President certifies that he has forbidden the Inspector General to furnish the records and gives the reason for doing so. (90 Stat. 779-780)

Foreign Gifts

Public Law 94-350, July 12, 1976, 90 Stat. 823, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, fiscal year 1977, adds a new section 20 to Public Law 885, 84th Congress, requiring that the Comptroller General audit any gifts for foreigners involving any funds made available to meet unforeseen emergencies arising in the Diplomatic and Consular Service. He is to report to the Congress to such extent and at such times as he determines necessary.

Also, GAO is provided access to records pertaining to expenditures and necessary to facilitate the audit. (90 Stat. 827)

Antirecessionary Program

Public Law 94-369, July 22, 1976, 90 Stat. 999, the Public Works Employment Act of 1976, authorizes a local public works capital development and investment program and establishes an antirecessionary program.

Title II of the law, Antirecession Provisions, requires the Secretary of the Treasury to make payments to state and local governments to coordinate their budget-related actions with federal government efforts to stimulate economic recovery.

A statement of assurances is required before payment by the Secretary. Among the delineated items to be included in the statement is an assurance that (1) the state or the unit of local government will use fiscal, accounting, and audit procedures that conform to guidelines established by the Secretary after consultation with the Comptroller General and (2) that the Secretary and the Comptroller General will be provided access to records the Secretary may reasonably require to review compliance with the title. (90 Stat. 1006)

The Comptroller General is to investigate the impact that emergency support grants have on the operations of state and local governments and on the economy. Within 1 year after enactment, he is to report the investigation results to the Congress, together with an evaluation of the macroeconomic effect of the program and recommendations for improving the effectiveness of similar programs. (90 Stat. 1010)

The Congressional Budget Office and the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations are to conduct a study to determine the most effective means by which the federal government can stabilize the national economy during periods of rapid economic growth and high inflation

through programs directed toward state and local governments. There are requirements for coordination and consultation with the Comptroller General and for including his opinions of the study in a report to the Congress on the study results. (90 Stat. 1010)

Coastal Energy Impact Program

Public Law 94-370, July 26, 1976, 90 Stat. 1013, the Coastal Zone Management Act Amendments of 1976, provides that the Secretary of Commerce administer and coordinate a coastal energy impact program consisting of financial assistance in the form of grants, loans, and guarantees. The program's purpose is to meet the needs of coastal States and local governments resulting from specified activities involving energy development.

The Comptroller General is provided access for audit purposes to pertinent documents until 3 years after completion of programs for which grants were made or repayment of loans or guarantees of indebtedness for which financial assistance was provided. (90 Stat. 1030)

Commerce Department—Ship Construction

Public Law 94-372, July 31, 1976, 90 Stat. 1042, the Negotiated Shipbuilding Contracting Act of 1976, extends to June 30, 1979, a provision in section 502 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, to permit the Secretary of Commerce to accept a price for ship construction that has been negotiated between a shipyard and a proposed ship purchaser if, among other things, the shipyard agrees that the Comptroller General shall, for 3 years after final payment, have access to records of the shipyard or any of its subcontractors related to negotiating or performing any such contract. (90 Stat. 1042)

Energy Conservation and Production

Public Law 94-385, August 14, 1976, 90 Stat. 1125, the Energy Conservation and Production Act, provides in title I, the Federal Energy Administration Act Amendments of 1976, for an Office of Energy Information and Analysis within the Federal Energy Administration, which is to establish a National Energy Information System. The Office's procedures and methodology are to be subject to an annual performance audit review by a professional audit review team. The chairman of the team is to be designated by the Comptroller General. (90 Stat. 1138)

Title IV of the Energy Conservation in Existing Buildings Act of 1976 provides for grants to states and Indian tribal organizations for financial

assistance in connection with projects for the weatherizing of dwelling units, particularly where elderly or handicapped low-income persons reside.

The Comptroller General is provided access to pertinent records of any projects receiving financial assistance. (90 Stat. 1156)

Title IV also provides for the guarantee of loans, notes, bonds, or other obligations incident to energy conservation and renewable resources.

The Federal Energy Administrator is required to consult with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Comptroller General incident to terms and conditions for terminating a guarantee and assurances necessary to reasonably protect the interests of the United States when a guarantee is issued.

The Comptroller General is provided access to records of federal assistance recipients. (90 Stat. 1166)

For each fiscal year ending before October 1, 1979, the Comptroller General is to report to the Congress on the activities of the Federal Energy Administrator and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under title IV and amendments to other statutes made by this title.

Each report submitted by the Comptroller General is to include the following:

- an accounting, by state, of expenditures of federal funds under each program authorized;
- an estimate of the energy savings that have resulted;
- an evaluation of the effectiveness of the programs in conserving energy or a determination of renewable resource potential available in the sectors and regions affected;
- a review of the extent and the effectiveness of compliance-monitoring of programs and any evidence as to the occurrence of fraud; and
- recommendations on improvements in the program administration and additional legislation needed to achieve the title's purpose. (90 Stat. 1168-1169)

District of Columbia Government Financial Condition

Public Law 94-399, September 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1205, provides for an independent audit of the financial condition of the government of the District of Columbia.

A temporary Commission on Financial Oversight of the District of Columbia is established to select, after consultation with the Comptroller General, persons for developing certain enumerated plans to improve the financial planning, reporting, and control system of the District of Columbia government.

The Commission is authorized to use, on a reimbursable basis, GAO services and personnel to help it carry out its functions under the act. (90 Stat. 1205)

The Comptroller General is to have full access to all documents produced under each contract entered into for developing of a system improvement plan.

Contractors are required to report to the Commission and the Comptroller General on progress in completing the contracts.

In the case of systems design plans, procedures are stipulated for submission of the plans to the Comptroller General for approval, disapproval, or modification and for the Comptroller General to submit the approved, disapproved, or modified plans to the Congress for consideration and action.

The Comptroller General is to monitor the implementation of the plans so approved and report as he deems appropriate to the Commission. (90 Stat. 1206-1208)

The Commission is authorized to have undertaken by a certified public accountant licensed in the District of Columbia a balance sheet audit of the District's financial position.

The audit is to cover the financial position of the District of Columbia as of September 30, 1977, unless the Commission, on or before August 1, 1977, is notified by the Comptroller General that such an audit as of that date is not practicable. The audit is then to be undertaken as of the date recommended by the Comptroller General.

The Commission is also authorized to have undertaken an audit of the financial position and results of operations of the District of Columbia for each fiscal year or years following September 30, 1977, or the date recommended by the Comptroller General for conducting a balance sheet audit.

The results of each audit are to be submitted to the Congress, the President of the United States, the D.C. City Council and the mayor, and the Comptroller General.

The mayor is to select, with the advice and consent of the D.C. Council, a qualified person to conduct audits for the fiscal years commencing October 1, 1979, and the next following 3 fiscal years.

The Comptroller General, among others, is also to receive these reports of these audits. (90 Stat. 1208-1209)

An appropriation is authorized for reimbursing the Comptroller General for services and personnel provided to assist the Commission carry out its functions. No funds appropriated may be used for any payment as reimbursement to GAO or for Commission expenses in an amount greater than 50 percent of the total amount of any such payment. (90 Stat. 1209)

The Commission is to terminate 30 days after notification by the Comptroller General to the Commission of the completion and implementation of all plans and designs or 30 days after final payment of all contracts entered, whichever occurs last. (90 Stat. 1210)

Land and Water Conservation

Public Law 94-422, September 28, 1976, 90 Stat. 1313, amends the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended, to establish the National Historic Preservation Fund and, for other purposes, modifies in several respects section 6 of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, which pertains to the allocation of funds by the Interior Secretary for planning, acquiring, and developing outdoor recreation lands. But the new law continues the Comptroller General's authority to have access to records of recipients of assistance under the act. (90 Stat. 1317)

Financial Assistance for Olympic Winter Games

Public Law 94-427, September 28, 1976, 90 Stat. 1336, the Olympic Winter Games Authorization Act of 1976, authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to provide grants to the Lake Placid 1980 Olympic Games, Inc., or state, local, or other governmental agencies for helping to plan, design,

construct, or improve winter game facilities in connection with the 1980 Olympic Winter Games to be held in Lake Placid, New York.

The Comptroller General is to have access to relevant records of financial assistance recipients for 3 years after completion of a facility project. (90 Stat. 1338)

Urban Indian Health Services

Public Law 94-437, September 30, 1976, 90 Stat. 1400, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, provides at title V for establishment of programs in urban areas to make health services more accessible to the urban Indians.

Contracts are to be awarded to urban Indian organizations for this purpose by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare acting through the Indian Health Service.

For each fiscal year during which an urban Indian organization receives or expends funds pursuant to a contract under this title, the organization is to report certain delineated information to the Secretary. The reports and records of the organization concerning the contract shall be subject to audit by the Secretary and the Comptroller General. (90 Stat. 1412)

Legislation Enacted During Fiscal Year 1977

Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1977

Accountable Officers—Relief From Liability

Public Law 94-440, October 1, 1976, 90 Stat. 1439, the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1977, and Public Law 95-94, August 5, 1977, 91 Stat. 653, the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1978, contain identical provisions that the disbursing officer of the Library of Congress disburse funds appropriated for the Congressional Budget Office (COB) and that the Library of Congress provide required financial management support as agreed to by the Librarian of Congress and the Director of COB.

All vouchers certified for payment by Library of Congress certifying officers must also be certified by a COB employee who has written authority to certify payments from COB appropriations.

The Comptroller General is authorized to relieve the certifying officers of liability for any payment when they based the certifications on official records; when they did not know or could not have reasonably ascertained the facts; or when the obligations were incurred in good faith, the payments were not specifically contrary to a statute, and the United States received value for the payments.

The Comptroller General also may relieve certifying officers of liability for overpayment for transportation services when the overpayments were made because the administrative examinations made before payment did not include verification of transportation rates, freight classifications, or land grant deductions. (90 Stat. 1458, 91 Stat. 678)

Appropriations for the GAO

In addition, Public Law 94-440 appropriated \$150,580,000 for GAO salaries and expenses for fiscal year 1977, including, but not to exceed, \$5,000 for special studies of governmental financial practices and procedures (these funds are to be expended upon certification of the Comptroller General); services of experts and consultants authorized under 5 U.S.C. 3109 at rates not to exceed the per diem equivalent to the rate for a GS-18; the hire of one passenger motor vehicle; advance payments in foreign countries; and travel benefits comparable with those granted to single employees of the Agency for International Development.

This appropriation and the appropriations for administrative expenses of any other department or agency that is a member of the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program (JFMIP), the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum, or the Regional Intergovernmental Audit Forum shall be available to finance its appropriate share of costs, including but not limited to the salary of the Executive Secretary, secretarial support for JFMIP, and necessary travel expenses of nonfederal Forum participants. Payments to either the Forum or JFMIP may be credited as reimbursements to any appropriation from which costs involved are initially financed. (90 Stat. 1460, 91 Stat. 680)

Foreign Aid Programs

Public Law 94-441, October 1, 1976, 90 Stat. 1465, the Foreign Assistance and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1977, gives GAO access to records of the Inspector General, Foreign Assistance, unless the President certifies that he has forbidden the Inspector General to furnish the records and gives the reason for doing so. (90 Stat. 1472)

Unemployment Assistance

Public Law 94-444, October 1, 1976, 90 Stat. 1476, the Emergency Jobs Programs Extension Act of 1976, amends the Emergency Jobs and Unemployment Assistance Act of 1974 to add a new Part B, Reimbursement for Unemployment Benefits Paid on Basis of Public Service Employment.

The new part provides that the United States pay each state an amount bearing the same ratio to the total amount of compensation paid an individual for weeks of unemployment that begin on or after January 1, 1976, as the amount of the public service wages included in the individual's base-period wages bears to the total amount of the individual's base-period wages.

The Secretary of Labor must certify to the Secretary of the Treasury the sum payable to each state. In accordance with the certification, the Secretary of the Treasury is to pay the state before audit and settlement by GAO. (90 Stat. 1481)

U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home

Public Law 94-454, October 2, 1976, 90 Stat. 1518, provides for additional income for the U.S. Soldier's and Airmen's Home by requiring the home's Board of Commissioners to collect a fee from its members and by increasing deductions from the pay of enlisted men and warrant officers.

The law also requires the Comptroller General to study the home's operations to determine its short-term and long-term financial needs, appropriate functions, and operating efficiency. The study's results, together with comments and recommendations deemed appropriate, were transmitted to the Senate and House Committees on Armed Services on August 1, 1977. (90 Stat. 1518-1519)

Tax Reform Act of 1976

Public Law 94-455, October 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1520, the Tax Reform Act of 1976, amends section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, which relates to publicity of tax returns and disclosure of information as to persons filing tax returns. The new law establishes a procedure for inspecting and disclosing returns and return information to GAO for purposes of and to the extent necessary in auditing the Internal Revenue Service or the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, which may be required by section 117 of the Budget and Accounting Procedures Act of 1950. The Joint Committee on Taxation must receive prior notification of the audit and may disapprove it by a two-thirds vote. (90 Stat. 1677)

As conditions of receiving returns and return information certain enumerated safeguards are to be instituted by GAO and others to protect the confidentiality of returns and, reports are to be furnished describing these safeguards. Also, procedures are established for returning the information or rendering it undisclosable. (90 Stat. 1683-1684)

The Comptroller General may audit these procedures and safeguards to determine whether they meet the requirements and ensure confidentiality. The Secretary of the Treasury must be notified before any such audit is conducted.

The Comptroller General is to maintain a permanent system of standardized records and accountings of returns and return information that GAO inspects and to furnish certain enumerated reports. (90 Stat. 1684)

Health Maintenance Organization Evaluation

Public Law 94-460, October 8, 1976, 90 Stat. 1945, the Health Maintenance Organization Amendments of 1976, amends section 1314 of the Health Maintenance Organization Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-222, Dec. 29, 1973, 87 Stat. 914), which requires the Comptroller General to evaluate certain health maintenance organizations' (HMO) operations. The amendment reduces the number of HMOs to be evaluated to 10 or half (whichever is greater) of the HMOs that receive federal assistance and have qualified

under section 1310 of the 1973 act by December 31, 1976. The evaluation results are to be reported to the Congress by June 30, 1978. (90 Stat. 1954)

National Sea Grant Program

Public Law 94-461, October 8, 1976, 90 Stat. 1961, the Sea Grant Program Improvement Act of 1976, amends the National Sea Grant College and Program Act of 1966, title II of the Marine Resources and Engineering Development Act of 1966, to require the Secretary of Commerce to maintain within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration a national sea grant program. The Secretary is also authorized to make grants and enter into contracts to assist any sea grant program or project if the objectives of the national program will be achieved and the program or the project will be responsive to needs and problems of individual states or regions. The Comptroller General has access, for audit purposes, to pertinent records of grantees or contractors. (90 Stat. 1965)

Environmental Protection Agency Indemnification

Public Law 94-469, October 11, 1976, 90 Stat. 2003, the Toxic Substances Control Act, requires the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to study all federal laws he administers to determine whether and under what conditions indemnification should be accorded any person as a result of any action taken by the Administrator under any such law. The resulting report to the Congress is to estimate the probable cost of any indemnification programs recommended and examine all viable means of financing the cost.

GAO is to review the adequacy of the study and report the results to the Congress. (90 Stat. 2046)

Higher Education Insured Loan Program

Public Law 94-482, October 12, 1976, 90 Stat. 2081, the Education Amendments of 1976, amends Part B of Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, which concerns federal, state, and private programs of low-interest insured loans to students in institutions of higher education.

An amendment to section 432(b)(2) requires that GAO annually audit, in accordance with the principles and procedures of the Government Corporation Control Act, the accounts maintained by the Commission of Education concerning insurance under part B, including the settlement of insurance claims and claims for payment relating to student interest cost subsidies, related transactions, and vouchers approved by the Commissioner for such transactions. (90 Stat. 2128)

Health Research Facilities Construction

Public Law 94-484, October 12, 1976, 90 Stat. 2243, the Health Professions Educational Assistance Act of 1976, amends part A of title VII of the Public Health Service Act, which provides for grants, loans, loan guarantees, or interest subsidies for constructing health research facilities. Each entity that receives a grant, a loan, a loan guarantee, or an interest subsidy or enters into a contract with the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare must establish and maintain certain records and provide an annual financial audit for disposition or use of funds received under the grant or the contract. GAO is provided access to records of each entity. (90 Stat. 2249)

Revenue Sharing

Public Law 94-488, October 13, 1976, 90 Stat. 2341, the State and Local Fiscal Assistance Amendments of 1976, extends and amends the State and Local Fiscal Assistance Act of 1972. The law restates the requirement that the Comptroller General review the work done by the Secretary of the Treasury, the state governments, and the units of local government as may be necessary for the Congress to evaluate compliance and operation incident to allocation and payment of funds. (90 Stat. 2355)

Crime Control Act of 1976

Public Law 94-503, October 15, 1976, 90 Stat. 2407, the Crime Control Act of 1976, requires the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice to survey existing and future needs in the nation's correctional facilities and the adequacy of federal, state, and local programs to meet them. The survey is to determine how anticipated sentencing reforms, such as mandatory minimum sentences, will affect such needs.

In conducting the survey, the Director of the Institute is to make maximum use of statistical and related information of the Departments of Labor and of Health, Education, and Welfare; GAO; federal, state, and local criminal justice agencies; and other appropriate public and private agencies. (90 Stat. 2417)

The law also adds a new section 309 to the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize the Attorney General to provide assistance and make grants to states whose plans to improve their antitrust enforcement capabilities have been approved. The Comptroller General is provided access to grant recipients' records for audit purposes. (90 Stat. 2416)

Health, Education, and Welfare Inspector General

Public Law 94-505, October 15, 1976, 90 Stat. 2429, which authorizes conveyance of U.S. interests in certain lands in Salt Lake County, Utah, to Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children, also provides in title II for establishing an Office of Inspector General in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

The Inspector General is to give particular regard to the activities of the Comptroller General so as to avoid duplication and ensure effective coordination and cooperation. (90 Stat. 2431)

Information and records requested by the Inspector General that are not considered available under 5 U.S.C. 552a(b)(1), (3), or (7), the Privacy Act of 1974, are considered to be available to the Inspector General in the same manner and to the same extent as they would be available to the Comptroller General. (90 Stat. 2433)

The definition of "federal agency," for purposes of this act, does not include GAO. (90 Stat. 2434)

Federal Surplus Personal Property Donation

Public Law 94-519, October 17, 1976, 90 Stat. 2451, amends the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to permit donating federal surplus personal property to state and local organizations for public purposes. Not later than 30 months after the effective date of the act and biennially thereafter, both the Administrator of General Services and the Comptroller General are to transmit to the Congress reports that cover the 2-year period from the effective date; contain a full independent evaluation of operations under this act; and describe:

- the extent to which the act's objectives have been fulfilled,
- how the needs served by previous federal personal property programs have been met,
- the degree to which distributing surplus property has met the relative needs of the various public agencies and other eligible institutions, and
- such recommendations as the Administrator and the Comptroller General consider necessary or desirable. (90 Stat. 2457)

Presidential Protective Assistance

Public Law 94-524, October 17, 1976, 90 Stat. 2475, the Presidential Protection Assistance Act of 1976, establishes procedures and regulations for certain protective services the U.S. Secret Services provides.

Expenditures made pursuant to the act are subject to audit by the Comptroller General, who has access to all expenditure records.

Any audit results are to be reported to the Senate and House Committees on Appropriations and on the Judiciary, the House Committee on Government Operations, and the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs. (90 Stat. 2477)

When full-time security terminates at a nongovernment property, all improvements and other items must be removed unless the Secret Service Director determines it is not economically feasible to do so. Regardless of such a determination, improvements and other items shall be removed at the property owner's request. If they are not removed at the time of termination, the property owner shall compensate the government for the original cost of the improvements or other items or the amount by which they have increased the property's fair market value, as determined by GAO, whichever is less. (90 Stat. 2476)

Copyright Royalty Tribunal

Public Law 94-553, October 19, 1976, 90 Stat. 2541, for the general revision of the Copyright Law, title 17 of the U.S. Code, provides at 17 U.S.C. 806 for the Library of Congress to give administrative support to the Copyright Royalty Tribunal, created as an independent entity in the legislative branch to make determinations concerning adjustment of copyright royalty rates. The Library of Congress is authorized to disburse funds for the Tribunal under regulations prescribed jointly by the Librarian of Congress and the Tribunal and approved by the Comptroller General. (90 Stat. 2598)

Judicial Survivor Annuity Reform

Public Law 94-554, October 19, 1976, 90 Stat. 2603, the Judicial Survivors' Annuities Reform Act, reforms and updates the existing program for providing annuities to survivors of federal justices and judges. Every judicial official who files a written notification of intention to come within the purview of 28 U.S.C. 376 is deemed to consent to a deduction equal to 4.5 percent of his or her salary.

In accordance with procedures prescribed by the Comptroller General, these deductions are deposited into the Treasury of the United States and credited to the Judicial Survivors' Annuities Fund for paying annuities, refunds, and allowances. Amounts matching these deductions are also to be deposited to the credit of the fund, in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Comptroller General. (90 Stat. 2604, 2605)

Veterans' Health Care Travel Costs

Public Law 94-581, October 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2842, the Veterans Omnibus Health Care Act of 1976, provides that the Administrator of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Administrator of General Services, the Secretary of Transportation, the Comptroller General, and representatives of veterans organizations, periodically investigate the actual cost (including lodging and subsistence) of beneficiaries' travel to or from a Veterans Administration facility or other place in connection with vocational rehabilitation, counseling, examination, treatment, or care. The Administrator shall also estimate the cost of alternative modes of travel, including public transportation and privately owned vehicles. (90 Stat. 2842)

United States Grain Standards Act of 1976

Public Law 94-582, October 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2867, the United States Grain Standards Act of 1976, has been enacted to improve the grain inspection and weighing system. To provide the Congress information to use in evaluating the needs of the grain inspection and weighing system at points in the United States other than export ports, the Administrator of the Federal Grain Inspection Service, the Director of the Office of Investigations of the Department of Agriculture, and the Comptroller General are to investigate grain inspection and weighing in the interior of the United States.

The Office of Investigations and the Federal Grain Inspection Service are to submit their reports to the House Committee on Agriculture, the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, and the Comptroller General not later than 18 months after the effective date of the act.

The Comptroller General, in making his investigations, is to (1) assess the present grain inspection and weighing system in the United States and (2) evaluate the reports the Director of the Office of Investigations and the Administrator of the Federal Grain Inspection Service submit. The Comptroller General is to submit a report on the investigation and his recommendations for changes in the U.S. Grain Standards Act to the Agriculture Committees not later than 2 years after the effective date of the act. (90 Stat. 2874)

The law provides that a state agency may perform official inspections at ports. Before delegating this authority to the state agency, the Administrator of the Federal Grain Inspection Service shall determine if the agency is qualified.

During his investigation, the Administrator is to consult with officials and review the available files of the Department of Justice, the Office of Investigations of the Department of Agriculture, and GAO. (90 Stat. 2871)

Every official agency and every person licensed to inspect, weigh, or supervise weighing functions is to maintain samples of officially inspected grain and records required for administering and enforcing the act. The records are available to the Comptroller General to review or copy at all reasonable times. (90 Stat. 2882)

Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1977

Claims and Judgments

Public Law 95-26, May 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 96, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1977, contains an amendment to section 1302 of the Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1957, 31 U.S.C. 724a, pertaining to the authority of the Comptroller General to pay adjudicated and financially certified claims against the federal government. The amendment establishes a permanent, indefinite appropriation for payment of approved claims and judgments. (91 Stat. 96-97)

Appropriations for the GAO

Public Law 95-26 also provides GAO with additional appropriations of \$6,509,500 for fiscal year 1977 to cover increased pay costs authorized by or pursuant to law. (91 Stat. 97)

San Luis Unit Task Force

Public Law 95-46, June 15, 1977, 91 Stat. 225, which authorizes appropriations for continuing the construction of distribution systems and drains on the San Luis unit, Central Valley project, California, provides for the Secretary of the Interior to establish a task force to review the management, the organization, and the operations of the San Luis unit, to determine the extent to which they conform to the purposes and the intent of the authorizing legislation. The Comptroller General is a statutory member of the task force, which is required to submit a comprehensive report to the Chairman of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources no later than January 1, 1978. (91 Stat. 225)

Executive Schedule Pay Comparability Adjustment

Public Law 95-66, July 11, 1977, 91 Stat. 270, provides that salaries for certain positions and individuals (including the Comptroller General, the Deputy Comptroller General, and the General Counsel of GAO), which were increased as a result of the Federal Salary Act of 1967, not be increased by the first comparability pay adjustment occurring after the enactment date of the law. (91 Stat. 270)

Pacific Island Trust Territory and Northern Mariana Islands

Public Law 95-74, July 26, 1977, 91 Stat. 285, the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1978, provides for GAO audits of all financial transactions of the Trust Territory and the Northern Mariana Islands government, including transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by the Trust Territory and the Northern Mariana government. The audit shall be made in accordance with the Budget and Accounting Act, 1921, and the Accounting and Audit Act of 1950. (91 Stat. 295)

Independent Regulatory Agency Information

Public Law 95-87, August 3, 1977, 91 Stat. 445, the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, title II, establishes the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement within the Department of the Interior which shall, among other things, administer the programs for controlling surface coal-mining operations required by the law. The Office is to be considered an independent federal regulatory agency for purposes of 44 U.S.C. 3502 and 3512. (91 Stat. 450)

Section 3512 requires the Comptroller General to review the collection of information required by independent regulatory agencies, to avoid the duplication of their efforts, and to minimize the burden on business enterprise and other persons. Before collecting information, independent regulatory agencies must submit to the Comptroller General plans or forms, to determine the availability of information required from other federal sources.

Department of Energy Organization Act

Public Law 95-91, August 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 565, the Department of Energy Organization Act, established a Department of Energy in the executive branch by reorganizing energy functions within the federal government to ensure a coordinated national energy policy. Section 207 of the law states that the functions of the Comptroller General under section 12 of the Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-275, May 7, 1974) shall apply to monitoring and evaluating all Department functions

and activities under this act or any other act the Department administers. (91 Stat. 574) These functions include:

- reporting to the Congress on studies of existing statutes and regulations governing the Department's program;
- reviewing Department policies and practices;
- evaluating particular projects and programs; and
- reviewing and evaluating procedures followed in gathering, analyzing, and interpreting energy statistics, data, and information related to managing and conserving energy, including, but not limited to, data relating to energy costs, supply, demand, industry structure, and environmental impact.

The Department of Energy Organization Act also provides for establishing an Office of Inspector General within the Department. Among other things, the Inspector General is to supervise, coordinate, and provide policy direction for auditing and investigative activities to promote economic and efficient administration or to prevent or detect fraud and abuse in Department programs and operations. Section 208(b)(5) requires the Inspector General to coordinate his actions with those of the Comptroller General, to avoid duplication. (91 Stat. 576)

Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1978

Accountable Officers—Relief From Liability

Public Law 95-94, August 5, 1977, 91 Stat. 653, the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1978, and Public Law 94-440, October 1, 1976, 90 Stat. 1439, the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1977, contain identical provisions regarding the disbursing officer of the Library of Congress and the disbursement of funds appropriated for the Congressional Budget Office and relief from liability for overpayment. (91 Stat. 678)

Appropriations for the GAO

In addition, Public Law 95-94 appropriates \$167 million for GAO salaries and expenses for fiscal year 1978, including, but not to exceed, \$5,000 for special studies of governmental financial practices and procedures (these funds are to be expended upon certification of the Comptroller General), services of experts and consultants authorized under 5 U.S.C. 3109 at rates

not to exceed the per diem equivalent for a GS-18, hire of one passenger motor vehicle, advance payments in foreign countries, and travel benefits comparable with those granted to single employees of the Agency for International Development. (91 Stat. 680)

Agriculture Research and Education Grants

Public Law 95-113, September 29, 1977, 91 Stat. 913, the Food and Agricultural Act of 1977, is intended to provide price and income protection for farmers and assure consumers of an abundance of food and fiber at reasonable prices. It contains the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Act of 1977 at title XIV. Subtitle C, Agricultural Research and Education Grants and Fellowships, contains an amendment to section 2 of Public Law 89-106, August 4, 1965, 79 Stat. 431, which establishes within the Department of Agriculture a research grant program to promote research in food, agriculture, and related areas.

The amendment expands the Secretary of Agriculture's authority to make grants and restates the Comptroller General's authority to obtain access to grantees records for audit. (91 Stat. 993)

Legislation Enacted During Fiscal Year 1978

Appropriated Funds Expenditure Prerequisites or Exemption

Public Law 95-119, October 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 1073, and Public Law 95-392, September 30, 1978, 92 Stat. 791, the Department of Housing and Urban Development—Independent Agencies Appropriation Act, 1978 and 1979, provides that funds appropriated by the act may be expended unless such expenditure is subject to GAO audit by or is specifically exempt by law from such an audit. (91 Stat. 1089, 92 Stat. 806)

IRS and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

Public Law 95-125, October 7, 1977, 91 Stat. 1104, amends the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950 by adding a new subsection 117(d) to provide for independent audit by the Comptroller General of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms of the Department of the Treasury.

The Comptroller General is required to make reports to the Congress, as frequently as may be practicable, on the audit results. In addition, annual written reports are to be submitted to various congressional committees. These reports are to include (1) procedures and requirements that GAO, the IRS, and the Bureau have established for protecting the confidentiality of tax returns and tax return information made available to the Comptroller General under this subsection; (2) the scope and subject matter of any audit; and (3) any findings, conclusions, or recommendations developed. (91 Stat. 1104-1105)

Medicare-Medicaid Antifraud and Abuse Amendments

Public Law 95-143, October 25, 1977, 91 Stat. 1175, the Medicare-Medicaid Anti-Fraud and Abuse Amendments, strengthens the government's ability to detect, prosecute, and punish fraudulent activities under the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

Section 12 of the law requires the Comptroller General to conduct a comprehensive study of the administrative structure established for processing claims under title XVIII, Health Insurance for the Aged, of the Social Security Act. The purpose of the study is to determine whether and to what extent more efficient claims administration under the title could be achieved by (1) reducing the number of participating intermediaries and carriers; (2) making a single organization responsible for the processing of claims under both Part A, Hospital Insurance Benefits for the Aged, and Part B, Supplementary Medical Insurance Benefits for the Aged, of the title in a particular geographic area; (3) providing for performance of claims processing functions on the basis of a prospective fixed price; (4) providing incentive payments for the most efficient

organizations; or (5) by making other modifications in the structure and related procedure.

A report is to be submitted to the Congress no later than July 1, 1979, setting forth the study results and the Comptroller General's findings and recommendations. (91 Stat. 1197)

The law also adds a new section 1125 to the Social Security Act, which authorizes the Comptroller General to sign and issue subpoenas in connection with any audit, investigation, examination, analysis, review, evaluation, or other functions authorized by law with respect to any program under the act. (91 Stat. 1192)

Legal Services Corporation

Public Law 95-222, December 28, 1977, 91 Stat. 1619, Legal Services Corporation Act Amendments of 1977, amends section 1009(b)(2) of the Legal Services Corporation Act to stipulate that the Corporation retain books, accounts, financial records, reports, files, papers, or property for 3 years from the date of possession or for a longer period if GAO requires it for audit purposes under section 117(b) of the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950 (31 U.S.C. 67(b)). (91 Stat. 1623)

Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act of 1977

Public Law 95-224, February 3, 1978, 92 Stat. 3, the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act of 1977, distinguishes federal grant and cooperative agreement relationships from federal procurement relationships.

Section 8 of the law requires the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to undertake a study to develop a better understanding of alternative means of implementing federal assistance programs and to determine the feasibility of developing a comprehensive system of guidance for federal assistance programs.

The Director is to consult with and, to the extent practicable, involve representatives of the executive agencies, the Congress, GAO, and state and local governments, other recipients, and other interested members of the public. (92 Stat. 5)

GAO is excepted from the definition of executive agency for purposes of the act. (92 Stat. 4)

Alternative Fuel Demonstration Loans and Automotive Propulsion Research and Development

Public Law 95-238, February 25, 1978, 92 Stat. 47, the Department of Energy Act of 1978—Civilian Applications, authorizes appropriations for the Department of Energy for energy research, development, demonstration, and related programs.

Title II of the law adds a new section 19 to the Federal Nonnuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974 to provide loan guarantees for alternative fuel demonstration facilities.

Subsection 19(x) provides that within 6 months after the enactment date and at 6-month intervals thereafter, the Comptroller General audit the recipients of financial assistance pursuant to such regulations as he may prescribe. For this purpose, GAO is provided access to recipient records. Subsection 19(t) also authorizes that certain information the Environmental Protection Agency is required to safeguard be provided to GAO when necessary to carry out its responsibilities under the statute.

Title III of the law, Automotive Propulsion Research and Development Act of 1978, requires, among other things, that the Secretary of Energy establish a program to ensure development of advanced automobile propulsion systems within 5 years. The Secretary may award research and development contracts and grants for this purpose.

Section 306 of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 grants the Comptroller General access to records of recipients of financial assistance under the title. (92 Stat. 82)

Claims and Judgments

Public Law 95-240, March 7, 1978, 92 Stat. 107, the Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1978, contains an amendment to section 1302 of the Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1957, 31 U.S.C. 724a, amplifying an earlier amendment that established a permanent, indefinite appropriation for payment of approved claims and judgments that are not normally paid from agency appropriations but that are authoritatively certified for payment by the agencies, the courts (in appropriate cases), and the Comptroller General. The section is extended to include five categories of claims not presently covered:

- claims settled pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2733 and 2734, the Military Claims Act;
- claims settled pursuant to 32 U.S.C. 715, the National Guard Claims Act;
- claims settled pursuant to section 203 of the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958;

- some claims limited by the Small Claims Act to amounts not exceeding \$1,000; and
- certain awards rendered by the Indian Claims Commission. (92 Stat. 116)

Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978

Public Law 95-242, March 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 120, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978, provides for more efficient and effective control over the proliferation of nuclear explosive capability. The Comptroller General shall study and report to the Congress, 3 years after the enactment date, on the implementation and the impact of the nuclear non-proliferation policies, purposes, and objectives of the act.

The Secretaries of State, Energy, Defense, and Commerce; the Commissioner of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and the Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency are to cooperate with the Comptroller General in conducting this study. (92 Stat. 151)

Ocean Pollution Grants

Public Law 95-273, May 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 228, the National Ocean Pollution Research and Development and Monitoring Planning Act of 1978, authorizes the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to provide grants or contracts for research and development and monitoring projects or activities needed to meet priorities in a comprehensive federal plan relating to ocean pollution to be prepared pursuant to the law. The grants are to be made or contracts awarded if priorities are not adequately addressed by any federal agency or instrumentality.

The Comptroller General is provided access for audit purposes to financial assistance records. (92 Stat. 231, 232)

Federal Banking Agencies

Public Law 95-320, July 21, 1978, 92 Stat. 391, the Federal Banking Agency Audit Act, amends the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950 by adding a new subsection (e) to section 117 to provide for Comptroller General audit of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

The subsection delineates those transactions and deliberations that GAO is precluded from auditing and restricts on-site examinations without written consent of the open insured bank or the bank holding company concerned. Disclosure and nondisclosure conditions are described.

The Comptroller General is required, as frequently as may be practicable, to make reports to the Congress on the audit results.

GAO is provided access to necessary records under the conditions described and is required to maintain their confidentiality. (92 Stat. 391-392)

The provisions of 18 U.S.C. 1906 pertaining to disclosure of information from bank examination reports are extended to GAO auditors. (92 Stat. 393)

New York City Loan Guarantee

Public Law 95-339, August 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 460, the New York City Loan Guarantee Act of 1978, authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to guarantee, within prescribed limits, the payment of the indebtedness of the city of New York if certain delineated conditions of eligibility are met.

The Comptroller General is to report to the Congress any results of audits he may deem appropriate of the accounts, the books, the records and the transactions of the city and any financing agent.

No guarantees may be made until the city and the financing agent agree, in writing, to allow the GAO audits. (92 Stat. 466)

National Consumer Cooperative Bank

Public Law 95-351, August 20, 1978, 92 Stat. 499, the National Consumer Cooperative Bank Act, establishes a mixed ownership government corporation, the National Consumer Cooperative Bank, to provide for consumers a further means of minimizing the impact of inflation and economic depression by narrowing the price spread between costs to producers and the consumer through developing and funding of specialized credit sources for and technical assistance to self-help not-for-profit cooperatives.

The Bank's financial transactions are subject to GAO audit pursuant to the Government Corporation Control Act. (92 Stat. 513)

Until the stock of the Bank held by the United States has been fully retired, Bank operations shall be examined annually under the director of an agency or an instrumentality of the federal government designated by the President, including GAO, and a report on the examination is to be forwarded to the Congress. (92 Stat. 511)

Mineral Development Impact Loans

Public 95-352, August 20, 1978, 92 Stat. 515, which authorizes appropriations for activities and programs carried out by the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management, amends section 317(c) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to provide for loans to communities and governmental subdivisions that have suffered an impact as a result of mineral development on federal lands in their areas.

The Comptroller General is provided access to records of loan recipients for audit purposes. (92 Stat. 516)

Appropriations for GAO

Public Law 95-355, September 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 523, the Second Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1978, provides GAO additional appropriations of \$8,680,000 for fiscal year 1978 to cover increased pay costs authorized by or pursuant to law. (92 Stat. 547)

National Climate Program

Public Law 95-367, September 17, 1978, 92 Stat. 601, the National Climate Program Act, establishes a comprehensive and coordinated national climate policy and program.

A National Climate Control Office is established in the Department of Commerce as the lead entity responsible for administration of the program, the elements of which are delineated in the law.

Additionally, the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Energy, the Interior, State, and Transportation; the Environmental Protection Agency; the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; the National Science Foundation; and the Office of Science and Technology Policy have statutory involvement in the Program.

The Secretary of Commerce is to establish a program for federal and state cooperative activities in climate studies and advisory services, including awarding of grants.

Functions vested in any federal officer or agency under the program may be exercised through facilities and personnel of the agency involved or by other persons or entities under contracts or grant arrangements.

The Comptroller General, for 3 years after the completion of a contract or grant arrangements, is given access to pertinent records for audit purposes. (92 Stat. 605)

Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Amendments of 1978

Public Law 95-372, September 18, 1978, 92 Stat. 629, the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Amendments of 1978, establishes a policy managing oil and natural gas in the outer continental shelf.

The Comptroller General is provided access to records for audit purposes with respect to fees for each barrel of oil obtained from the outer continental shelf collected and deposited in the Offshore Oil Pollution Compensation Fund established by the act in the Treasury of the United States. (92 Stat. 673)

The Secretary of the Interior is to report all shut-in oil and gas wells and wells flaring natural gas on leases issued under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act within 6 months after the enactment date and in his annual report thereafter. The reports are to be submitted to the Comptroller General and are to indicate why each well is shut in or is flaring natural gas and whether the Secretary intends to require production on such a shut-in well or order cessation of flaring.

Within 6 months after receipt of the Secretary's report, the Comptroller General is to evaluate the methodology used by the Secretary in allowing the well to be shut in or to flare natural gas and submit his findings and recommendations to the Congress. (92 Stat. 693-694).

Temporary Commission on Financial Oversight of the District of Columbia Contracts

The purpose of Public Law 95-386, September 26, 1978, 92 Stat. 750, is to enhance the flexibility of contractual authority of the Temporary Commission on Financial Oversight of the District of Columbia. The law amends section 2 of Public Law 94-399 to provide for an independent audit of the financial condition of the District of Columbia government.

Under the new subsection 2(i), each contract entered into under the act is to authorize the Comptroller General, for 3 years after the final payment, to examine any pertinent records of the contractor or any of its subcontractors.

The new law also extends to 1982 the time for completing of the first three annual audits. (92 Stat. 750)

Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1979

Accounts of the House of Representatives

Public Law 95-391, September 30, 1978, 92 Stat. 763, the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1979, provides at section 112 that none of the funds appropriated for the accounts of the House of Representatives be available for obligation unless the funds are subject to Comptroller General audit in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 67. (92 Stat. 778)

Appropriations for GAO

In addition, Public Law 95-391 appropriates \$185,756,000 for GAO salaries and expenses for fiscal year 1979, including, but not to exceed, \$5,000 for special studies of governmental financial practices and procedures (these funds are to be expended on certification of the Comptroller General); services of experts and consultants authorized under 5 U.S.C. 3109 at rates not to exceed the per diem equivalent to the rate for a GS-18; hiring of one passenger motor vehicle; advance payments in foreign countries; and travel benefits comparable with those granted Agency for International Development employees.

This appropriation and the appropriations for administrative expenses of any other department or agency that is a member of the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program (JFMIP), the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum, or the Regional Intergovernmental Audit Forum shall be available to finance its appropriate share of costs, including but not limited to the salary of the Executive Secretary, secretarial support for JFMIP, and necessary travel expenses of nonfederal Forum participants. Payments to either the Forum or JFMIP may be credited as reimbursements to any appropriations from which costs involved are initially financed. (92 Stat. 787-788)

Commodity Futures Trading Commission

Public Law 95-405, September 30, 1978, 92 Stat. 865, the Futures Trading Act of 1978, extends through fiscal year 1984 the life of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Section 8 of the Commodity Exchange Act, which delineates the requirements that the Comptroller General audit the Commission, is

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amended with regard to limitations on disclosure to the public of names and positions of traders on boards of trade. (92 Stat. 873-874)

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Customs Clearance Procedures

Public Law 95-410, October 3, 1978, 92 Stat. 888, the Customs Procedural Reform and Simplification Act of 1978, requires that the Comptroller General, in cooperation with the Customs Service of the Department of the Treasury and the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the Department of Justice, study clearance procedures for individuals entering or reentering the United States.

The study shall include an analysis and a comparison of the clearance procedures employed by other countries for individuals entering or reentering those countries. The study shall analyze the usefulness of preentry forms completed by travelers when entering or reentering the United States.

The study results, together with recommendations for expediting the clearance process, including recommendations for legislation, are to be reported to the Senate Committee on Finance and the House Committee on Ways and Means not later than September 1, 1979. (92 Stat. 904-905)

Amtrak Improvement Act of 1978

Public Law 95-421, October 5, 1978, 92 Stat. 923, the Amtrak Improvement Act of 1978, requires the Comptroller General to study the economic relationship between the fare structure of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation and that of the intercity bus industry. The Comptroller General is to conduct the study in consultation with Secretary of Transportation and the Interstate Commerce Commission. The Comptroller General is to report to the Congress the study results not later than December 31, 1978. (92 Stat. 927)

Inspector General Act of 1978

Public Law 95-452, October 12, 1978, 92 Stat. 1101, the Inspector General Act of 1978, reorganizes the executive branch and increases its economy and efficiency by establishing Offices of Inspector General within the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Housing and Urban Development, the Interior, Labor, and Transportation; the Community Services Administration; the Environmental Protection Agency; the General Services Administration; the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; the Small Business Administration; and the Veterans' Administration.

In carrying out the responsibilities delineated by the law, each Inspector General is to comply with standards established by the Comptroller General for audits of federal establishments, organizations, programs,

activities, and functions. They must also take appropriate steps to ensure that any work performed by nonfederal auditors complies with the standards established by the Comptroller General. (92 Stat. 1109)

The Inspectors General are to give particular regard to the activities of the Comptroller General so as to avoid duplication and ensure effective coordination and cooperation. (92 Stat. 1103)

Civil Service Reform Act of 1978

Public Law 95-454, October 13, 1978, 92 Stat. 1111, the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, has nine titles, as follows:

- Title I, Merit System Principles;
- Title II, Civil Service Functions; Performance Appraisal;
- Title III, Staffing;
- Title IV, Senior Executive Service;
- Title V, Merit Pay;
- Title VI, Research, Demonstration, and Other Programs;
- Title VII, Federal Service Labor-Management Relations;
- Title VIII, Grade and Pay Retention; and
- Title IX, Miscellaneous.

GAO responsibilities with respect to merit system principles are stated in a new section 2304 of title 5, U.S. Code:

- If requested by either House of Congress (or any congressional committee) or if considered necessary by the Comptroller General, GAO shall conduct audits to ensure compliance with the laws, the rules, and the regulations governing employment in the executive branch and competitive service and to assess the effectiveness and the soundness of federal personnel management.
- GAO shall prepare and submit an annual report to the President and the Congress on the activities of the Merit Systems Protection Board and the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). The report shall describe (1) significant actions taken by the Board to carry out its functions under this title and (2) significant actions of OPM, including an analysis of whether or not these actions are in accord with merit system principles and are free of prohibited personnel practices. (92 Stat. 1118) (The Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs has also asked that GAO report on the Federal Labor Relations Authority.)

The provisions of 5 U.S.C. 1205(d)(2) require the Board to certify to the Comptroller General that a compliance order has been issued and no payment shall be made from the Treasury of the United States for any service specified in the order. (92 Stat. 1123)

The Comptroller General is to periodically review selected agency performance appraisal systems and performance appraisal systems in the Senior Executive Service to determine the extent to which they meet the requirements of the law. Findings are to be reported to OPM and to Congress. (92 Stat. 1134, 1168)

GAO is exempt from the definition of "agency" with respect to several sections of the law. (92 Stat. 1115, 1132, 1155, 1185, and 1193)

Territorial Governments

Public Law 95-465, October 17, 1978, 92 Stat. 1279, the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1979, provides for GAO audit of all financial transactions of the territorial and local governments (offices of the Government Comptroller for the Virgin Islands, the Government Comptroller of Guam, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Government Comptroller of American Samoa), including transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by such governments.

The audit shall be made in accordance with the Budget and Accounting Act, 1921, and the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950.

Grants to State and Community Programs on Aging

Public Law 95-478, October 18, 1978, 92 Stat. 1513, the Comprehensive Older Americans Act Amendments of 1978, amends Title III of the Older Americans Act of 1965 respecting grants to state and community programs on aging. Section 313 provides the Comptroller General access to records of recipients of grants and contracts under the Title. (92 Stat. 1535)

Vessel Procurement Contractor Relief

Public Law 95-485, October 20, 1978, 92 Stat. 1611, the Department of Defense Appropriation Authorization Act, 1979, provides that funds authorized by the act to provide relief to contractors in connection with certain contracts for procurement of landing helicopter assault vessels, DD-963 vessels, and SSN688 nuclear attack submarines and paid to such contractors be subject to audit by the Comptroller General as he

determines necessary to ensure that the funds are used only in connection with the contracts and that the prime contractors concerned do not realize any total combined profit.

There is a prohibition against providing relief to these contractors to the extent that a total combined profit on the contract will result, as determined by the Comptroller General.

The Comptroller General is to keep the appropriate committees of the Congress informed regarding the expenditures of funds and submit to the Congress annually, until the completion of the contracts, a written report on the status of the contracts, on the expenditure of the funds, and on the results of the audits. (92 Stat. 1628)

Small Business Programs

Public Law 95-507, October 24, 1978, 92 Stat. 1757, which amends the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, requires GAO to submit to the Congress, not later than June 30, 1980, a report that, with respect to paragraphs (1)(B) and (2) of section 8(a) of the Small Business Act regarding procurement contracts and performance bonds, evaluates the implementation of the provisions. (92 Stat. 1763)

GAO is to evaluate actions taken by the Small Business Administration with respect to the award of subcontracts to small business concerns located in areas of economic depression, with small businesses owned by low-income individuals, and with small businesses eligible to receive contracts under section 8(a) of the act. GAO is to report to the Congress by January 1, 1981, and at any time thereafter at the discretion of the Comptroller General on the findings of this evaluation, together with recommendations to improve the Administration's performance.

Also, GAO is to provide for an independent and continuing evaluation of the programs under sections (7)(i), 7(j), and 8(a) of the Small Business Act, including full information on and analysis of the type and the effect of managerial assistance provided, the location, income characteristics, and the extent to which private resources and skills have been involved in these programs. The evaluation, together with any recommendations from the Comptroller General, are to be reported to the Congress by January 1, 1981, and at any time thereafter at his discretion. (92 Stat. 1765)

Comptroller General Annuity Adjustment Act of 1978

Public Law 95-512, October 25, 1978, 92 Stat. 1799, the Comptroller General Annuity Adjustment Act of 1978, amends the Budget and Accounting Act of 1921 to provide for cost-of-living adjustments in the annuity of a retired Comptroller General and to conform the Comptroller General's annuity benefits with those provided federal judges. (92 Stat. 1799)

Ethics in Government Act of 1978

Public Law 95-521, October 26, 1978, 92 Stat. 1824, the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, has seven titles, as follows:

- Title I, Legislative Personnel Financial Disclosure Requirements;
- Title II, Executive Personnel Financial Disclosure Requirements;
- Title III, Judicial Personnel Financial Disclosure Requirements;
- Title IV, Office of Government Ethics;
- Title V, Post Employment Conflict of Interest;
- Title VI, Amendments to Title 28, United States Code; and
- Title VII, Senate Legal Counsel.

Before November 30, 1980, and regularly thereafter, the Comptroller General is to conduct a study to determine whether title I is being carried out effectively and whether timely and accurate reports are being filed by individuals subject to it.

Within 30 days after completion of the study, the Comptroller General is to report to each House of Congress a statement of his findings and conclusions, together with his recommendations for legislative and administrative actions. The first study is to include the Comptroller General's findings and recommendations on the feasibility of and the potential need for systematic random audits of financial disclosure reports filed under the title, including a thorough discussion of the type and the nature of audits that might be conducted; the personnel and other costs of audits; the value of an audit to Members, the appropriate House and Senate committees, and public; and, if conducted, whether a governmental or a nongovernmental unit should perform the audits and under whose supervision. (92 Stat. 1836)

Title II, gives the Comptroller General access to financial disclosure reports filed under the title for the purposes of carrying out his statutory responsibilities. (92 Stat. 1849)

The law establishes an Office of Senate Legal Counsel. The Counsel is to advise, consult, and cooperate with, among others, the Comptroller General and GAO. None of the responsibilities and authority assigned to the Counsel are to be construed to affect or infringe upon any functions, powers, or duties of the Comptroller General. (92 Stat. 1881)

GAO is considered to be in the legislative branch for financial disclosure purposes. (92 Stat. 1824)

National Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation

Public Law 95-557, October 31, 1978, 92 Stat. 2080, the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978, contains at title VI the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation Act. This title establishes a National Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation to continue the work of the Urban Reinvestment Task Force.

Section 607 provides for GAO audit, at least once every 3 years, of the financial transactions of the Corporation in accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by the Comptroller General.

For any fiscal year during which federal funds are available to finance any portion of the Corporation's grants or contracts, GAO, in accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by the Comptroller General, may audit the Corporation's grantees or contractors. (93 Stat. 2118)

Health Maintenance Organizations

Public Law 95-559, November 1, 1978, 92 Stat. 2131, the Health Maintenance Organizations Amendments of 1978, amends the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the program of assistance for health maintenance organizations.

A new subsection (d) is added to section 1314 of the Public Health Service Act. This subsection requires the Comptroller General to evaluate the adequacy and the effectiveness of the policies and the procedures of the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare for management of Health Maintenance Organization grant and loan programs and the adequacy of the amounts of assistance available under them. The evaluation results shall be reported to Congress not later than May 1, 1979. (92 Stat. 2140)

Elementary and Secondary Education Programs

Public Law 95-561, November 1, 1978, 92 Stat. 2143, Education Amendments of 1978, which extends and amends expiring elementary and secondary education programs, adds a new subpart 4 to Part C, Federal, State and Local Responsibilities, of the General Education Provisions Act.

Each recipient of federal funds under any applicable program through any grant, subgrant, contract, subcontract, loan, or other arrangement is to keep records that fully disclose the amount and the disposition by the recipients of the funds, the total cost of the activity for which the funds are used, the share of that cost provided from other sources, and such other records as will allow an effective audit.

The Comptroller General is provided access to any pertinent records for audit purposes. (92 Stat. 2346)

Contract Disputes Act of 1978

Public Law 95-563, November 1, 1978, 92 Stat. 2383, the Contract Disputes Act of 1978, provides for resolution of claims and disputes relating to government contracts awarded by executive agencies and exempts GAO from the definition of "executive agency" for the purposes of the act.

Public Telecommunications Financing Act of 1978

Public Law 95-567, November 2, 1978, 92 Stat. 2405, the Public Telecommunications Financing Act of 1978, relating to long-term financing for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, amends the Communications Act of 1934 to require that 1 year after the effective date, the Corporation, in consultation with the Comptroller General, develop accounting principles that shall be used uniformly by all public telecommunications entities' receiving funds, taking into account organizational differences among various categories of entities.

Each public communications entity receiving funds shall be audited annually by independent certified or licensed public accountants using the auditing standards developed by the Corporation in consultation with the Comptroller General. (92 Stat. 2419)

Also, the Corporation is to study the manner in which personal services of volunteers should be included in determining the level of nonfederal financial support. The study is to include proposed valuation standards. Upon completion, the study and the proposed valuation standards are to be submitted to the Comptroller General for approval. (92 Stat. 2414 and 2423)

Section 396(i) of the Communications Act of 1934, which is amended, pertains to the Public Broadcasting Corporation report to Congress. The section provides that officers and directors of the Corporation be available to testify before appropriate committees of the Congress with respect to the report, the report of any audit made by the Comptroller General, or any other matter that the committees may determine. (92 Stat. 2415)

GAO is given access to records of recipients of grants for construction and planning of public telecommunications facilities pursuant to section 392(i) of the Communications Act of 1934.

A new subpart B is added to part IV of title III of the Communications Act of 1934, which provides for grants and contracts for carrying out telecommunications demonstrations. GAO is given access to grant recipient records. (92 Stat. 2410)

Appropriations Available on Certificate

Public Law 95-570, November 2, 1978, 92 Stat. 2445, clarifies the authority for employment of personnel in the White House Office, the Executive Residence at the White House, and the employment of personnel by the President to meet unanticipated needs.

With respect to assistance and services for the President and the Vice President, the sums appropriated are to be accounted for solely on the certificate of the President and the Vice President, except that the Comptroller General may inspect necessary records relating to these expenditures solely for the purpose of verifying that all payments relate to stated expenses. The Comptroller General is to certify the verification to the Congress. (92 Stat. 2446, 2447)

Federal Government Pension Plans

Public Law 95-595, November 4, 1978, 92 Stat. 2541, requires that the Comptroller General provide for financial audits with respect to pension plans for federal officers and employees.

The law amends the Budget and Accounting Procedures Act of 1950 to provide for the audit and require that an annual report, including a financial statement and an actuarial statement, be furnished to the Congress and the Comptroller General with respect to the plans. (92 Stat. 2541, 2542)

Recipients of Powerplant Air Pollution Control Equipment Loans

Public Law 95-620, November 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3289, the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978, authorizes the Secretary of Energy to make a loan to any person who owns or operates any existing electric powerplant converting to coal or other alternative fuels as its primary energy source. The loans are to be used to finance the purchase and the installation of one or more certified air pollution control devices for the powerplant.

The Secretary and the Comptroller General shall, until the later of (1) the expiration of 3 years after completion of the project or (2) full repayment of interest and principal on a loan occurs, have access for audit purposes to records of recipients that, in the opinion of the Secretary or the Comptroller General, may be pertinent to the loan. (92 Stat. 3328)

Health Services and Centers Amendments of 1978

Public Law 95-626, November 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3551, the Health Services and Centers Amendments of 1978, contains as part B of title I the Primary Health Care Act of 1978. This part requires that the Comptroller General evaluate and report to the Congress not later than March 1, 1981, on the operation of hospital-affiliated primary care centers, including, with their voluntary participation, those centers not assisted under the law. With respect to such centers, the Comptroller General is to:

- assess the costs of such centers and their methods of allocating costs between the centers and their affiliated hospitals,
- assess the methods of reimbursement used (particularly under titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act) for services provided by such centers,
- compare the costs and the effectiveness of providing primary health services through such centers with the cost and the effectiveness of providing the services through community health centers and other entities, and
- assess the degree to which the assisted hospitals are complying with the requirements for approval of applications for grants regarding primary care centers. (92 Stat. 3566)

Title II, Health Services Extension Act of 1978, amends section 317 of the Public Health Service Act pertaining to project grants for preventive health services. Section 317(f)(2) gives GAO access to grant recipient records. (92 Stat. 3576)

GAO is provided access to records of grant recipients with respect to two new programs of formula grants to states for preventive health services

and grants for lead-based paint poisoning prevention programs. (92 Stat. 3581, 3586)

Child Nutrition Programs

Public Law 95-627, November 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3603, the Child Nutrition Amendments of 1978, extends and amends the special supplemental food program and the child care food program.

Section 17 of the National School Lunch Act pertaining to the child care food program is amended. Section 17(q) requires that states and institutions participating in the program keep records to determine whether there has been compliance with the requirements of the section. The Comptroller General is given access to these records for such time periods, not in excess of 5 years, as the Secretary of Agriculture determines necessary. (92 Stat. 3611)

With respect to the school breakfast program, the Secretary of Agriculture is to consult experts in child nutrition, industry representatives, school food service personnel, and school administrators with respect to the continued use of formulated grain-fruit products in the program and is to consider the findings and the recommendations in the report on this subject by GAO. (92 Stat. 3621)

Financial Institutions Regulatory and Interest Rate Control Act of 1978

Public Law 95-630, November 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3641, the Financial Institutions Regulatory and Interest Rate Control Act of 1978, extends the authority for the flexible regulation of interest rates on deposits and accounts in depository institutions.

The Federal Credit Union Act is amended to subject the financial transactions of the National Credit Union Administration to GAO audit on a calendar year basis. (92 Stat. 3681)

Section 117 of the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950, as amended by the Federal Banking Agency Audit Act (Public Law 95-320), is further amended to provide that the Comptroller General, under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe, audit the Financial Institutions Examination Council. (92 Stat. 3696)

The Federal Deposit Insurance Act is amended by the addition of a new section 26 with respect to conversion of mutual saving banks. The amendment requires that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and

the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation agree on what is to be treated as "losses incurred by it which arise out of losses incurred by the converting bank prior to conversion." If they fail to agree, GAO is to define these terms. (92 Stat. 3712)

Title XVIII, National Credit Union Central Liquidity Facility, amends the Federal Credit Union Act to establish the Facility and subject it to audit by the Comptroller General under rules and regulations he may prescribe. (92 Stat. 3723)

American Institute in Taiwan

Public Law 96-8, April 10, 1979, 93 Stat. 14, the Taiwan Relations Act, was passed to help maintain peace, security, and stability in the Western Pacific and to promote U.S. foreign policy by authorizing the continuation of commercial, cultural, and other relations between the people of the United States and Taiwan.

Programs, transactions, and other relations conducted or carried out by the President or any agency of the U.S. government with respect to Taiwan shall, in the manner and to the extent directed by the President, be conducted and carried out by or through the American Institute in Taiwan, a nonprofit corporation formed under the laws of the District of Columbia.

Any agency of the government is authorized to sell, loan, or lease property to and perform administrative and technical support services for the Institute upon such terms and conditions as the President may direct.

Agencies providing funds to the Institute shall arrange for the Comptroller General to have access to Institute records for audit purposes. (93 Stat. 18)

Appropriations for GAO

Public Law 96-38, July 25, 1979, 93 Stat. 95, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1979, gives GAO additional appropriations of \$150,000 for salaries and expenses for fiscal year 1979. (93 Stat. 114)

The amount of \$7,281,000 is included to cover increased pay costs authorized by or pursuant to law for the fiscal year 1979; this amount is to be derived by release of that amount withheld from obligation by the Comptroller General pursuant to section 311 of Public Law 95-391, the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1979. (93 Stat. 128)

Trade Standards Grants or Contracts

Public Law 96-39, July 26, 1979, 93 Stat. 144, the Trade Agreements Act of 1979, approves and implements the trade agreements negotiated under the Trade Act of 1974.

Title IV, Technical Barriers to Trade (Standards), authorizes the Secretary of Commerce and the Special Representative for Trade Negotiations to make grants to or enter into contracts with any other federal agency, any state agency, or any private person. The purpose of these grants or contracts is to assist the agency or the person in implementing appropriate programs and activities, including but not limited to programs and activities (1) to increase awareness of activities related to proposed and adopted standards; (2) to facilitate international trade through the appropriate international and domestic standards-related activities; (3) to provide, if appropriate, and pursuant to section 413 (Representation of United States Interests Before International Standards Organizations), adequate U.S. representation in international standards-related activities; and (4) to encourage U.S. exports through increased awareness of foreign standards-related activities that may affect U.S. exports.

The Comptroller General is provided access to pertinent records of grants or contract recipients. (93 Stat. 246)

Panama Canal Act of 1979

Public Law 96-70, September 27, 1979, 93 Stat. 452, provides for operation and maintenance of the Panama Canal under the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977 and establishes the Panama Canal Commission in the executive branch. The Commission shall be responsible for maintenance and operation of the Panama Canal, facilities, and appurtenances.

The Commission's financial transactions are to be audited by the Comptroller General pursuant to the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950. The Comptroller General is given access to records necessary to perform the audit. The first audit is to be conducted with respect to the fiscal year in which this law becomes effective.

Not later than 6 months after the end of each fiscal year, the Comptroller General is to submit to Congress a report of the audit conducted on the fiscal year. The report will show the scope of the audit and include:

- a statement of assets and liabilities, capital, and surplus or deficit, based on the accounts of the Commission established pursuant to this law;
- a statement of income and expenses;

- a statement of sources and application of funds;
- a statement listing all direct and indirect costs incurred by the United States in implementing the treaty, including the cost of property transferred to the Republic of Panama during each fiscal year; and
- comments and information that the Comptroller General considers necessary to keep the Congress informed of the operations and the financial transactions of the Commission, together with recommendations he considers advisable.

The report is to identify any program, expenditure, or other financial transaction or undertaking observed during the audit that, in the Comptroller General's opinion, has been made without authorization by law. The Comptroller General is to submit a copy of each report to the President, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Commission.

In conducting the audits, preparing these reports and carrying out his other responsibilities pursuant to law, the Comptroller General shall, with respect to fiscal year 1980, consider the problems inherent in converting the existing requirements established in section 1311 (accounting policies) of this act. Accordingly, he is to take no adverse action with respect to the Commission, nor shall any violation of section 3679 of the Revised Statutes (31 U.S.C. 665) be considered to have taken place so long as the Commission is in substantial compliance with this act.

The Comptroller General is to make recommendations to the Commission and to the Congress as he may consider appropriate to ensure that full compliance with the financial controls provided for in the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950 (31 U.S.C. 665 et seq.) is achieved promptly. (93 Stat. 479-480)

No funds may be appropriated to or for the use of the Commission for any fiscal year in excess of (1) the amount of revenues deposited in the Panama Canal Commission Fund during that fiscal year, as estimated by the Secretary of Defense and certified by the Comptroller General at the time the fiscal year budget request for the Commission is submitted to the Congress, plus (2) the amount of revenues deposited in the Fund before the fiscal year not spent at the beginning of such fiscal year.

Not later than 30 days after the end of that fiscal year, the Secretary of the Treasury is to report to the Congress the actual amount of revenue deposited in the Fund during that fiscal year. (93 Stat. 478)

The Commission is to make payments to the Republic of Panama required under paragraph 5 of Article III and paragraph 4 of Article XIII of the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977. Payments made under paragraph 5 of Article III of the treaty are to be audited annually by the Comptroller General. Any overpayments, as determined in accordance with the Understanding (1) incorporated in the Resolution of Ratification of the Panama Canal Treaty (adopted by the U.S. Senate on April 18, 1978) for the services described in that paragraph, shall be refunded by the Republic of Panama or set off against amounts payable by the United States to the Republic of Panama under paragraph 5 of Article III of the treaty. (93 Stat. 482)

Amtrak Reorganization Act of 1979

Public Law 96-73, September 29, 1979, 93 Stat. 537, the Amtrak Reorganization Act of 1979, provides for a Comptroller General study of the free or reduced-rate transportation provided to railroad employees by the National Railroad Passenger Corporation under section 405(f) of the Rail Passenger Service Act.

Within 180 days after the effective date of the law, the Comptroller General is to submit a report to the Congress and to the Interstate Commerce Commission recommending appropriate means for reimbursing the Corporation for the cost of such transportation services, taking into account the value of the services. (93 Stat. 548)

Cost Reimbursement for Casa Pacifica Renovation

Public Law 96-74, September 29, 1979, 93 Stat. 559, the Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations Act, 1980, states that it is the sense of the Congress that, upon the sale of the estate known as Casa Pacifica in San Clemente, California, former President Richard M. Nixon should reimburse the United States for the original cost of any construction, renovation, improvements, equipment, or articles paid for by the federal government or for the amount by which they have increased the fair market value of the property, as determined by the Comptroller General, as of the date of sale, whichever is less. (93 Stat. 577)

Legislation Enacted During Fiscal Year 1980

Health Planning and Resources Development

Public Law 96-79, October 4, 1979, 93 Stat. 592, the Health Planning and Resources Development Amendments of 1979, requires the Comptroller General to evaluate the exemption authority in section 1527(b) of the Public Health Service Act pertaining to the certificate of need program. In conducting the evaluation, the Comptroller General is to:

- identify the health maintenance organization (HMO), combinations of HMOs, and health care facilities that have applied for exemptions under this section;
- identify the services, facilities, and equipment with respect to which applications have been submitted under this section;
- determine the impact of the exemption on existing contracts between HMOs and health care facilities and on plans of such organizations respecting such contracts; and
- determine the impact of the exemption on health care delivery systems, including its impact on the cost, availability, accessibility, and quality of health care.

No later than February 1, 1982, the Comptroller General is to report the evaluation results to the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources and the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. (93 Stat. 620)

Appropriations for GAO

Public Law 96-86, October 12, 1979, 93 Stat. 656, which makes continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1980, provides funds for GAO in such amounts and in the manner provided in H.R. 4390, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1980, as reported June 7, 1979 (except regarding executive salaries). H.R. 4390, as reported June 7, 1979, is to be treated as appropriating \$200,300,000 under the heading, "GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE," "Salaries and Expenses." This legislation funds GAO operations of for the entire fiscal year 1980. (93 Stat. 657, 658)

Appropriated Funds Expenditure Prerequisite or Exemption

Public Law 96-103, November 5, 1979, 93 Stat. 771, the Department of Housing and Urban Development—Independent Agencies Appropriation Act, 1980, provides that no funds appropriated by the act be expended unless such expenditure is subject to GAO audit or is specifically exempt by law from such an audit. (93 Stat. 787)

Congressional Award Board

Public Law 96-114, November 16, 1979, 93 Stat. 851, the Congressional Awards Act, establishes a Congressional Award Board to administer a program designed to encourage initiative and achievement among youths.

The financial transactions of the Board and any private nonprofit corporation established for the sole purpose of assisting the Board to carry out the program are subject to Comptroller General audit at times deemed appropriate. GAO is also provided access to pertinent records for the audit purposes. (93 Stat. 855)

District of Columbia Retirement Reform Act

Public Law 96-122, November 17, 1979, 93 Stat. 866, the District of Columbia Retirement Reform Act, was enacted to establish an actuarially sound basis for financing retirement benefits for police officers, fire fighters, teachers, and judges of the District of Columbia.

The law establishes a District of Columbia Retirement Board as an independent agency of the government of the District of Columbia to have exclusive authority and discretion to manage and control the following funds that are also established by the law: (1) the District of Columbia Police Officers and Fire Fighters' Retirement Fund, (2) the District of Columbia Teachers' Retirement Fund, and (3) the District of Columbia Judges' Retirement Fund.

The Board is to engage an enrolled actuary who shall, on the basis of the entry age normal cost funding method and in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles and practices, make certain determinations about the Funds.

In the year 2004, the Comptroller General is to determine whether the federal share with respect to each fund has been paid in full by payments made pursuant to appropriations authorized by the law. (93 Stat. 881)

After January 1 and before March 1 of each year beginning with calendar year 1983 and ending with calendar year 2004, the enrolled actuary is to make certain determinations concerning the Police Officers and Fire Fighters' Retirement Fund. The actuary is to report the determination for any year to the Board and to the Comptroller General not later than March 1 of each year.

The Board and the Comptroller General are to transmit a copy of each report by the actuary to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the

President pro tempore of the Senate, and the Mayor and the Council of the District of Columbia not later than March 31 of the year in which the report is made, and each shall submit comments on the report. (93 Stat. 882)

The Comptroller General is to state in his comments on each report whether the actuary's determinations were in conformance with generally accepted actuarial practices and principles and whether such determinations fairly present in all material respects the amounts described. (93 Stat. 882-883)

The Police and Firemen's Relief Board, on or before January 31 of each calendar year from 1980 through 2002, are to make available to the Comptroller General and the actuary all determinations (including related documents and information) made during the preceding calendar year in order to enable the Comptroller General and the actuary to make the determinations and statements required. (93 Stat. 883-884)

The Comptroller General is to have access to records necessary to carry out responsibilities under section 736(a) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act and under section 144(e) of this act regarding federal share of payments. (93 Stat. 881)

Territorial Governments

Public Law 96-126, November 27, 1979, 93 Stat. 954, the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1980, provides for GAO audit of all financial transactions of the territorial and local governments, including transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by such governments. The governments include the offices of the Government Comptroller for the Virgin Islands, the Government Comptroller of Guam, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Government Comptroller of American Samoa.

The audit shall be made in accordance with the Budget and Accounting Act, 1921, and the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950. (93 Stat. 965, 966)

Veterans' Health Programs

Public Law 96-151, December 20, 1979, 93 Stat. 1092, the Veterans Health Programs Extension and Improvement Act of 1979, amends 38 U.S.C. 5101(a) to provide that with respect to each law making appropriations for the Veterans Administration (VA), the Director of the Office of

Management and Budget is to (1) provide to VA for the fiscal year concerned the funded personnel ceiling and funds necessary to achieve it and (2) submit to the appropriate committees of the Congress and the Comptroller General certification that the ceiling has been provided.

Not later than the 45th day after the enactment of each such law, the Comptroller General is to submit to the appropriate committees of the Congress a report stating his opinion as to whether the Director, Office of Management and Budget, has complied with the requirement in providing the ceiling to VA. (93 Stat. 1095)

Law Enforcement Assistance

Public Law 96-157, December 27, 1979, 93 Stat. 1167, the Justice System Improvement Act of 1979, amends the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to restructure the Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration to assist state and local governments in improving the quality of their justice systems. This amendment continues the provision for GAO access to pertinent records of recipients of law enforcement and criminal justice assistance grants for 3 years after completion of the programs or the projects for which the assistance is used. (93 Stat. 1212)

Chrysler Corporation Loan Guarantee

Public Law 96-185, January 7, 1980, 93 Stat. 1324, the Chrysler Corporation Loan Guarantee Act of 1979, establishes a Chrysler Corporation Loan Guarantee Board. The Comptroller General is a statutory member of the Board. (93 Stat. 1325)

GAO may make such audits as may be deemed appropriate by the Comptroller General of all accounts, books, records, memorandums, correspondence, and other documents and transactions of the Corporation and any other borrower. No guarantee may be made under the act unless or until the Corporation or any other borrower agrees, in writing, to allow GAO to make such audits. The audit results are to be reported to the Congress. (93 Stat. 1332)

Dispute Resolution

Public Law 96-190, February 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 17, the Dispute Resolution Act, provides financial assistance for developing and maintaining effective, fair, inexpensive, and expeditious mechanisms for resolving minor disputes.

The Comptroller General is provided access to grant recipient records for 3 years after the final year of receipt of financial assistance for the purpose of financial and performance audits. (94 Stat. 25)

General Accounting Office Personnel Act of 1980

Public Law 96-191, February 15, 1980, 94 Stat. 27, the General Accounting Office Personnel Act of 1980, establishes an independent personnel system for GAO employees. The law delineates the requirements of the personnel management system, establishes a General Accounting Office Personnel Appeals Board, and a GAO Senior Executive Service, among other things. (94 Stat. 27-34)

Transportation of Government-Financed Passengers and Property

Public Law 96-192, February 15, 1980, 94 Stat. 35, the International Air Transportation Competition Act of 1979, amends the Federal Aviation Act of 1979 and the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 to promote competition in international air transportation, provide greater opportunities for U.S. air carriers, and establish goals for developing U.S. international aviation negotiation policy.

Section 1117 of the act is amended. Subsection 1117(c) requires the Comptroller General to disallow any expenditure from appropriated funds for payment for personnel or cargo transportation in violation of this section without satisfactory proof of the necessity for this. (94 Stat. 44)

General Accounting Office Act of 1980

Public Law 96-226, April 3, 1980, 94 Stat. 311, the General Accounting Office Act of 1980, amends the Budget and Accounting Act, 1921, and the Budget and Accounting Procedures Act of 1950, as follows:

- GAO is authorized to audit most unvouchered expenditures that are accounted for solely on the signature of the President of the United States or other designated officials.
- The law strengthens existing authority to enforce GAO's statutory rights of access to records of federal agencies, as well as those of government contractors and grantees.
- The provision regarding procedures GAO follows concerning issuance of reports is amended regarding submission of draft reports to agencies for comment. Also, a statement of significant changes to prior drafts is now required with the issuance of any final GAO report.

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- A formal mechanism is established for congressional input into the appointment of the Comptroller General and the Deputy Comptroller General.

In addition, the Department of Energy Organization Act and the act of October 15, 1976, 90 Stat. 2430, are amended to require the Inspectors General of the Department of Energy and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (now the Department of Health and Human Services) to conform to GAO audit standards. (94 Stat. 311-316)

Bicentennial Medals

Public Law 96-228, April 3, 1980, 94 Stat. 323, authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to strike and furnish to the United States Capitol Historical Society Bicentennial medals commemorating the adoption of the Constitution of the United States and of those individuals who participated in the American Revolution.

The Comptroller General is provided access to pertinent Society records, including all records and documents pertaining to marketing of the medals. (94 Stat. 324)

Federal Trade Commission Improvements Act of 1980

Public Law 96-252, May 28, 1980, 94 Stat. 374, the Federal Trade Commission Improvements Act of 1980, contains a provision at section 21 requiring congressional review of final rules promulgated by the Federal Trade Commission. In addition, before the end of fiscal year 1980, the Comptroller General is to prepare a report to the Congress on the review of these rules. (94 Stat. 395)

Passenger Railroad Rebuilding Act of 1980

Public Law 96-254, May 30, 1980, 94 Stat. 399, contains as Title II the Passenger Railroad Rebuilding Act of 1980. This act amends the Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act of 1976 to require the Secretary of Transportation to report to Congress, in consultation with the Comptroller General, on an evaluation of (1) the extent to which passenger and freight operations should be separated in the Northeastern Corridor and (2) any operational, safety, maintenance, or other problems of mixing freight and passenger service on the same rail lines. (94 Stat. 411)

Licenses and Permits for Deep Seabed Hard Mineral Resources

Public Law 96-283, June 28, 1980, 94 Stat. 553, the Deep Seabed Hard Mineral Resources Act, establishes an interim procedure for the orderly development of hard mineral resources in the deep seabed pending adoption of an international regime.

Under the act, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is authorized to issue to eligible applicants licenses for exploration and permits for commercial recovery.

Each licensee and permittee is to keep records prescribed by the Administrator, including information that fully discloses expenditures for exploration and commercial recovery, including processing of hard mineral resources, and such other information as will facilitate an effective audit. The Comptroller General has access for audit purposes to records of licensees and permittees pertinent to the verification of their expenditures. (94 Stat. 571)

Energy Security Act

Public Law 96-294, June 30, 1980, 94 Stat. 611, the Energy Security Act, contains eight titles, as follows:

- Title I, Synthetic Fuel;
- Title II, Biomass Energy and Alcohol Fuels;
- Title III, Energy Targets;
- Title IV, Renewable Energy Initiatives;
- Title V, Solar Energy and Energy Conservation;
- Title VI, Geothermal Energy;
- Title VII, Acid Precipitation Program and Carbon Dioxide Study; and
- Title VIII, Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

Part B of Title I creates the United States Synthetic Fuels Corporation. GAO is authorized to audit Corporation accounts and report to the Congress, as deemed necessary by the Comptroller General or requested by the Congress, not less than every 3 years. (94 Stat. 678)

The Corporation is to have an officer with the title Inspector General. In carrying out his duties, the Inspector General is to coordinate with the Comptroller General so as to avoid duplication of activities. (94 Stat. 642)

Title I, Part B, Subtitle E, pertaining to Corporation construction and contractor operation, provides GAO access to pertinent contractor records for audit purposes. (94 Stat. 667) As the conferees explain, Subtitle G

authorizes the Attorney General to sue the Corporation or any other person to prevent acts of omission or commission in violation of the law. The section creates a public cause of action, maintainable by the Attorney General or the Comptroller General, to enforce the duties imposed by the law. (94 Stat. 672)

Title V, popularly called the Solar Energy and Energy Conservation Act of 1980, establishes the Solar Energy and Energy Conservation Bank in the Department of Housing and Urban Development. GAO is to audit the financial transactions of the Bank not later than 2 years after enactment and subsequently at 3-year intervals. The Bank will cease to exist after September 30, 1987. (97 Stat. 722)

A new Part 5 pertaining to residential energy efficiency programs is added to the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (Public Law 95-619, November 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3206). Each state and local government whose application for a residential energy efficiency plan is approved and each utility and person entering into a contract under the plan must provide GAO access to records for audit purposes. (94 Stat. 750)

Supplemental Appropriations and Rescission Act, 1980

Temporary Commission on Financial Oversight of the District of Columbia Funding

Public Law 96-304, July 8, 1980, 94 Stat. 857, the Supplemental Appropriations and Rescission Act, 1980, provides for an appropriation under the heading "District of Columbia Funds, Governmental Direction and Support." A portion of this appropriation is to be used for the District's contribution toward the expenses of the Temporary Commission on Financial Oversight of the District of Columbia. The appropriation is to be transferred to the Commission upon the request of the Executive Director and GAO. (94 Stat. 866)

Appropriations for GAO

In addition, Public Law 96-304 provides GAO additional appropriations of \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 1980 to cover increased pay costs authorized or pursuant to law. (94 Stat. 912)

Aquaculture Development

Public Law 96-362, September 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1198, the National Aquaculture Act of 1980, provides for development of aquaculture in the United States.

Within 18 months after the date of enactment, the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, and the Interior are to establish a National Aquaculture Development Plan. The Secretaries are authorized to use grants and contracts to carry out their responsibilities in implementing the plan. The Comptroller General is provided access to pertinent records of grantees and contractors for audit purposes. (94 Stat. 1204)

Multiemployer Pension Plan Amendments of 1980

Public Law 96-364, September 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1208, the Multiemployer Pension Plan Amendments of 1980, requires at section 413 that the Comptroller General study and report to the Congress on (1) the effects of the amendments made by and the provisions of the act on the participants, beneficiaries, employers, employee organizations, and other parties affected by this act and (2) the self-sufficiency of the fund established under section 4005 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 with respect to benefits guaranteed under section 4022A of such act, taking into account the financial conditions of multiemployer plans and employers. (94 Stat. 1309)

Fish and Wildlife Conservation

Public Law 96-366, September 29, 1980, 94 Stat. 1322, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1980, provides for reimbursement of state costs for developing, revising, and implementing conservation plans and implementing certain nongame fish and wildlife conservation acts. This reimbursement is to be subject to terms and conditions prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, including maintenance of certain records by the Secretary and the Comptroller General for audit purposes. (94 Stat. 1327)

Legislation Enacted During Fiscal Year 1981

Appropriations for the GAO

Public Law 96-369, October 1, 1980, 94 Stat. 1351, which provides continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1981, and Public Law 96-536, December 16, 1980, 94 Stat. 3166, which provides further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1981, provide funds for GAO in such amounts as may be necessary for continuing projects and activities under all the conditions and to the extent and in the manner as provided in H.R. 7593, the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1981, as passed by the House of Representatives on July 21, 1980.

Section 309 of H.R. 7593, requiring that 2 percent of the budget authority provided for payments not required by law be withheld from obligation and expenditures, is not deemed applicable to GAO. (94 Stat. 1352, 3167)

Mental Health Grants

Public Law 96-398, October 7, 1980, 94 Stat. 1564, the Mental Health Systems Act, is intended to improve mental health services and promote mental health throughout the United States.

The legislation requires award of grants for (1) community mental health centers, (2) services for chronically mentally ill individuals, (3) services for severely mentally disturbed children and adolescents, and (4) mental health services for elderly individuals and other priority populations. The Comptroller General has access to records and documents necessary for an effective audit. (94 Stat. 1593)

Housing and Community Development Planning Assistance

Public Law 96-399, October 8, 1980, 94 Stat. 1614, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1980, amends the Housing Act of 1954 to provide for grants for planning assistance. The financial transactions of fund recipients may be audited by GAO under rules and regulations the Comptroller General prescribes. GAO is provided access to records necessary to facilitate the audit. (94 Stat. 1666)

End-of-Fiscal-Year Spending Limitation

Public Law 96-400, October 9, 1980, 94 Stat. 1681, the Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1981, provides that no appropriations made available in the act be obligated during fiscal year 1981 in excess of 30 percent for the last quarter of such fiscal year or 15 percent of such fiscal year. The Office of Management and Budget may waive the requirement to avoid serious disruption in the program or the activity.

Not later than December 31, 1981, the Office of Management and Budget must report to the Committees on Appropriations on the results and the effects of the requirements and actions taken, including the effects upon the procurement and apportionment processes. The Comptroller General must review the report and submit an analysis and pertinent recommendations to these Committees. (94 Stat. 1698)

Railroad Accounting Principles Board

Public Law 96-448, October 14, 1980, 94 Stat. 1895, the Staggers Rail Act of 1980, reforms the economic regulation of railroads. The law establishes a Railroad Accounting Principles Board in the legislative branch. The Board is composed of the Comptroller General, who is to be Chairman, and six members he appoints. (94 Stat. 1935)

Coordination of Chesapeake Bay Research

Public Law 96-460, October 15, 1980, 94 Stat. 2044, the Chesapeake Bay Research Coordination Act of 1980, provides for an Office of Chesapeake Bay Research Coordination in the Department of Commerce. A Chesapeake Bay Research Board is also established to coordinate federally supported and conducted research efforts regarding the bay.

Upon the termination of the act on September 30, 1984, GAO must submit to the Congress an effectiveness evaluation of the Board, the Office, and the act itself. (94 Stat. 2048)

Foreign Service Act of 1980

Public Law 96-465, October 17, 1980, 94 Stat. 2071, which promotes U.S. foreign policy by strengthening and improving the Foreign Service of the United States, empowers the President to appoint an Inspector General of the Department of State and the Foreign Service.

Medicare Provider Subcontractors

Public Law 96-499, December 5, 1980, 94 Stat. 2599, the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1980, adds a new section (I) to section 1861(v)(1) of the Social Security Act. The section provides that Medicare reimbursement include amounts paid by providers for services of \$10,000 or more over a 12-month period furnished under contracts with subcontractors entered into after the enactment date. The contracts must provide for the Comptroller General access to the subcontractor records necessary to verify costs as delineated by the law. (94 Stat. 2646)

Bonneville Power Administration Funds

Public Law 96-501, December 5, 1980, 94 Stat. 2697, the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act, establishes the Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council. The Council, among other things, prepares and adopts both a regional conservation and an electric power plan and a program to protect, mitigate, and enhance fish and wildlife.

The Bonneville Power Administration pays the Council compensation and other expenses from available funds. Records, reports, and other documents of the Council are available to the Comptroller General for review. (94 Stat. 2705)

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

Public Law 96-511, December 11, 1980, 94 Stat. 2812, the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, establishes the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs in the Office of Management and Budget. The Office, among other things, develops and implements federal information policies, principles, standards, and guidelines.

Under section 313 of the Budget and Accounting Act of 1921, as amended, the Director and personnel in the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs are to furnish information required by the Comptroller General to fulfill his responsibilities. The Comptroller General has access to pertinent records. (94 Stat. 2825)

GAO is excluded from the definition of "agency" for the purposes of this act. (94 Stat. 2813)

Territorial Governments

Public Law 96-514, December 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2957, the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1981, provides for GAO audit of all financial transactions of the territorial and local governments, including transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by such governments. The governments include the offices of Government Comptroller of the Virgin Islands, the Government Comptroller of Guam, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Government Comptroller of American Samoa.

The audit shall be made in accordance with the Budget and Accounting Act, 1921, and the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950. (94 Stat. 2969)

Patent Rights to Inventions

Public Law 96-517, December 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 3015, amends the patent and trademark laws. A new chapter 38 is added to title 35 of the U.S. Code regarding patent rights of inventions made with federal assistance.

When an agency determines that restricting or eliminating the rights to retain title to an invention will better promote the policy and the objectives of this chapter, it must send a written statement of facts justifying the determination to the Comptroller General. If the Comptroller General believes that any pattern of determination by a federal agency or an agency's policies and practices do not conform to this chapter, he must advise the agency head. Within 120 days and in writing, the agency head must then advise the Comptroller General of what action, if any, the agency has taken or plans to take concerning the matters raised.

At least once a year, the Comptroller General must report to the House and Senate Committees on the Judiciary on the manner in which this chapter is being implemented and on other aspects of government patent policies and practices with respect to federally funded inventions. (94 Stat. 3020)

Department of Housing and Urban Development— Independent Agencies Appropriation Act, 1981

Appropriated Funds Expenditure Prerequisite or Exemption

Public Law 96-526, December 15, 1980, 94 Stat. 3044, the Department of Housing and Urban Development—Independent Agencies Appropriation Act, 1981, provides that no funds appropriated by the act be spent unless such expenditure is subject to GAO audit or is specifically exempt by law from such an audit. (94 Stat. 3065)

End-of-Fiscal-Year Spending Limitation

In addition, Public Law 96-526 contains the same provision pertaining to end-of-fiscal-year spending limitations described above in Public Law 96-400. (94 Stat. 3066)

African Development Foundation

Public Law 96-533, December 16, 1980, 94 Stat. 3131, the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1980, provides at title V for establishment of the African Development Foundation. The purpose of the Foundation is to (1) strengthen the bonds of friendship and understanding between the people of Africa and the United States, (2) support local self-help activities designed to enlarge opportunities for community development, (3) stimulate and assist effective and expanding participation of Africans in their development process, and (4) encourage the establishment and the growth of development institutions indigenous to particular countries in Africa and responsive to the requirements of the poor.

The Foundation is a wholly owned government corporation subject to GAO audit under the Government Corporation Control Act. (94 Stat. 3155)

Appropriation Limitation

Public Law 96-536, December 16, 1980, 94 Stat. 3166, makes further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1981. It limits use of appropriated funds to publish in the Federal Register information on implementation or enforcement of proposed Conditions of Participation for Skilled Nursing Facilities or Intermediate Care Facilities, before receipt of the final draft of a GAO evaluation of the effects of the proposed regulations. (94 Stat. 3172)

Indian Health Service Contracts

Public Law 96-537, December 17, 1980, 94 Stat. 3173, the Indian Health Care Amendments of 1980, establishes programs in urban areas and rural communities to make health services more accessible to the urban and rural Indian populations.

The Secretary of Health and Human Services must enter into contracts with urban Indian organizations to help establish such programs. The reports and records of the organizations with respect to these contracts are subject to Comptroller General audit. (94 Stat. 3179)

Fishery Research and Development Grants

Public Law 96-561, December 22, 1980, 94 Stat. 3275, the Salmon and Steelhead Conservation and Enhancement Act of 1980, contains at title II the American Fisheries Promotion Act. This act amends the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act to authorize Secretary of Commerce to make grants to persons doing U.S. fisheries research and development projects, including but not limited to harvesting, processing, marketing, and associated infrastructures.

The Comptroller General is provided access to grant recipient records. (94 Stat. 3289)

Farm Credit

Public Law 96-592, December 24, 1980, 94 Stat. 3437, the Farm Credit Act Amendment of 1980, requires the Comptroller General to evaluate programs and activities authorized under the 1980 amendments to the Farm Credit Act of 1971. The evaluation must include how this act will affect agricultural credit services provided by the Farm Credit System, federal agencies, and other entities. An interim report to the Congress is to be made no later than December 31, 1982, and a final report no later than December 31, 1984. (94 Stat. 3450-3451)

Appropriations for GAO

Public Law 97-12, June 5, 1981, 95 Stat. 14, the Supplemental Appropriations and Rescission Act 1981, provides GAO additional appropriations of \$10,602,000 for fiscal year 1981 to cover increased pay costs authorized by or pursuant to law. (95 Stat. 80)

Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981

Public Law 97-35, August 31, 1981, 95 Stat. 357, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, contains 27 titles. Seven of these titles relate to GAO.

Title III pertains to banking, housing, and related programs. The National Consumer Cooperative Bank Act is amended to provide for orderly conversion of the Bank from a mixed-ownership government corporation to a private bank owned and controlled by its cooperative stockholders. The Farm Credit Administration and GAO are authorized to examine and audit the Bank. Reports on these audits are to be forwarded to the Congress. (95 Stat. 436)

Title VI, Human Services Programs, contains at section 635 the Head Start Act. GAO is provided access to records of recipients of financial assistance under the act. (95 Stat. 505)

Section 671, the Community Services Block Grant Act, requires the Comptroller General to evaluate periodically a state's expenditures of community services block grants to ensure that expenditures conform to subtitle provisions and to determine the state's effectiveness in accomplishing the purposes of the subtitle. (95 Stat. 516)

To ensure compliance with the subtitle, the Comptroller General may investigate a state's use of funds received. GAO is provided access-to-records authority. (95 Stat. 517)

Title IX, Health Services and Facilities, contains an amendment adding a new title XIX to the Public Health Service Act. Part A provides for preventive health, health services, and primary care health block grants. Part B provides for alcohol and drug abuse and mental health services block grants. Each part requires the Comptroller General to evaluate a state's expenditures to ensure conformance with the part and certain required certification.

Each state must prepare annual reports on its activities, including information required by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, after consultation with the Comptroller General.

The Comptroller General may also investigate a state's use of funds received to ensure compliance and certification requirements. (95 Stat. 540, 541, 549, 550, 551, 557, 558, and 563)

Title XI, Transportation and Related Programs, contains at Part 5, United States Railway Association, amendments to the Regional Rail Reorganization Act of 1973. These amendments make the Comptroller General a statutory member of the United States Railway Association Board of Directors. (95 Stat. 674)

Subtitle F of title XI contains the Amtrak Improvement Act of 1981. Section 602 of the Rail Passenger Service Act is amended by adding a new subsection (1) requiring that before February 1, 1982, the Department of Transportation, in consultation with GAO, the National Railroad Passenger Corporation, and the Department of the Treasury, submit to the Congress legislative recommendations for how best to relieve Amtrak of its debt to the federal government. (95 Stat. 698)

Title XVII pertains to civil service and Postal Service programs and governmental affairs generally. A new subchapter II is added to chapter 45 of Title 5, U.S. Code, establishing awards for cost savings disclosures. The Comptroller General must review the awards and award procedures to verify the cost savings. (95 Stat. 755)

Chapter 2, Block Grant Funds, of subtitle C of title XVII provides for access to records by the Comptroller General for reviewing the use of

block grant funds, consolidated assistance, or other grant programs established or provided for. (95 Stat. 764)

Title XXI, Medicare, Medicaid, and Maternal and Child Health, contains the Medicare and Medicaid Amendments of 1981. The Comptroller General is to determine the extent (if any) to which the average cost of efficiently providing routine inpatient nursing care to individuals entitled to benefits under title XVIII of the Social Security Act exceeds the average cost of providing such care to other patients. A final report to the Congress is required within 6 months after the date of enactment of this act. (95 Stat. 798)

The Medicare and Medicaid Amendments of 1981 also require the Comptroller General, in consultation with the Advisory Committee for Intergovernmental Relations, to study federal medical assistance percentage formulas and adjustment of target amounts for federal Medicaid expenditures. The report to Congress on the study is required not later than October 1, 1982. (95 Stat. 806-807)

Subtitle D of title XXI contains the Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant Act. The Comptroller General must evaluate state expenditures to ensure consistency with the provisions of the law. (95 Stat. 823, 824)

The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Comptroller General, must examine alternative formulas for allotments of funds that must be used as a substitute for the method of allotting funds under section 502 of the Social Security Act. (95 Stat. 826)

Title XXVI, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance, authorized the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make grants to states to help eligible households meet home energy costs. The Comptroller General is to evaluate state expenditures to ensure consistency and to determine the states' effectiveness in accomplishing the purposes of this title. The Comptroller General may also investigate the use of the funds received. (95 Stat. 899, 901)

Legislation Enacted During Fiscal Year 1982

Appropriations for GAO

Public Law 97-51, October 1, 1981, 95 Stat. 958, which makes continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1982, provides funds for GAO in such amounts as may be necessary for continuing projects and activities under all the conditions and to the extent and in the manner provided in H.R. 4120, the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1982, as reported July 9, 1981. The provisions of H.R. 4120 are effective as if enacted into law and shall be treated as appropriating \$229,300,000 for salaries and expenses for GAO. (95 Stat. 959, 961)

Eliminating Waste, Fraud, Abuse, and Mismanagement

Public Law 97-86, December 1, 1981, 95 Stat. 1099, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1982, requires two reports to the Congress by the Secretary of Defense recommending improvements in management efficiency and elimination of waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement in Department of Defense operations. The Secretary must set forth in these reports each Comptroller General recommendation on the subject. (95 Stat. 1132)

Agriculture and Food Act of 1981

Public law 97-98, December 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 1213, the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981, contains two amendments to the Food Stamp Act of 1977 that ensure that GAO will have access for audit purposes to (1) information on applications submitted by retail and wholesale food concerns that desire to accept and redeem food stamp coupons and (2) information on applicant and recipient households. (95 Stat. 1285, 1286)

The law also provides GAO access to records for audit purposes in connection with annual grants to local governments through state soil conservation agencies. (95 Stat. 1335)

Territorial Governments

Public Law 97-100, December 23, 1981, 95 Stat. 1391, Department of Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1982, provides for GAO audit of all financial transactions of the territorial and local governments, including transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by such governments. The governments include the offices of Government Comptroller of the Virgin Islands, the Government Comptroller of Guam, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Government Comptroller of American Samoa.

The audit shall be made in accordance with the Budget and Accounting Act, 1921, and the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950. (95 Stat. 1402)

Appropriated Funds Expenditure Prerequisite or Exemption

Public Law 97-101, December 23, 1981, 95 Stat. 1417, and Public Law 97-272, Sept. 30, 1982, 96 Stat. 1160, Department of Housing and Urban Development—Independent Agencies Appropriation Act, 1982, and 1983, respectively, both provide that no funds appropriated by the act be expended unless such expenditures is subject to GAO audit or is specifically exempt by law from such an audit. (95 Stat. 1436, 96 Stat. 1179)

General Obligation Bonds and Notes of the District of Columbia

Public Law 97-105, December 23, 1981, 95 Stat. 1493, which amends the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, contains a clarifying amendment to section 481 that pertains to the annual levy of a special tax incident to the issuance of general obligation bonds and requires an annual Comptroller General audit of amounts set aside and deposited in each debt service fund. (95 Stat. 1498)

Peace Corps

Public Law 97-113, December 29, 1981, 95 Stat. 1519, the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1981, contains at title VI an amendment to the Peace Corps Act to make the Peace Corps an independent agency within the executive branch. All personnel, assets, liabilities, contracts, property, records, and unexpended balances of appropriations, authorizations, allocations, and other funds as are determined by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), after consultation with the Comptroller General, the Director of the Peace Corps, and the Director of the ACTION agency, to be employed, held, used, or assumed primarily in connection with any function relating to the Peace Corps before the date of the enactment of this act are transferred to the Peace Corps. (95 Stat. 1540)

The Director of the OMB is to submit to the Congress and the Comptroller General a report on the steps taken to implement title VI. The Comptroller General must then report to the Congress whether, in his judgment, OMB's determinations were equitable. (95 Stat. 1542)

Export Control

Public Law 97-145, December 29, 1981, 95 Stat. 1727, the Export Administration Amendments of 1981, amends section 12(c)(2) of the

Export Administration Act of 1979 to state that nothing in this act shall be construed as authorizing the withholding of information from the Congress or GAO. The amendment provides GAO access to information regarding the control of exports and prohibits its disclosure except to the Congress. (95 Stat. 1728)

Federal Courts Improvement Act of 1982

Public Law 97-164, April 2, 1982, 96 Stat. 25, the Federal Courts Improvement Act of 1982, establishes a United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and a United States Claims Court, among other things. The language of 28 U.S.C. 2510 is revised with respect to the Comptroller General's referral to the Claims Court for trial and adjudication of any claim or matter over which the Claims Court might take jurisdiction on the voluntary action of the claimant. (96 Stat. 43)

The law also amends 28 U.S.C. 2516(b), regarding to interest on claims and judgments. Interest on judgments against the United States affirmed by the Supreme Court after review on petition of the United States shall be paid from the date of the filing of the transcript of the judgment in GAO to the date of the mandate of the affirmance, at a rate of interest equal to the coupon issue yield equivalent of the average accepted auction price for the last auction of 52-week Treasury bills settled immediately before the date of judgment. (96 Stat. 56)

Small Business Innovation Development

Public Law 97-219, July 22, 1982, 96 Stat. 217, the Small Business Innovation Development Act of 1982, amends the Small Business Act to strengthen the role of the small, innovative firms in federally funded research and development; to use federal research and development as a base for technological innovation to meet agency needs; and to contribute to the growth and strength of the nation's economy.

Not more than 5 years after the enactment date, the Comptroller General is required to report to the Congress on the implementation of and nature of research conducted under this act. (96 Stat. 221)

Olympic Commemorative Coins

Public Law 97-220, July 22, 1982, 96 Stat. 222, the Olympic Commemorative Coin Act, provides for the minting of commemorative coins to support the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games.

The Comptroller General is provided access to records of the United States Olympic Committee and the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee relating to the expenditure of amounts paid under section 6 of the law, which pertains to distribution of proceeds from coin sales. (96 Stat. 225)

Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982

Public Law 97-248, September 3, 1982, 96 Stat. 324, the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982, contains several references to GAO work.

The Comptroller General is to monitor and evaluate a study and report by the Secretary of Health and Human Services on whether the reimbursement method and the benefit structure (including copayment) for hospice care under title XVIII of the Social Security Act are fair and equitable and promote the most efficient provision of hospice care. (96 Stat. 363)

Title V of the law, Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982, provides for airport development and airport planning by project grants. GAO is provided access to grant recipient records for audit purposes.

When independent audits that may be required by the Secretary of Transportation are made, the grant recipients are to file certified copies of the audits with the Comptroller General.

On or before April 15 of each year, the Comptroller General is to report to the Congress on the results of each audit conducted or reviewed by GAO during the preceding fiscal year. (96 Stat. 693-694)

Title VI, the Federal Supplemental Compensation Act of 1982, provides for payment to states having agreements for the payment of federal supplemental compensation. The Secretary of the Treasury, before audit or settlement by GAO, is to make these payments to states in accordance with a certification by the Secretary of Labor. (96 Stat. 705)

The Internal Revenue Code is amended with respect to disclosure of returns and return information for use in certain GAO audits. The authority is expanded to include any returns or return information obtained by a federal agency for use in any agency program or activity. GAO is permitted access to returns and return information that have not been obtained by the agency in certain circumstances, provided that the agency is

authorized to obtain the information for use in the program or the activity that is the subject of the GAO audit. (96 Stat. 646-647)

Department of Defense Inspector General

Public Law 97-252, September 8, 1982, 96 Stat. 718, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1983, amends section 8 of the Inspector General Act of 1978 with respect to the Inspector General of the Department.

One of the delineated duties of the Inspector General is to develop policy, evaluate program performance, and monitor actions taken by all Department components in response to contract audits, internal audits, internal review reports, and Comptroller General audits. (96 Stat. 752)

Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act of 1982

Public Law 97-255, September 8, 1982, 96 Stat. 814, the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act of 1982, amends the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950 to require ongoing evaluations and reports on the adequacy of (1) systems of internal accounting and administrative control and (2) accounting systems in operation of each executive agency.

Internal accounting and administrative controls and accounting systems are to be established and implemented in accordance with standards prescribed by the Comptroller General.

The Director of OMB, in consultation with the Comptroller General, is to establish guidelines by which executive agencies' internal accounting and administrative control systems can be evaluated. (96 Stat. 814, 815)

Appropriations for GAO

Public Law 97-257, September 10, 1982, 96 Stat. 818, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1982, provides GAO additional appropriations of \$6,700,000 for fiscal year 1982 to cover increased pay costs authorized by or pursuant to law. (96 Stat. 859)

Title 31, United States Code, Money and Finance

Public Law 97-258, September 13, 1982, 96 Stat. 877, has as its purpose to revise, codify, and enact without substantive change certain general and permanent laws related to money and finance as Title 31, U.S. Code, Money and Finance.

There are numerous references throughout the title to the GAO functions and jurisdiction. In particular, chapter 7 of subtitle I (96 Stat. 886-907), General Accounting Office, is divided into five subchapters, as follows:

- Subchapter I, Definitions and General Organization;
- Subchapter II, General Duties and Powers;
- Subchapter III, Personnel;
- Subchapter IV, Personnel Appeals Board; and
- Subchapter V, Annuities.

Legislation Enacted During Fiscal Year 1983

Appropriations for GAO

Public Law 97-276, October 2, 1982, 96 Stat. 1186, which provides continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1983, provides funds for GAO in such amounts as may be necessary for continuing projects and activities under all the conditions and to the extent and in the manner as provided in S. 2939, the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1983, as reported September 22, 1982. The provisions of S. 2939 shall be effective as if enacted into law. S. 2939, as reported September 22, 1982, shall be treated as appropriating \$244,900,000 for salaries and expenses for GAO. (96 Stat. 1189)

Job Training Partnership Act

Public Law 97-300, October 13, 1982, 96 Stat. 1322, the Job Training Partnership Act, requires each state to establish fiscal control and fund accounting procedures necessary to ensure the proper disbursement of and accounting for federal funds paid to recipients under Title I, Job Training Partnership, and Title II, Training Services for the Disadvantaged. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), in consultation with the Comptroller General, is to establish guidance for the proper audit performance. (96 Stat. 1348)

Audits are to be conducted in accordance with applicable auditing standards set forth in the financial and compliance element of the Standards for Audit of Governmental Organizations, Programs, Activities, and Functions issued by the Comptroller General. (96 Stat. 1349)

The Comptroller General is to evaluate selected expenditures by grant recipients under the act to ensure that expenditures are in conformance with its provisions and to determine each recipient's effectiveness in accomplishing its purposes. For this purpose, the Comptroller General is provided access to grant recipient records. (96 Stat. 1349)

The Comptroller General may not request the compilation of any new information not readily available to the recipient. (96 Stat. 1351)

The above language was also added in an amendment to the Wagner-Peyser Act, to promote the establishment and the maintenance of a national system of public employment. (96 Stat. 1396-1397)

Net Worth Certificate Programs

Public Law 97-320, October 15, 1982, 96 Stat. 1469, has as its purpose to revitalize the housing industry by strengthening the financial stability of

home mortgage lending institutions and ensuring the availability of home mortgage loans.

Title II, the Net Worth Certificate Act, and contains at section 205 a requirement that the Comptroller General report to the Congress on semiannual audits conducted of the net worth certificate programs of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Federal Home Loan Bank Board. (96 Stat. 1495)

Consolidated Federal Funds Report

Public Law 97-326, October 15, 1982, 96 Stat. 1607, the Consolidated Federal Funds Report Act of 1982, requires the Comptroller General to conduct a review and report to the Congress no later than October 1, 1984, on the data systems and reports required to be prepared by the Director of OMB under this act. The review is to include a determination of the accuracy of the data within the Consolidated Federal Funds Report and the costs of data collection, report preparation, and dissemination of the data and reports. The Comptroller General is also to analyze the use and primary users of the data. (96 Stat. 1609)

Refugee Assistance

Public Law 97-363, October 25, 1982, 96 Stat. 1734, the Refugee Assistance Amendments of 1983, amends section 412(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act to require annual Comptroller General audits of funds expended under grants and contracts incident to the initial resettlement program. (96 Stat. 1736).

Debt Collection Act of 1982

Public Law 97-365, October 25, 1982, 96 Stat. 1749, the Debt Collection Act of 1982, has as its purpose to increase the efficiency of government-wide efforts to collect debts owed the United States and to provide additional procedures for the collecting of these debts.

The Director of OMB, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Comptroller General, is to establish regulations requiring each agency with outstanding debts to prepare and transmit to the Director and the Secretary of the Treasury, at least once each year, a report summarizing the status of loans and accounts receivable managed by each agency.

With respect to interest and penalty on indebtedness to the United States, an agency head may promulgate regulations identifying circumstances appropriate to waive collection of interest and charges in conformity with

such standards as may be promulgated jointly by the Attorney General and the Comptroller General. (96 Stat. 1756)

Territorial Governments

Public Law 97-394, December 30, 1982, 96 Stat. 1966, Interior Department and Related Agencies Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1983, provide for GAO audit of all financial transactions of the territorial and local governments, including transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by such governments. The audit shall be made in accordance with the Budget and Accounting Act, 1921, and the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950. (96 Stat. 1979)

Urban Mass Transit Block Grants

Public Law 97-424, January 6, 1983, 96 Stat. 2097, the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982 contains, at title III, the Federal Public Transportation Act of 1982. This title amends the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964 to add a new section 9 about block grants. Audits of the use of federal funds under this section are to be conducted in accordance with GAO's auditing procedures. (96 Stat. 2144)

Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management

Public Law 97-425, January 7, 1983, 96 Stat. 2201, the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, establishes, within the Department of Energy, an Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management. The Comptroller General is to audit the Office annually and report the audit results to the Congress. GAO is provided access to records necessary for audit purposes. (96 Stat. 2262)

Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management

Public Law 97-451, January 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2447, the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982, has as its purpose to ensure that all oil and gas originated on the public lands and on the Outer Continental Shelf are properly accounted for under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior. Nothing in this act is to be construed to enlarge, diminish, or otherwise affect the authority or the responsibility of the Inspector General of the Department of the Interior or of the Comptroller General. (96 Stat. 2461)

Title 31, United States Code, Money and Finance

Public Law 97-452, January 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2467, has as its purpose, to codify, without substantive change, recent law relating to money and finance and to improve the U.S. Code.

Section 3512, Executive Agency Accounting Systems, is amended by adding a new subsection (b) requiring internal accounting and administrative controls consistent with Comptroller General standards. In consultation with the Comptroller General, the Director of OMB is to establish guidelines for evaluating internal control systems. (96 Stat. 2469)

Section 3717, Interest and Penalty on Claims, provides that in conformity with standards prescribed jointly by the Attorney General and the Comptroller General, an executive or legislative agency head may prescribe regulations identifying circumstances appropriate to waiving collection of interest and charges under subsections (a) and (e) of this section. (96 Stat. 2473)

Section 3719, Reports in Debt Collection Activities, provides that in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Comptroller General, the Director of OMB prescribe regulations requiring the head of each agency with outstanding debts to prepare a report on the status of loans and accounts receivable managed by each agency. (96 Stat. 2473)

Social Security Act Amendments of 1983

Public Law 98-21, April 20, 1983, 97 Stat. 65, the Social Security Act Amendments of 1983, provides for the appointment by the Director of the Office Technology Assessment of a Prospective Payment Assessment Commission to review certain inpatient hospital discharges. The Commission is subject to periodic GAO audit. (97 Stat. 161)

Department of Housing and Urban Development— Independent Agencies Appropriations

Veterans Administration Major Construction Projects

Public Law 98-45, July 12, 1983, 97 Stat. 219, the Department of Housing and Urban Development—Independent Agencies Appropriation Act, 1984, provides, with respect to appropriations for the Veterans Administration, that funds appropriated for fiscal year 1984 for “Construction, Major Projects” be obligated for each approved project by awarding (1) a working drawings contract by September 30, 1984, and (2) a construction

contract by September 30, 1985. The administration is to report to the Comptroller General and to the Committees on Appropriations any approved major construction project in which obligations are not incurred within the time limits established. The Comptroller General is to review the report in accordance with the section 1015 of the Impoundment Control Act of 1974. (97 Stat. 234)

Appropriated Funds
Expenditure Prerequisite
or Exemption

In addition, Public Law 98-45 provides that no funds appropriated by the act be expended unless such expenditure is subject to GAO audit or is specifically exempt from such an audit. (97 Stat. 238)

Appropriations for
GAO

Public Law 98-51, July 14, 1983, 97 Stat. 263, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1984, appropriates \$267,161,000 for GAO salaries and expenses for fiscal year 1984, including but not to exceed \$5,000 to be expended on certification of the Comptroller General; services of experts and consultants authorized under 5 U.S.C. 3109 at rates not to exceed the per diem equivalent to the rate for a GS-18; leasing of one passenger motor vehicle; advance payments in foreign countries; and travel benefits comparable with those granted Agency for International Development employees.

This appropriation and the appropriations for administrative expenses of any other department or agency that is a member of the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program, the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum, or the Regional Intergovernmental Audit Forums shall be available to finance its appropriate share of cost, including but not limited to the salary of the Executive Secretary, secretarial support for the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program, and necessary travel expenses of nonfederal Forum participants.

Further, this appropriation and appropriations for administrative expenses of any other agency that is a member of the American Consortium on International Public Administration (ACIPA) shall be available to finance an appropriate share of ACIPA costs, including any expenses attributable to the membership of ACIPA in the International Institute of Administrative Sciences. (97 Stat. 278-279)

Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1983

Payments to Republic of Panama

Public Law 98-63, July 30, 1983, 97 Stat. 301, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1983, appropriates for payment to the Republic of Panama pursuant to Article XIII, paragraph 4(c) of the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977, an amount not to exceed \$378,635 to be derived from the Panama Canal Commission Fund. None of the funds may be expended before validation by a GAO audit. (97 Stat. 341)

Performance Appraisal Review

Public Law 98-63 also provides that none of the funds appropriated under this act be obligated or expended to implement, administer, or enforce proposed Office of Personnel Management regulations published in the Federal Register of March 30, 1983, regarding "Performance Management Systems and Management Rights, Consultation and Scope of Bargaining Policy in Labor Management Relations," unless and until the Comptroller General completes a review pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 4304(b)(2). (97 Stat. 343)

Appropriations for GAO

In addition, Public Law 98-63 also provides GAO additional appropriations of \$7,765,000 for fiscal year 1983 to cover increased pay costs authorized by or pursuant to law. (97 Stat. 346)

State Recreational Boating and Safety Programs

Public Law 98-89, August 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 500, which has as its purpose to consolidate and reenact certain marine safety and seamen's welfare laws, provides at 46 U.S.C. 13108 for GAO access to records for audit purposes in connection with allocations to states under state recreational boating and safety programs.

B-1B Bomber Aircraft Cost Analysis

Public Law 98-94, September 24, 1983, 97 Stat. 614, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1984, provides for a detailed financial analysis and report to the Congress by the Secretary of Defense on the projected cost of procuring 100 B-1B bomber aircraft. The Secretary is also to revise the estimate of the total projected cost for the procurement.

The Comptroller General is to review the Secretary's report. GAO is to be provided such additional data required to complete the review.

D.C. Retirement Reform

Public Law 98-104, September 30, 1983, 97 Stat. 727, amends the District of Columbia Retirement Reform Act to change the formula in section 145 regarding the awarding of disability retirements to police and fire fighters.

The amendment requires the Comptroller General to review and report to the Congress on the accuracy of the actuarial determinations and decide whether the federal contributions to the District of Columbia Police Officers and Firefighters Retirement Fund should be reduced and by what amount.

The Comptroller General is also to determine and report on the extent to which disability retirements determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to have been caused by events of extraordinary or catastrophic nature reduced the amount appropriated to the Fund.

Legislation Enacted During Fiscal Year 1984

Territorial Governments

Public Law 98-146, November 4, 1983, 97 Stat. 919, Interior Department and Related Agencies Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1984, provides for GAO audit of all financial transactions of territorial and local governments and of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, including transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by such governments. The audit shall be made in accordance with the Budget and Accounting Act, 1921, and the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950. (97 Stat. 931, 932)

National Endowment for Democracy

Public Law 98-164, November 22, 1983, 97 Stat. 1017, which authorizes appropriations for fiscal years 1984 and 1985 for the Department of State, etc., contains at Title V the National Endowment for Democracy Act. This title provides for audit and report to the Congress by GAO of the financial transactions for each fiscal year of the National Endowment for Democracy. The audit is to be conducted in accordance with such principles and procedures and under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Comptroller General. GAO is provided access to records pertaining to financial transactions necessary to facilitate the audit. (97 Stat. 1041-1042)

FBI Undercover Operations

Public Law 98-166, November 28, 1983, 97 Stat. 1071, and Public Law 98-411, August 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 1545, the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1984 and 1985, respectively, each provides that if a corporation or a business entity established or acquired in connection with undercover investigative operations of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) with a net value over \$50,000 is to be liquidated, sold, or otherwise disposed of, the FBI is to report the circumstances to the Attorney General and the Comptroller General. (97 Stat. 1987, 98 Stat. 1560)

Domestic Housing and International Recovery and Financial Stability Act

Public Law 98-181, November 30, 1983, 97 Stat. 1153, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1984, includes the Domestic Housing and International Recovery and Financial Stability Act. This law, in XI titles, provides in Title II, Housing Assistance Programs, that the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may make grants to local governments incident to demonstration projects to (1) encourage the upgrading of housing occupied by lower income families and (2) provide for better coordination at the local level of the efforts to assist families receiving assistance so that these families will be able to occupy affordable housing.

Grant recipients must permit GAO audits to ensure that funds are used in accordance with the law. (97 Stat. 1193)

Title IX, the International Lending Supervision Act of 1983, provides that each appropriate federal banking agency (as defined by the law) evaluate banking institutions' foreign country exposure and transfer risk for use in banking institution examination and supervision. Each agency is to establish examination and supervisory procedures to ensure that such factors as foreign country exposure and transfer risk are considered in evaluating the adequacy of the capital of banking institutions. Section 911 delineates in detail GAO's audit authority. An audit may include a review or an evaluation of the international regulation, supervision, and examination activities of the appropriate federal banking agencies. (97 Stat. 1282-1284)

Revenue Sharing

Public Law 98-185, November 30, 1983, 97 Stat. 1309, the Local Government Fiscal Assistance Amendments of 1983, amends Title 31 of the U.S. Code with respect to auditing requirements. One of the new requirements is that audits be conducted in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards issued by the Comptroller General.

Also, the Comptroller General is to help the Secretary of the Treasury develop a plan for completion of a comprehensive study of federal, state, and local fiscal relationships mandated by the law. (97 Stat. 1010, 1011, 1013)

DOD Year-End Procurement Practices

Public Law 98-191, December 1, 1983, 97 Stat. 1325, the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act Amendments of 1983, requires the Comptroller General to provide to the Office of Federal Procurement Policy information on procurement actions of the Department of Defense (DOD) and the regulations and administrative and management guidelines applicable to such action. This information is for use in connection with a study and report to the Congress on DOD year-end procurement practices. (97 Stat. 1333)

National Public Radio Financial Controls

Public Law 98-214, December 8, 1983, 97 Stat. 1467, the Federal Communications Commission Authorization Act of 1983, amends section 3691(1) of the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit the Corporation for Public Broadcasting from distributing to National Public Radio any funds

authorized to be appropriated by the act unless certain requirements are met. Among the requirements is a determination by the Corporation that National Public Radio has adopted and is implementing a system of financial controls and procedures devised in consultation with and recommended by an independent certified public accountant and determined by the Comptroller General as sufficient to ensure that the financial transactions of National Public Radio reflect prudent management practices and are accounted for in a manner consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. (97 Stat. 1468)

Title 31, United States Code, Money and Finance

Public Law 98-216, February 14, 1984, 98 Stat. 3, has as its purpose to codify, without substantive change, recent laws relating to money, finance, and transportation and to improve the U.S. Code.

31 U.S.C. 3528, pertaining to responsibilities and relief from liability of certifying officials, is amended at subsection (b) by adding the following: "The Comptroller General may deny relief when the Comptroller General decides the head of the agency did not carry out diligently collection action under procedures prescribed by the Comptroller General." (98 Stat. 4)

Miller Act Payment Bonds

Public Law 98-269, April 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 156, transfers responsibility for furnishing certified copies of Miller Act payment bonds from the Comptroller General to the officer that awarded the contract for which the bonds were given. (98 Stat. 156)

Amvets

Public Law 98-291, May 21, 1984, 98 Stat. 203, relieves GAO of duplicative audit requirements with respect to the Disabled American Veterans. GAO will continue to perform oversight by reviewing the financial statements and auditor's report of AMVETS (American Veterans of WWII, Korea, and Vietnam). (98 Stat. 203)

GAO Executive Positions

Public Law 98-326, June 22, 1984, 98 Stat. 269, amends title 31 of the U.S. Code to provide for additional experts and consultants for GAO and for additional positions within GAO's Senior Executive Service. (98 Stat. 269)

National Coastal Resources Research and Development Institute

Public Law 98-364, July 17, 1984, 98 Stat. 440, authorizes appropriations to carry out the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 for fiscal years 1985-88. Title II of the law provides for the establishment by the Secretary of Commerce of a National Coastal Resources Research and Development Institute to be administered by the Oregon State Marine Science Center. The Comptroller General is provided access to records pertinent to funds received under the title for audit purposes. (98 Stat. 443)

Deficit Reduction Act of 1984

Public Law 98-369, July 17, 1984, 98 Stat. 494, the Deficit Reduction Act of 1984, is divided into two divisions: Division A, Tax Reform Act of 1984, and Division B, Spending Reduction Act of 1984. Several provisions relate to GAO.

Guaranteed Student Loan Tax-Exempt Bonds

Not later than 9 months after the date of enactment, GAO and the Congressional Budget Office are to report to the Congress on the results of a study of (1) the appropriate role of tax-exempt bonds issued in connection with the guaranteed student loan program and the PLUS program established under the Higher Education Act of 1965 and (2) the appropriate arbitrage rules for such bonds. (98 Stat. 926)

Medicare and Medicaid Budget Reconciliation Amendments of 1984

The Medicare and Medicaid Budget Reconciliation Amendments of 1984 require the Comptroller General to conduct three studies, as follows:

- The Comptroller General is to report to the Congress, no later than January 1, 1987, on (1) the appropriateness of the fee schedules under section 1833(h) of the Social Security Act and their impact on the volume and the quality of clinical diagnostic laboratory services, (2) the potential impact of the adoption of a national fee schedule, and (3) the potential impact of applying a national fee schedule to clinical diagnostic laboratory tests provided by hospitals to outpatients. (98 Stat. 1066-1067)
- No later than 18 months after the date of enactment, GAO is to report to the Congress on a study of the amounts billed for physician services and paid by carriers under section 1842(b)(7) of the Social Security Act to determine whether such payments have been made only where the physician satisfies the requirements of section 1842(b)(7)(A)(i) of such act. (98 Stat. 1074)
- GAO is also to study and report to the Congress, no later than 12 months after the date of enactment, on (1) the ability of the Health Care Financing Administrator to manage competitive bidding for agreements and

contracts under sections 1816 and 1842 of the Social Security Act and on the relative costs and efficiency of such competitive agreements and contracts compared with current reimbursement for such agreements and contracts; (2) the need (if any) for eliminating the provider nomination procedure under section 1816(a) of the act, (3) the disparities (if any) in costs and quality claims processing among the various entities performing claims processing pursuant to section 1816 and 1842 of the act, (4) whether the standards of the Secretary of Health and Human Services for evaluating the costs and the performance of intermediaries and carriers are adequate and are being properly applied, and (5) whether the Secretary's statutory authority is sufficient to deal with inefficient intermediaries and carriers either through the contract negotiation and budget review process or through termination or nonrenewal of contracts. (98 Stat. 1088)

Procurement Protest
System

The Competition in Contracting Act of 1984 includes the addition of a new subchapter V, Procurement Protest System, to Chapter 35 of Title 31, U.S. Code, to give GAO a statutory base for its bid protest function effective January 15, 1985. Under the law, the Comptroller General must issue an opinion on the protest within 90 working days. Also, under circumstances delineated by the law, contract award may be withheld or performance under the contract may cease until the protest is decided. (98 Stat. 1199-1203)

Budget Estimate Review

The Congressional Budget Office is to review, in consultation with GAO, the budget estimates prepared by DOD and one civilian agency. The GAO component of this review is to look at all phases of budget preparation and program evaluation in these agencies and examine historical patterns of funding to determine the effect of cost estimation biases. (98 Stat. 1209)

Department of
Housing and Urban
Development—
Independent Agencies
Appropriation Act,
1985

VA Major Construction
Projects

Public Law 98-371, July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 1213, the Department of Housing and Urban Development—Independent Agencies Appropriation Act, 1985, provides with respect to appropriations for the Veterans Administration (VA) that funds appropriated for fiscal year 1984 for “Construction, Major Projects” be obligated for each approved project (1) by awarding a working drawings contract by September 30, 1985, and (2) by awarding a construction contract by September 30, 1986. The administration is to report to the Comptroller General and to the Committees on Appropriations any approved major construction project in which obligations are not incurred within the time limits established. The Comptroller General is to review the report in accordance with section 1015 of the Impoundment Control Act of 1974. (98 Stat. 1232)

Allen Park Veterans
Administration Hospital
Replacement

Public Law 98-371 also provides that no part of any sum appropriated or otherwise made available in the act for VA be obligated or expended for purchase of any site for, or toward the construction of, any new hospital to replace the Allen Park Veterans Administration Hospital, before the receipt by the Administrator of Veterans Affairs of the ongoing GAO study of the project. (98 Stat. 1234)

Appropriated Funds
Expenditure Prerequisite
or Exemption

In addition, Public Law 98-371 provides that no funds appropriated by the act be expended unless such expenditure is subject to GAO audit or is specifically exempt from such an audit. (98 Stat. 1237)

Pension Plan Study

Public Law 98-397, August 23, 1984, 98 Stat. 1426, the Retirement Equity Act of 1984, requires the Comptroller General to conduct a detailed study (based on a reliable scientific sample of typical pension plans of various designs and sizes) of the effect on women of participation, vesting,

funding, integration, survivorship features, and other relevant plan and federal pension rules.

The Comptroller General is provided access to records for purposes of the study, which is to be submitted to the Congress no later than January 1, 1990. (98 Stat. 1454-1455)

DOD Dependent Schools

Public Law 98-407, August 28, 1984, 98 Stat. 1495, Military Construction Authorization Act, 1985, requires the Comptroller General to conduct a study to determine the most suitable means to pay for construction and operation of DOD dependent schools established under section 6 of Public Law 874 of the 81st Congress. The study is to consider how transferring responsibility for funding and operating those schools from DOD to local school districts would affect funding for the impacted aid program of the Department of Education and on local school districts. (98 Stat. 1524)

Agricultural Trade and Export Policy Commission

Public Law 98-412, August 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 1576, amends the Agriculture and Food Act of 1984 by adding a new Subtitle C to Title XII, the Agricultural Trade and Export Policy Commission Act. The new Commission is to study and make recommendations concerning agriculture-related trade and export policies, programs, and practices of the United States.

The Comptroller General is provided access to Commission records for audit purposes. (98 Stat. 1579)

GAO, among others, is required to provide the Commission such information, personnel, and support as it may require in carrying out its duties. (98 Stat. 1578-1579)

Legislation Enacted During Fiscal Year 1985

Continuing Appropriations/Crime Control

Continuing Appropriations

Public Law 98-473, October 12, 1984, 98 Stat. 1837, which makes continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1985 and serves other purposes, requires GAO to audit all financial transactions of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, including the financial transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by the Trust Territory. GAO shall make the audit in accordance with the the Budget and Accounting Act, 1921, the Accounting and Auditing Act of 1950. (98 Stat. 1851)

Crime Control

Public Law 98-473 also establishes the U.S. Sentencing Commission, an independent commission in the judicial branch whose purpose is to establish sentencing policies and practices for the federal criminal justice system. The Commission shall promulgate guidelines for use by sentencing courts in determining sentences to be imposed in criminal cases. The guidelines, however, may not go into effect until the day after GAO has undertaken a study of the guidelines and their potential impact compared with the operation of the existing sentencing and parole release system. Within 150 days of submission of the Commission's guidelines to the Congress, GAO shall report its study results to the Congress. (98 Stat. 2032).

Four years after the sentencing guidelines go into effect, GAO shall undertake a second study of their impact and compare the new system with the previous one. Within 6 months of undertaking this study, GAO shall report its results to the Congress. (98 Stat. 2033)

This law also provides that a state may apply for federal law enforcement assistance in the case of a law enforcement emergency and gives GAO access to records of recipients of assistance for audit purposes. (98 Stat. 2106)

Further, the law provides for federal challenge grants to encourage states to establish and maintain trust funds or other funding mechanisms, including appropriations to support activities to prevent child abuse and child neglect. GAO has access for audit purposes to records of any applicant and any other entity receiving assistance pertinent to these grants under sections 402 and 409. (98 Stat. 2199)

Federal Capital Investment Program Information Act of 1984

Public Law 98-501, October 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2320, the Public Works Improvement Act of 1984 and the Federal Capital Investment Program Information Act of 1984, requires the President to submit, with his budget proposal for the ensuing fiscal year, an analysis for each major public civilian or military capital investment program.

The Office of Management and Budget, after consultation with the Comptroller General and the Congressional Budget Office, shall issue criteria and guidelines for identifying public civilian and military capital investments, distinguishing between public civilian and military capital investments, and distinguishing between major and nonmajor capital investment programs. (98 Stat. 2326)

Single Audit Act of 1984

Public Law 98-502, October 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2327, the Single Audit Act of 1984, establishes uniform audit requirements for state and local governments receiving federal financial assistance.

Under section 2 of this act, the Comptroller General must review provisions in bills and resolutions reported by the committees of the Senate and House of Representatives requiring either financial or financial and compliance audits of recipients of federal assistance. If the Comptroller General determines that a bill or a resolution contains provisions that are inconsistent with the requirements of the law, he shall notify the committee that reported the bill or the resolution and the Senate Committee on Government Affairs or the House Committee on Government Operations. (98 Stat. 2333-2334)

This law also provides that, if an audit conducted by a state or a local government with respect to federal financial assistance programs finds noncompliance with applicable laws and regulations or weakness in internal controls, the state or local government shall submit a plan for corrective action. The plan shall be consistent with the audit resolution standard promulgated by the Comptroller General (as part of the standards for internal controls in the federal government) pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(b). (98 Stat. 2332)

The law further provides that the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), after consultation with the Comptroller General and others, prescribe policies, procedures, and guidelines to implement this act. (98 Stat. 2333)

Organ Transplant Grants

Public Law 98-507, October 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2339, the National Organ Transplant Act, establishes the Task Force on Organ Transplantation and the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network to authorize financial assistance for organ procurement organizations. The act also provides GAO audit access to pertinent records of grant recipients. (98 Stat. 2346)

Audit Standards

Public Law 98-509, October 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2353, the Alcohol Abuse, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Amendments of 1984, amends the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend authorities of that act to assist alcohol and drug abuse and mental health services. Certain financial and compliance audits in connection with funds provided pursuant to this act shall be conducted in accordance with standards established by the Comptroller General for auditing governmental organizations, programs, activities, and functions. (98 Stat. 2357-2358)

Public Law 98-524, October 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2435, the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Education Act, helps states expand, improve, and update high-quality programs of vocational-technical education. This law requires states to obtain financial and compliance audits of any funds received under the act. The audits are to be conducted in accordance with the Comptroller General's Standards for Audit of Governmental Organizations, Programs, Activities, and Functions. (98 Stat. 2482)

Technical Data Management

Public Law 98-525, October 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2492, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1985, requires the Secretary of Defense to develop a plan for an improved system to manage technical data relating to any major system of the Department of Defense. No later than 18 months after enactment of the law, the Comptroller General shall evaluate the Secretary's plan and report to the Congress. (98 Stat. 2610)

Development Disabilities

Public Law 98-527, October 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2662, the Developmental Disabilities Act of 1984, amends title I of the Mental Retardation Facilities and Community Mental Health Centers Construction Act of 1963 to revise and extend programs for persons with developmental disabilities. The Comptroller General is provided audit access to pertinent records of recipients of assistance under the title. (98 Stat. 2667)

Veterans' Health Care

Public Law 98-528, October 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2686, the Veterans' Health Care Act of 1984, revises and improves the administration of health care by the Veterans' Administration and requires the Comptroller General to report to the Congress his opinion as to whether the Director, OMB, has provided the Veterans Administration the medical personnel ceiling and the funds necessary to achieve it, as required by law. This report is due 15 days after the Director has certified that he has provided the ceiling. (98 Stat. 2688)

Administrative Settlement of Claims Against the United States

Public Law 98-564, October 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 2918, increases the maximum amount of a claim against the United States that may be paid administratively under 10 U.S.C. 2733, 2734, and 2736 and 32 U.S.C. 715. Except for 10 U.S.C. 2736, these amendments provide that meritorious amounts exceeding \$100,000 may be reported to the Comptroller General for payment under 31 U.S.C. 1304. (98 Stat. 2918, 2919)

Industrial Targeting

Public Law 98-573, October 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 2948, the Trade and Tariff Act of 1984, requires the Comptroller General to report to the Congress, no later than June 1, 1985, the results of a comprehensive study of foreign industrial targeting whereby foreign governments adopt schemes to benefit specific industries. The study shall address the need to amend U.S. trade laws to protect domestic industry against the adverse effects of such targeting. (98 Stat. 3042)

Small Business and Federal Procurement Competition Enhancement Act of 1984

Public Law 98-577, October 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 3066, the Small Business and Federal Procurement Competition Enhancement Act of 1984, amends the Small Business Act to enhance competition in government procurement. Among other things, it requires the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to assign to each major procurement center a breakout procurement center representative. The representative's role is to foster full and open competition, rather than sole-source procurement, by identifying items that are available from various vendors while maintaining the integrity of the system in which such items are used.

The Administrator and the Comptroller General shall establish standards for measuring (1) cost savings achieved through efforts of the breakout procurement center representatives and (2) the extent to which competition has been thereby increased. The Administrator shall report annually to the Congress. Following submission of the second annual

report, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Congress an evaluation of both the Administrator's adherence to the jointly established standards and the accuracy of the information submitted to the Congress. (98 Stat. 3082)

Audits—State Justice Institute

Public Law 98-620, November 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3335, contains as title II the State Justice Institute Act of 1984, which establishes a private nonprofit corporation to be known as the State Justice Institute. The financial transactions of the Institute for any fiscal year during which federal funds are available to finance any portion of its operations may be audited by GAO in accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by the Comptroller General. GAO is provided access to pertinent records for audit purposes, and its report is to be made to the Congress and the Attorney General. (98 Stat. 3345-3346)

Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc.

Public Law 99-61, July 9, 1985, 99 Stat. 113, contains as Title I the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Commemorative Coin Act. Surcharges from the sale of the coins are to be used by the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc., to restore the statue and the facilities used for immigration at Ellis Island and to establish an endowment sufficient to ensure the continued upkeep and maintenance of the statue and the facilities. The Comptroller General is given the right to examine the Foundation records concerning these functions. (99 Stat. 115)

Export Administration

Public Law 99-64, July 12, 1985, 99 Stat. 120, the Export Administration Amendments Act of 1985, reauthorizes the Export Administration Act of 1979. This act stipulates, among other things, that the President may not impose, expand, or extend export controls under section 6(f) of the Export Administration Act until he has submitted a report to the Congress specifying certain delineated information. GAO shall assess the report's full compliance with the intent of the subsection. (99 Stat. 133)

Legal Services Clinic

Public Law 99-88, August 15, 1985, 99 Stat. 293, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1985, makes supplemental appropriations for the year ending September 30, 1985. It provides grants to fund two university centers that will provide legal clinics to supplement the civil legal services of the Legal Services Corporation. The clinics will be located at the Loyola University School of Law in New Orleans and the Drake University School

of Law in Des Moines. The endowments are to be held in a trust that dedicates the income exclusively to fulfilling the purposes stated and is subject to GAO audit for the sole purpose of determining that all funds have been accounted for or used for such purposes. (99 Stat. 305)

Un High Commissioner for Refugees

Public Law 99-93, August 16, 1985, 99 Stat. 405, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1986 and 1987, amends the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act to prohibit payment of funds to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees unless the High Commissioner provides for annual program audits. The Comptroller General is to inspect the results of each audit and submit a report to the Congress. (99 Stat. 411)

Appropriations for GAO

Public Law 99-88, August 15, 1985, 99 Stat. 293, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1985, provides GAO an additional \$5 million for salaries and expenses. (99 Stat. 351)

Public Law 99-103, September 30, 1985, 99 Stat. 471, which provides, continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1986, provides funds for GAO in such amounts as may be necessary for projects and activities for which appropriations, funds, or other authority would be available in the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1986. The appropriations or funds shall be available from October 1, 1985, until enactment into law of the applicable appropriation or November 14, 1985, whichever occurs first. (99 Stat. 471-473)

Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985

After the close of the fiscal year, on December 12, 1985, the President signed into law the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, Public Law 99-177, 99 Stat. 1038. The act mandates yearly reductions in the federal deficit to a level of zero in 1991 and establishes a mechanism to ensure that those reductions are achieved. GAO has a substantial role in the process.

The act provides for automatic reductions in a broad range of defense and nondefense programs in any year in which the estimated deficit exceeds the mandated deficit level for that year. Reductions are carried out by the President, who issues special orders suspending automatic spending increases and sequestering new budget authority. The President's actions are triggered by a report from the Comptroller General. The Comptroller

General's report is, in turn, based on a report issued jointly by the Directors of OMB and the Congressional Budget Office.

The act requires GAO to issue its first report to Congress and to the President on January 20, 1986, covering fiscal year 1986. For each fiscal year thereafter, GAO's initial report under the act will be issued on August 25 before the fiscal year begins.

Legislation Enacted During Fiscal Year 1986

Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1986

Public Law 99-145, November 8, 1985, 99 Stat. 583, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1986, contains several provisions involving GAO as follows:

1. The Comptroller General is to review the organizational structure for defense procurement and report to Congress concerning the advantages and the disadvantages of the establishment of an agency either within or outside the Department of Defense (DOD) to perform all DOD procurement functions. (99 Stat. 702)

2. The Secretary of Defense is to carry out a demonstration project to test the use in military hospitals of the hospital-management computer system known as the Veterans Administration's (VA) Decentralized Hospital Computer Program. The purpose of the test is to determine the feasibility and the cost-effectiveness of the use in military hospitals of the system rather than the use of a centralized hospital-management computer system, including the Composite Health-Care System.

The Comptroller General is to report to Congress on an evaluation of the acquisition and the implementation of the Composite Health-Care System and the conduct of the demonstration project. (99 Stat. 719)

3. The Secretary of the Army may provide uranium tetrafluoride (green salt) from stockpile materials to a contractor for production of conventional ammunition for the Army. The Secretary must first certify to the Congress that, among other things, the material was not available to the contractor from commercial sources at a reasonable price (to be determined by the Comptroller General). (99 Stat. 725)

4. The Comptroller General is to report to Congress the results of a study to determine (1) the educational needs of members of the Armed Forces and civilian employees of DOD and their dependents stationed outside the United States, (2) the most effective and feasible means of meeting these needs, and (3) the cost. (99 Stat. 726)

5. No later than March 15, 1988, the Comptroller General is to submit a report to Congress on the effectiveness of the program of cash awards for disclosures, suggestions, inventions, and scientific achievements leading to cost savings. (99 Stat. 730)

Appropriations for GAO

Public Law 99-151, November 13, 1985, 99 Stat. 792, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1986, provides an appropriation of \$300,992,000 for necessary GAO expenses for fiscal year 1986. The appropriation is available to finance, among other things, a portion, not to exceed \$50,000, of the costs of the Government Accounting Standards Board. The appropriation is also available for the expenses of planning the triennial Congress on the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions to be hosted by GAO in 1992. (99 Stat. 806-807)

Claims and Judgments

Public Law 99-151, November 13, 1985, 99 Stat. 792, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1986, amends Public Law 90-545 to authorize the claims and judgments fund, administered by GAO, to pay final partial judgments and compromise settlements to settle claims resulting from acquisition of lands for Redwood National Park after certification by the Attorney General to the Comptroller General that to do so is in the interest of the United States. (99 Stat. 807)

Health Research Extension Act of 1985

Public Law 99-158, November 20, 1985, 99 Stat. 820, the Health Research Extension Act of 1985, revises and extends authorities under the Public Health Service Act relating to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Research Institutes.

The law provides that the sum of the amounts obligated in any fiscal year for NIH administrative expenses not exceed an amount that is 5.5 percent of the total amount appropriated for that fiscal year for NIH. The Secretary of Health and Human Services is to consult with the Comptroller General in connection with the identification of administrative expenses and the preparation of reports to Congress on amounts obligated for administrative expenses. (99 Stat. 832)

The Secretary of Health and Human Services is authorized to make grants for (1) training in medical library sciences; (2) assistance for special scientific projects and for research and development in medical library science and related fields; (3) establishing, expending, and improving the basic resources of medical libraries and related instrumentalities; (4) establishing regional medical libraries; and (5) financial support of biomedical scientific publications.

The Comptroller General is provided audit access to pertinent records of grant recipients. (99 Stat. 864)

Department of
Housing and Urban
Development—
Independent Agencies
Appropriation Act,
1986

Veterans Administration
Major Construction
Projects

Public Law 99-160, November 25, 1985, 99 Stat. 909, Department of Housing and Urban Development—Independent Agencies Appropriation Act, 1986, provides with respect to appropriations for the VA that funds appropriated for fiscal year 1986 for "Construction, Major Projects" be obligated for each approved project (1) by awarding a working drawings contract by September 30, 1986, and (2) by awarding a construction contract by September 30, 1987.

The administration is to report to the Comptroller General and to the Committees on Appropriations any approved major construction project in which obligations are not incurred within the time limits established. The Comptroller General is to review the report in accordance with section 1015 of the Impoundment Control Act of 1974. (99 Stat. 926)

Appropriated Funds
Expenditure Audit

In addition, Public Law 99-160 provides that no funds appropriated by the act be expended unless such expenditure is subject to GAO audit or is specifically exempt from such an audit. (99 Stat. 930)

Congressional Award
Amendments of 1985

Public Law 99-161, November 25, 1985, 99 Stat. 934, Congressional Award Amendments of 1985, amends the Congressional Award Act to require a biennial GAO audit of the Congressional Awards Board. The audit is to, at a minimum (1) assess the adequacy of the Board's fiscal control and funds accountability procedures and (2) assess the propriety of expenses allowed to the Director and other Board employees.

As a part of the first audit, the Comptroller General is to evaluate of the programs and activities under this act. The evaluation is to cover (1) the extent to which the Congressional Award Program and activities are achieving the stated purpose; (2) the standards of achievement and

procedures for verifying that individuals satisfy them established by the Board; (3) the Board's fund-raising efforts; (4) the organizational structure of the Board, particularly the use of Regional Directors; and (5) such additional areas as the Comptroller General determines deserve or require evaluation. (99 Stat. 935-936)

Veterans Administration Health-Care Amendments of 1985

Public Law 99-166, December 3, 1985, 99 Stat. 941, the Veterans Administration Health-Care Amendments of 1985, requires the Administrator of Veterans Affairs to report to the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs a detailed plan and a justification before implementing a systematic reduction in average salary cost for VA employees in certain categories and in the number of such employees at a specific grade level.

No later than 45 days after the Administrator submits this report, the Comptroller General is to report to the Committees on the Administrator's compliance with the law and the accuracy of the determination and the data supporting it. (99 Stat. 958)

Gramm-Rudman- Hollings

Public Law 99-177, December 12, 1985, 99 Stat. 1037, the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Gramm-Rudman-Hollings), adds a new section 405 to the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to require GAO to study those provisions of law that provide spending authority as defined by section 401(c)(2) (contract authority, borrowing authority, entitlement authority, off-setting receipts, and residual authority) and that provide permanent appropriations. GAO is also to report to the Congress its recommendations for the appropriate form of financing for activities or programs financed by such provisions. The report is to be revised from time to time.

The statute creates a mechanism designed to produce phased reductions of federal budget deficits and contains certain requirements for the Comptroller General, among others, to administer a process of elimination of excess deficits through across-the-board reduction in government spending. Among other things, the Directors of the Congressional Budget Office and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) are to report to the Comptroller General estimating the levels of federal budget outlays and receipts and any resulting deficit for the coming fiscal year, together with amounts by which spending must be reduced for each federal spending account. The Comptroller General then must submit an independent

report to the President. If the Comptroller General's report projects a deficit excess, the President is to issue a sequestration order eliminating the excess by reducing automatic spending increases and sequestering funds. (99 Stat. 1038, 1059, 1062, 1064, 1068, 1069, 1071, 1072, 1073, 1074, 1076, 1077, 1078, 1081)

FBI Undercover Operations

Public Law 99-180, December 13, 1985, 99 Stat. 1136, the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriation Act, 1986, provides that if a corporation or a business entity established or acquired in connection with undercover investigative operations of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) with a net value of over \$50,000 is to be liquidated, sold or otherwise disposed of, the FBI is to report the circumstances to the Attorney General and the Comptroller General. (99 Stat. 1148)

Continuing Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1986

Costs Allowable Under Defense Contracts

Public Law 99-190, December 19, 1985, 99 Stat. 1185, which makes further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1986, amends 10 U.S.C 2324 respecting costs allowable under defense contracts to require periodic Comptroller General evaluation of the implementation of this section by the Secretary of Defense. The evaluation is to consider the extent to which (1) such implementation is consistent with congressional intent, (2) such implementation achieves the objective of eliminating unallowable costs charged to defense contracts, and (3) such implementation can be improved or strengthened. (99 Stat. 1223)

Territorial Governments Audits

Public Law 99-190 also provides for GAO audit of all financial transactions of the territorial and local governments and of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, including transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by such governments. (99 Stat. 1238, 1239)

U.S. Holocaust Memorial
Council

Public Law 99-190 amends 36 U.S.C 1408 to provide for GAO audit and access to records of financial transactions, including those involving donated funds, for the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council. (99 Stat. 1267)

Banks and Banking

In addition, Public Law 99-190 provides that hereafter the Comptroller General or his duly authorized representatives have access to and the right to examine all books, documents, papers, records, or other recorded information within the possession or control of the federal land banks and federal land bank associations, federal intermediate credit banks, and production credit associations and banks for cooperatives. (99 Stat. 1316)

Arts, Humanities, and
Museums
Amendments of 1985

Public Law 99-194, December 20, 1985, 99 Stat. 1332, the Arts, Humanities, and Museums Amendments of 1985, requires the Comptroller General to report to Congress the results of a study to be conducted to determine the feasibility of supplementing expenditures made from the general fund of the Treasury of the United States for the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum Services through other federal funding mechanisms. The law delineates certain alternative funding methods to be considered. The Comptroller General is to consider how the implementation of each supplemental funding mechanism would affect (1) any international copyright treaties, commitments, and obligations to which the United States is a party; (2) public participation in the arts and the humanities; (3) private, corporate, and foundation support for the arts and the humanities; (4) the overall quality of arts and the humanities in the United States; (5) the creative activities of individual authors and artists; and (6) activities and operations of private copyrighting organizations. (99 Stat. 1345, 1346)

Food Security Act of
1985

Public Law 99-198, December 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1354, the Food Security Act of 1985, provides for establishment of a National Commission on Dairy Policy and a National Commission on Agricultural Policy. The Comptroller General is provided audit access to the records of these Commissions. Also, GAO, among others, is to provide the Commissions information required to carry out their duties. On request of these Commissions, GAO may furnish personnel and support services. (99 Stat. 1375, 1376, 1639, 1640)

Another provision of the act requires the Comptroller General to conduct a study of Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of

Agriculture product purity and inspection requirements and regulations currently in effect for imported food products and agricultural commodities. The study is to (1) evaluate the effectiveness of federal regulations and inspection procedures to detect prohibited chemical residues and foreign matter in or on food or raw agricultural commodities in processed or unprocessed form; (2) review current federal regulations and inspection procedures to detect in imported live animals chemicals and chemical residues whose use is prohibited in breeding of domestic live animals; (3) include recommendations regarding the feasibility of requiring that quality control reports relating to product purity and inspection procedures be submitted from processing plants certified eligible to export meat; (4) include recommendations on the adequacy of the Departments to prescribe and enforce food sanitation requirements and chemical residue standards for imported agricultural commodities and food products; (5) evaluate the feasibility of requiring all imported meat and agricultural commodities to bear a label stating the country of origin and the feasibility of requiring persons owning or operating an eating establishment to inform individuals purchasing food that meat may be imported. (99 Stat. 1634)

Overseas Private Investment Corporation Amendments Act of 1985

Public Law 99-204, December 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1669, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation Amendments Act of 1985, requires the Comptroller General to report to the Congress the results of a study of the impact on employment in the United States of the activities of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

The law also amends the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 with respect to audits of the Corporation. A financial and compliance audit of the Corporation's financial statements is to be performed by an independent certified public accountant at least once every 3 years in accordance with auditing standards issued by GAO. GAO may review the audit and resulting report to Congress as considered necessary. At the request of the Congress or if considered necessary by GAO, GAO may perform the audit. (99 Stat. 1673, 1674, 1676)

Compact of Free Association

Public Law 99-239, January 14, 1986, 99 Stat. 1770, the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985, approves the Compact and, among other things, delineates GAO audit authority with respect to the Federated States of Micronesia and the government of the Marshall Islands. (99 Stat. 1771, 1777, 1778, 1786, 1787, 1798, 1799)

Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985

Public Law 99-272, April 7, 1986, 100 Stat. 82, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, contains provisions relating to the GAO.

Title IX, the Medicare and Medicaid Budget Reconciliation Amendments of 1985, provides at section 9114 that the Secretary of Health and Human Services make available to the Comptroller General, among others, information on the impact on hospitals of prospective payment system payments made under section 1886 of the Social Security Act. (100 Stat. 163)

The Comptroller General is to conduct a study of the variation in the amounts of payments made under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to patients in different teaching hospital settings and in the amounts of such payments that are made with respect to patients treated in teaching- and non-teaching-hospital settings. The study is to identify the components of such payments (including payments with respect to inpatient hospital services; physician services; capital costs; and, in the case of teaching hospital patients, payments with respect to direct and indirect teaching costs) and shall account, to the extent feasible, for any variations in the amounts of the payment components between teaching and nonteaching settings and among different teaching settings. (100 Stat. 176)

The Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Comptroller General are to assist representatives of clinical laboratories in the industry's conduct of a study to determine whether methods exist that are better than competitive bidding for purposes of using competitive market forces to set payment levels for laboratory services under title XVIII of the Social Security Act. The Comptroller General is also to provide comments on the study to the Senate Committee on Finance and the House Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce. (100 Stat. 178)

Section 9305 provides for appointment by the Director of the Office of Technology Assessment of a Physician Payment Review Commission. The provision for periodic GAO audits in section 1886(e)(6) of the Social Security Act applies to this Commission in the same manner as it applies to the Prospective Payment Assessment Commission. (100 Stat. 192)

The law amends section 2326(e)(2) of the Deficit Reduction Act of 1984 to extend to May 1, 1986, the reporting date for a GAO study of certain aspects of Medicare contracting for claims processing. (100 Stat. 196)

The Comptroller General is to conduct a study and report to Congress on the effects of amendments made by section 9509, Revaluation of Assets. Section 9509 contains amendments to section 1902(a) of the Social Security Act respecting state plans required in connection with grants to states for medical assistance programs. (100 Stat. 212)

Title XI, Single-Employer Pension Plan Amendments Act of 1986, provides that the Comptroller General may, pursuant to the request of any Member of Congress, study employee benefit plans, including their effects on employees, participants, and beneficiaries. There is also a provision for Comptroller General access to records of pertinent documents. (100 Stat. 275)

Title XIII, Revenues, Trade, and Related Programs, authorizes appropriations for the U.S. Customs Service. This authorization includes a requirement for a GAO evaluation of the air detection and interdiction capability of the Customs Service, including assets, geographic dispersal, cost of operation, procurement practices, and the services and equipment provided by other federal agencies. (100 Stat. 306, 307)

Title XV, Civil Service, Postal Service, and Governmental Affairs Generally, contains, as Subtitle C, Federal Motor Vehicle Expenditure Control. Each agency head is to develop a system to identify, collect, and analyze data with respect to all costs incurred in the operation, the maintenance, the acquisition, and the disposition of motor vehicles used for official purposes. The Administrator of General Services, in cooperation with the Comptroller General and the Director of OMB, is to promulgate requirements governing the establishment and the operation of this system. (100 Stat. 335)

The Comptroller General is to evaluate and report to Congress the extent to which the Director of OMB, the Administrator of General Services, and the executive agencies have complied with the requirements of the subtitle. (100 Stat. 338)

Title XVI, the Student Financial Assistance Amendments of 1985, amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 with respect to recovery of outstanding advances to guaranty agencies incident to the student loan program. In determining the amount of advances to be repaid, the Secretary is to consider the solvency and the maturity, as determined by the Comptroller General, of the reserve and insurance funds of states or nonprofit private institutions assisted by the advances. (100 Stat. 339)

Title XIX, the Veterans' Health Care Amendments of 1986, amends title 38 of the U.S. Code with respect to recovery of the cost of certain health care and services furnished by the VA. The Administrator of Veterans Affairs, after consultation with the Comptroller General, is to prescribe regulations for the purpose of determining the reasonable cost of care or services. The Comptroller General is to provide to the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs comments on and recommendations regarding these regulations. (100 Stat. 383, 384)

Young Astronaut Program Medal Act

Public Law 99-295, May 12, 1986, 100 Stat. 427, the Young Astronaut Program Medal Act, provides for the striking of medals to commemorate the Young Astronaut Program under the direction of the Young Astronaut Council. The Comptroller General is provided access to Council records relating to the medals and their marketing. (100 Stat. 427)

Tehran American School Claim Act of 1985

Public Law 99-330, May 29, 1986, 100 Stat. 509, the Tehran American School Claims Act of 1985, authorizes and directs the Comptroller General to settle and adjust the claim of Tehran American School for \$13,333.94. This amount constitutes proceeds from the sale of three motor vehicles arranged by the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, Iran, in 1979. (100 Stat. 509)

Federal Employees' Retirement System Act of 1986

Public Law 99-335, June 6 1986, 100 Stat. 514, contains at Title I the Federal Employees' Retirement System Act of 1986, which establishes a new retirement and disability plan for federal employees, postal employees, and members of Congress. A new Chapter 84, Federal Employees' Retirement System, is added to Title 5 of the U.S. Code. Subchapter II, Basic Annuity, provides for establishment by the Comptroller General of procedures for deposit in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund of amounts deducted from basic pay and government contributions. (100 Stat. 538)

Subchapter III, Thrift Savings Plan, requires that the Comptroller General prescribe procedures for deposit of amounts contributed in the Thrift Savings Fund established by 5 U.S.C 8437. (100 Stat. 543)

Subchapter VII, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Management System, requires the Secretary of Labor to establish a program to carry out audits to determine the level of compliance respecting fiduciary

responsibilities and prohibited activities of fiduciaries. An audit may be conducted by the Secretary of Labor, by contract with a qualified nongovernmental organization or, in cooperation with the Comptroller General, as the Secretary considers appropriate. (100 Stat. 586)

Title IV of the law, the Foreign Service Pension System Act of 1986, also requires the Comptroller General to establish procedures for deposit of amounts deducted and withheld into the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability Fund. (100 Stat. 618)

Judicial Survivors' Annuities

Public Law 99-336, June 19, 1986, 100 Stat. 633, Judicial Improvements Act of 1985, amends title 28 of the U.S. Code to provide for the deposit to the credit of the Judicial Survivors' Annuities Fund, in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Comptroller General, amounts required to reduce to zero the unfunded liability of the Fund. (100 Stat. 633)

Education of the Deaf Act of 1986

Public Law 99-371, August 4, 1986, 100 Stat. 781, Education of the Deaf Act of 1986, establishes at Title III a Commission on Education of the Deaf to study the quality of education furnished to deaf individuals. One Commission member is to be appointed by the Comptroller General. The Commission is authorized to secure directly from GAO, among others, information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics to carry out the provisions of this title. (100 Stat. 786, 788)

Title I of the law pertains to the continuation of Gallaudet College as Gallaudet University. GAO is to settle and adjust all financial transactions and accounts in connection with the expenditure of moneys appropriated by any law of the United States for the benefit of the university or the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. (100 Stat. 790)

Handicapped Children's Protection Act of 1986

Public Law 99-372, August 4, 1986, 100 Stat. 796, the Handicapped Children's Protection Act of 1986, amends the Education of the Handicapped Act to authorize the award of reasonable attorneys' fees to the parents or the guardian of a handicapped child or youth who is the prevailing party in an action or proceeding brought in court.

The Comptroller General is to study the impact of this amendment and report his findings to the House Committee on Education and Labor and the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources. (100 Stat. 797)

Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986

Public Law 99-399, August 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 853, the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986, contains a finding by Congress that some U.S. citizens may be specially endangered during a hijacking or another terrorist incident by the fact that their places of birth appear on their U.S. passports. No later than one year after the date of enactment of this act, the Comptroller General is to report to Congress on the implications of deleting the place of birth as a required item of information on passports. (100 Stat. 878)

Executive Exchange Program Voluntary Services Act of 1986

Public Law 99-424, September 30 1986, 100 Stat. 964, the Executive Exchange Program Voluntary Services Act of 1986, provides for establishment of an experimental program relating to the acceptance of voluntary services from participants in an executive exchange program of the government. GAO is to report to Congress on the experimental program, including a description of its administration, the advantages and the disadvantages of accepting the voluntary services, and recommendations for legislation relating to continuing the program. (100 Stat. 965)

Legislation Enacted During Fiscal Year 1987

SBA Small Innovative Firms Program

Public Law 99-443, October 6, 1986, 100 Stat. 1120, which provides the Small Business Administration continuing authority to administer a program for small innovative firms, requires the Comptroller General to report to the Congress no later than December 31, 1988, on an evaluation of the effectiveness to date of phases one and two of the Small Business Innovation Research Program as set out in section 9(e)(4) of the Small Business Act. An update of the report is required no later than December 31, 1986, which is also to include an evaluation of phase three of the program. (100 Stat 1120)

Appropriations for GAO

Public Law 99-464, October 9, 1986, 100 Stat. 1185, which makes further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1987, includes appropriations for such amounts as may be necessary for programs, projects, or activities provided for in H.R. 5203, the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1987, to the extent and in the manner provided for in the conference report (H. Rept. 99-805), as if enacted into law, through October 10, 1986. (100 Stat. 1186)

Export-Import Bank Act Amendments of 1986

Public Law 99-472, October 15, 1986, 100 Stat. 1200, the Export-Import Bank Act Amendments of 1986, requires a GAO report to the Congress analyzing the need for U.S. government involvement in export credit insurance, the need to employ an agent in administering government-supported insurance programs, and the efficiency and effectiveness of continuing to use the Foreign Credit Insurance Association as the Bank's agent. (100 Stat. 1205)

Further, GAO is to report to the Congress on the manner in which and the extent to which the Export-Import Bank is exercising its authority to make interest subsidy payments under section 2(f) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945. (100 Stat. 1209)

Higher Education Amendments of 1986

Public Law 99-498, October 17, 1986, 100 Stat. 1268 the Higher Education Amendments of 1986, contains a provision concerning advances for reserve funds of state and nonprofit private loan insurance programs. In determining the amount of advances that are to be repaid by the guaranty agency, the Secretary of Education is to consider the solvency and maturity of the reserve and insurance funds of the guaranty agency assisted by these advances, as determined by the Comptroller General. (100 Stat. 1357-1358)

Part B of Title IV of the law pertains to the guaranteed student loan program. The Secretary of Education has certain financial operations responsibilities including the maintenance of an integral set of accounts and preparation of financial statements with respect to insurance under this part that are to be audited annually by GAO. (100 Stat. 1402)

Also with respect to the program, the Comptroller General is authorized to audit the financial transactions of (1) any guaranty agency operating under an agreement with the Secretary, (2) any eligible lender, (3) a representative sample of eligible lenders under this part, and (4) any Authority required to file a plan for doing business under section 438(d). (100 Stat. 1403)

The Comptroller General is to report to the Congress the results of a study of the practices of state guaranty agencies and multistate guarantors under the program authorized by part B. (100 Stat 1583)

Additionally, the Comptroller General is required to evaluate the following matters for the Congress:

- the feasibility and efficiency of permitting students to establish lines of credit with eligible lenders under part B that cover more than 2 years of attendance at an institution of higher education;
- the impact of the multiple disbursement system required for student loans under part B on the ability of both students and institutions of higher education to meet these expenses as they arise; and
- the cost, efficiency, and impact of the consolidation loan program. (100 Stat. 1584)

Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986

Public Law 99-499, October 17, 1986, 100 Stat. 1613, the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, requires GAO to study the following matters for the Congress:

1. The problem of shortages of skilled personnel in the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out response actions under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980. (100 Stat. 1656)
2. The application of the subsection concerning the indemnification of response action contractors, including whether indemnification

agreements are being used, the number of claims filed under such agreements, and the need for the subsection. (100 Stat. 1665)

3. Options for a program for managing the liabilities associated with hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal sites after their closure, which complements the policies in the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 and ensures the protection of human health and the environment. (100 Stat. 1693-1695)

4. The availability of pollution liability insurance, leak insurance, and contamination insurance for owners and operators of petroleum storage and distribution facilities. The study is to assess the extent to which private insurance can contribute to the financial responsibility of owners and operators of underground storage tanks to maintain financial responsibility through other methods. The experience of owners and operators of marine vessels in getting insurance is to be considered. (100 Stat. 1702-1703)

5. A determination of the insurability and effects on standards of care of the liability of each of the following:

- persons who generate hazardous substances,
- persons who own or operate facilities, and
- persons liable for injury to persons or property caused by the release of hazardous substances into the environment. (100 Stat. 1707-1708)

6. With respect to section 313, concerning toxic chemical release forms, the Comptroller General is to provide a description of the steps taken by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to implement the requirements of the section, a description of the extent to which the information collected has been used, and an identification and evaluation of options for modifications to the requirements. (100 Stat. 1745)

Distribution of Royalties by the Federal Government

Public Law 99-502, October 20, 1986, 100 Stat. 1785, the Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986, amends the Stevenson-Wydler Innovation Act of 1980 to add a new section 14 pertaining to the distribution of royalties by federal agencies. This section requires the Comptroller General, 5 years after the date of enactment, to review and report to the Congress on the effectiveness of the royalty-sharing programs established under this section. (100 Stat. 1794)

Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986

Public Law 99-509, October 21, 1986, 100 Stat. 1874, the "Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986," contains several requirements for the Comptroller General:

- The Comptroller General is to audit and evaluate the activities of the Secretary of Agriculture in connection with the sale of rural housing loans where the Secretary is to ensure that loans made under title V of the Housing Act of 1949 are sold to the public in amounts sufficient to provide a net reduction in outlays of not less than \$1,715,000,000 in fiscal year 1987 from the proceeds of such sales. (100 Stat. 1880)
- The Comptroller General is to audit and evaluate the activities of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank in connection with the sale of Export-Import Bank loans where the Board is to ensure that Bank loans are sold to the public in amounts sufficient to provide a net reduction in outlays of not less than \$1,500,000,000 in fiscal year 1987 from the proceeds of such sale. (100 Stat. 1881)
- The Comptroller General is authorized to conduct such audits as deemed appropriate in connection with the public offering of Conrail, including the co-lead managers associated with the public offering. (100 Stat. 1897)
- The Comptroller General is to study and report to the Congress on (1) the appropriateness and impact on Medicare beneficiaries of applying the per-visit cost limits for home health service under section 1861(v)(1)(L) of the Social Security Act on a discipline-specific bases, rather than on an aggregate basis, for all home health services furnished by an agency and (2) the appropriateness of the percentage limits established under such section. (100 Stat. 2006)

Government Vehicles Passenger Carrier Use

Public Law 99-550, October 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3067, restricts the use of government vehicles for transportation of officers and employees of the federal government between their residences and places of employment.

31 U.S.C. 1344 permits the Comptroller General, among others delineated in the law, to be transported between residence and place of employment. (100 Stat. 3068)

After consultation with the Comptroller General, among others, the Administrator of General Services must promulgate regulations governing the heads of all federal agencies in making determinations about the use of passenger carriers required for the performance of fieldwork and for emergency or compelling operational considerations. (100 Stat. 3069)

False Claims Amendments Act of 1986

Public Law 99-562, October 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3153, the False Claims Amendments Act of 1986, amends title 31, U.S. Code, with respect to the fraudulent use of public property or money. Section 3730(d) pertaining to award to "qui tam" plaintiff stipulates the amount of award where the action is one that the court finds to be based primarily on disclosures of specific information in a congressional, administrative, or GAO report, hearing, audit, or investigation. (100 Stat. 3156)

Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986

Public Law 99-570, October 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3207, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986, contains at subtitle K, the State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Act of 1986. This subtitle provides grants to states for enforcing state and local laws that establish offenses similar to offenses established in the Controlled Substances Act, among other things. GAO is provided audit access to grant recipient records. (100 Stat. 3207-45)

The Comptroller General is to report to the Congress the results of an investigation to determine the effectiveness of the assistance provided pursuant to chapter 8 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 relating to international narcotics control. (100 Stat. 3207-64)

Section 3057 of the law delineates certain additional assistance to be provided by the Department of Defense (DOD) in connection with drug law enforcement. The Comptroller General is to monitor compliance by the Department. (100 Stat. 3207-78, 3207-79)

In connection with undercover investigative operations of the Customs Service, when a corporation or business established or acquired as part of an operation with a net value of more than \$50,000 is to be liquidated, sold, or otherwise disposed of, the circumstances are to be reported to the Comptroller General. (100 Stat. 3207-91)

The President is to consult with the Comptroller General incident to the preparation of a report to the Congress recommending legislation to reorganize the executive branch to more effectively combat drug traffic and drug abuse. (100 Stat. 3207-161)

Government Securities Act of 1986

Public Law 99-571, October 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 3208, the Government Securities Act of 1986, amends the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to add a new section 15C to establish government securities regulation authority. The Comptroller General is to report to the Congress the results of a study

of the regulation of government securities brokers and dealers pursuant to section 15C and the effectiveness of the amendments to this act in protecting investors and in effecting the purposes described in section 15C(b)(2). (100 Stat. 3221)

The Comptroller General is also to report to the Congress the results of a study of the current trading system in the secondary market for government securities. (100 Stat. 3221-3222)

National Bureau of Standards Personnel Management Demonstration Project

Public Law 99-574, October 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 3238, the National Bureau of Standards Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1987, provides for the design of a demonstration project relating to personnel management at the Bureau.

No later than 4 years after the project begins, the Comptroller General is to report on the project to certain delineated committees of the Congress, including any recommendations for legislation or other action considered appropriate. (100 Stat. 3242)

Contracts for Certain Legal Services

Public Law 99-578, October 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 3305, amends 31 U.S.C. 3718 to authorize contracts retaining private counsel to furnish legal services in the case of indebtedness owed the United States.

The Comptroller General is to report to the Congress the results of an audit of the actions of the Attorney General in awarding these contracts. (100 Stat. 3307-08)

Continuing Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1987

Public Law 99-591, October 30, 1986, 100 Stat. 3341, which provides continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1987, contains the following provisions relating to GAO:

1. With respect to any undercover investigative operation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the Drug Enforcement Administration that is necessary for detecting and prosecuting crimes against the United States or for collecting foreign intelligence, the Comptroller General is to be notified if a corporation or business entity established or acquired as part of an undercover operation with a net value of more than \$50,000 is to be liquidated, sold, or otherwise disposed of. (100 Stat. 3341-52)

2.The James Madison Memorial Fellowship Act establishes the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation to commemorate the bicentennial of the Constitution. GAO may audit the Foundation activities. (100 Stat. 3341-80)

Endowments to constitutional law resource centers provided by the act are to be invested by the recipient university in interest bearing obligations of the United States or in obligations guaranteed both as to principal and interest by the United States and are subject to GAO audit for the sole purpose of determining that such funds are accounted for or have been used as provided. (100 Stat. 3341-82)

3.10 U.S.C. 2325 pertains to the preference for nondevelopment items with respect to the procurement of supplies by DOD. The Comptroller General is to conduct an independent evaluation of the actions taken by the Secretary of Defense to carry out these requirements. (100 Stat. 3341-138)

4.10 U.S.C. 2367 provides for a GAO study and report to the Congress on the national defense role of federally funded research and development centers. (100 Stat. 3341-146)

5.The Comptroller General is to monitor, assess, and report to the Congress on the operational testing of the BIGEYE binary chemical bomb. (100 Stat. 3341-180)

6.The provisions for appropriations for the administration of territories and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands by the Department of the Interior require that the financial transactions of the territorial and local governments and the Trust Territory be audited by GAO pursuant to 31 U.S.C. Ch. 35. (100 Stat. 3341-258, 259)

7.Title III of the law, the School Lunch and Child Nutrition Amendments of 1986, amends the National School Lunch Act with respect to alternative means of assistance. On request of a participating school district (and after consultation with the Comptroller General about accounting procedures used to determine any losses), the Secretary of Agriculture is to provide cash compensation to an eligible school district for losses sustained as a result of a study pursuant to section 1581(a) of the act. (100 Stat. 3341-371)

8. Title VI of the law, the Metropolitan Washington Airports Act of 1986, transfers the operating responsibility under long-term lease of the two Metropolitan Washington airport properties to a properly constituted

independent Airports Authority. The Comptroller General is authorized to periodically audit the activities and transactions of the Airports Authority. (100 Stat. 3341-381)

Immigration Reform

Public Law 99-603, November 6, 1986, 100 Stat. 3359, the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, contains several requirements for GAO.

A new section 274A is added to the Immigration and Nationality Act, which pertains to making employment of unauthorized aliens unlawful. The section requires a series of reports by the Comptroller General describing the results of a review of the implementation and enforcement of this section. These reports are to include a specific determination on whether a pattern of discrimination in employment on the basis of national origin has resulted. (100 Stat. 3369-3370)

A new section 274B prohibiting discrimination based on national origin or citizenship status terminates after receipt of the last of the above-described reports by the Comptroller General under section 274.4 if the Comptroller General determines (1) no significant discrimination has resulted, (2) the section has created an unreasonable burden on employers hiring such workers, and (3) a joint resolution has been enacted stating that the Congress approves the Comptroller General's findings. (100 Stat. 3379)

The Comptroller General is to report to the Congress the results of an inquiry into technological alternatives for producing and issuing social security account number cards that are more resistant to counterfeiting. Also, the Comptroller General is to explore additional actions that can be taken to reduce the potential for fraudulently obtaining and using social security account number cards. (100 Stat 3373-3374)

The Comptroller General is to examine current pilot projects relating to the System for Alien Verification of Eligibility operated by the Immigration and Naturalization Service and monitor and analyze the implementation of the system. (100 Stat. 3393-3394)

The law establishes grants to states to provide assistance with respect to the impact of legalization, and for the purpose of evaluating and reviewing the assistance provided, the Comptroller General is to have access to records relating to such assistance. (100 Stat. 3409)

Refugee Reception and Placement Grants

Public Law 99-605, November 6, 1986, 100 Stat. 3449, the Refugee Assistance Extension Act of 1986, amends the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to an annual financial audit by the Comptroller General of funds expended for grants and contracts with public and private nonprofit agencies for initial resettlement of refugees in the United States. (100 Stat. 3450)

Anti-Kickback Enforcement Act of 1986

Public Law 99-634, November 7, 1986, 100 Stat. 3523, the Anti-Kickback Enforcement Act of 1986, amends the Act of March 8, 1946, to strengthen the prohibition of kickbacks relating to subcontracts under federal government contracts. GAO is provided access to and may inspect the facilities and audit the books and records of any prime contractor or subcontractor under a prime contract to ascertain whether there has been a violation of section 3, which delineates prohibited conduct. (100 Stat. 3525)

Futures Trading Act of 1986

Public Law 99-641, November 10, 1986, 100 Stat. 3556, the Futures Trading Act of 1986, requires the Comptroller General to conduct a comprehensive study and report to the Congress on the effect of trading in contracts for the future delivery of live cattle on the cash market price of live cattle. (100 Stat. 3561-3562)

The Comptroller General is also to report to the Congress the results of a study of marketing practices used by applicants for and borrowers of farm loans made, insured, or guaranteed under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act. (100 Stat. 3563)

National Commission to Prevent Infant Mortality

Public Law 99-660, November 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3743, the Drug Export Amendments Act of 1986, contains at Title II, the National Commission to Prevent Infant Mortality Act of 1986. The Comptroller General is 1 of 15 statutory members of the Commission established by this title. (100 Stat. 3752)

National Defense Authorization Act, 1987

Public Law 99-661, November 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3816, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1987, contains the following provisions relating to GAO:

1.The Secretary of the Army may not enter into a contract for the multiyear procurement of the stinger air defense missile until (1) he obtains and evaluates bids for a competitive second source, (2) he certifies that acquisition from more than one source would be more costly than a multiyear procurement program from a single source, and (3) the Comptroller General has evaluated the competitive proposals on the basis of which the Secretary made the decision. (100 Stat. 3828)

2.The Comptroller General is to observe the testing of the Bradley Fighting Vehicle and report to the Congress on the adequacy of the testing and on the test results. (100 Stat. 3829-3830)

3.The Secretary of Defense is to conduct a detailed financial analysis on the projected cost of development and production of the advanced technology bomber. The Comptroller General is to review the Secretary's findings and report the results to the Congress. (100 Stat. 3833)

4.The Comptroller General is to monitor, assess, and report to the Congress on the operational trading of the BIGEYE binary chemical bomb. (100 Stat. 3836)

5.The law delineates the contents of a report to be provided by the Secretary of Defense with respect to a federally funded research and development center for the support of the Strategic Defense Initiative Program. The Comptroller General is to provide an analysis of this report to the Congress. (100 Stat. 3843)

6.The Secretary of Defense is to carry out an extended benchmark test of competing medical information systems using the testing specifications described in Solicitation No. DAHC 26-85-12-0009 (relating to the acquisition of the Composite Health-Care System.) The Comptroller General is to monitor and evaluate the testing and report to the Congress. (100 Stat. 3901)

7.Title IV, the Defense Acquisition Improvement Act of 1986, requires an independent evaluation by the Comptroller General of the actions taken by the Secretary of Defense to carry out the requirements of 10 U.S.C. 2325 concerning preference for nondevelopmental items with respect to procurement of supplies by DOD. (100 Stat. 3918)

8.The Comptroller General is to report to the Congress the results of a study of the national defense role of federally funded research and development centers. (100 Stat. 3926)

9.Title XIV of the law establishes the Barry Goldwater Scholarships and Excellence in Education Foundation and provides that GAO may audit Foundation activities. (100 Stat. 4011)

10.Division D, the Child Nutrition Amendments of 1986, amends the National School Lunch Act with respect to alternative means of assistance. Upon the request of a participating school district (and after consultation with the Comptroller General about accounting procedures used to determine any losses), the Secretary of Agriculture is to provide cash compensation to an eligible school district for losses sustained as a result of a study pursuant to section 1581(a) of the Act. (100 Stat. 4079)

Water Resources Development Act of 1986

Public Law 99-662, November 17, 1986, 100 Stat. 4082, the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, provides that a nonfederal interest may levy port or harbor dues (in the form of tonnage duties or fees) on a vessel engaged in trade entering or departing from a harbor and on cargo loaded on or unloaded from that vessel. The Comptroller General is to conduct periodic audits and report to the Congress on the operations of nonfederal interests that elect to levy port and harbor dues. (100 Stat. 4104)

The Comptroller General is also to study the Secretary of the Army's contracting procedures for civil works projects to ascertain whether potential bidders, regardless of size, are allowed to compete fairly in the interest of lowering cost on contracts for construction. The Comptroller General is to report his findings to the Congress, together with an assessment of whether contract procedures are applied uniformly among the various field offices under the Secretary's jurisdiction. (100 Stat. 4198)

Water Quality Act of 1987

Public Law 100-4, February 4, 1987, 101 Stat. 7, the Water Quality Act of 1987, amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide for the renewal of the quality of the nation's waters. The law requires reports to the Congress by the Secretary of the Army and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency that examine and analyze various enforcement mechanisms, including an administration civil penalty mechanism. Each report is to include an examination, prepared in consultation with the Comptroller General, of the efficacy of existing

enforcement authorities and recommendations for improvements in their operation. (101 Stat. 49)

Higher Education Technical Amendments Act of 1987

Public Law 100-50, June 3, 1987, 101 Stat. 335, the Higher Education Technical Amendments Act of 1987, makes certain technical and conforming amendments in the Higher Education Act of 1965, including an amendment with respect to the guaranteed student loan program to section 432(f) concerning audit procedures with respect to the Comptroller General's authority to audit certain financial transactions. (101 Stat. 346)

Homeless Assistance

Public Law 100-77, July 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 482, the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act requires that the Comptroller General evaluate and report to the Congress on the disbursement and use of amounts made available under title III, Federal Emergency Management Food and Shelter Program, and title I, Housing Assistance. (101 Stat. 486)

The law provides for establishment of an Emergency Food and Shelter Program National Board. The Comptroller General is provided access to records for audit purposes of the National Board and recipients of assistance. (101 Stat. 491)

A new Part C is added to Title V of the Public Health Service Act establishing a block grant program for services to chronically mentally ill homeless individuals. The Comptroller General is to evaluate, from time to time, the expenditures by states of grants under this part. (101 Stat. 520)

Finally, the Comptroller General is required to submit to the Congress a report on the number of homeless children and youth in all states. (101 Stat. 528)

Competitive Equality Banking Act of 1987

Public Law 100-86, August 10, 1987, 101 Stat. 552, the Competitive Equality Banking Act of 1987, contains at Title IV, the Thrift Industry Recovery Act, which amends 31 U.S.C. 9105(a) to provide for a financial audit of the Federal Asset Disposition Association by the Comptroller General. (101 Stat. 609)

Title VI, the Expedited Funds Availability Act, provides for a report by the Comptroller General to the Congress evaluating the implementation and administration of the title.

Title X requires the Comptroller General to conduct a study and report to the Congress on the extent to which individuals who receive Treasury checks have difficulty cashing them. (101 Stat. 657)

Title XII requires the Comptroller General, in consultation with other enumerated entities, to study, on a comparative basis, the types of investments made by federally insured institutions, the issuance of and investment in high yield, non-investment-grade bonds during the 5 years before the date of enactment of the law. The Comptroller General is also to examine all types of direct investments made by federally insured institutions and the effect those investments have had on federal insurance funds. (101 Stat. 660-661)

Additionally, the Comptroller General is to study the Federal Reserve System's exemption from the imposition of presentment fees, the impact of these fees on the efficiency of the check collection system, and whether the Federal Reserve System requires check clearinghouses to provide services to Federal Reserve banks and whether Federal Reserve banks should pay for any such services. (101 Stat. 661)

Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act Amendments

Public Law 100-119, September 29, 1987, 101 Stat. 754, the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Reaffirmation Act of 1987, amends the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act of 1985 to revise the sequestration procedures giving certain requirements of the Comptroller General to the Office of Management and Budget and modifying the provisions dealing with the GAO compliance report. (101 Stat. 773, 775)

Additionally, the Congressional Budget Office, in consultation with GAO, is to study and report to the Congress on federal direct loan and loan guarantee programs for fiscal years 1987 and 1988. (101 Stat. 787)

Legislation Enacted During Fiscal Year 1988

Olympic Commemorative Coin

Public Law 100-141, October 28, 1987, 100 Stat. 832, the 1988 Olympic Commemorative Coin Act, gives the Comptroller General the right to examine books, records, documents, and other data of the U.S. Olympic Committee regarding distribution by the Committee of the surcharges received from the sale of the commemorative coins. (101 Stat. 833)

NASA Authorizations

Public Law 100-147, October 30, 1987, 100 Stat. 860, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 1988, provides for the Comptroller General, along with the NASA Administrator, to have access to any books, documents, papers, and records of receipts pertinent to the auditing and evaluation of grants and contracts covered under the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program. (101 Stat. 872-873)

Civic Achievement Award Program

Public Law 100-158, November 9, 1987, 101 Stat. 896, the Civic Achievement Award Program support, directs the Comptroller General to conduct annual and other necessary audits of this program and report to the House of Representatives and the Librarian of Congress. (101 Stat. 897)

Defense Authorizations

Public Law 100-180, December 4, 1987, 101 Stat. 1019, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989, provides that the Secretary of the Army may not obligate funds for the advance procurement of the Forward Area Air Defense Heavy System until the Comptroller General submits his assessment of the operational tests and system performance to the House and Senate Armed Services Committees. (101 Stat. 1037)

The Comptroller General shall review all Department of Defense (DOD) materials used to develop certifications and reports related to the Bradley Fighting Vehicle. The Comptroller General shall then submit to the Congress a report assessing the conclusions and recommendations of the Secretary of Defense on the limitations of funds, improvement, survivability, and operational performance of the vehicle. (101 Stat. 1042)

An independent, commercial auditor shall submit to the Comptroller General an annual report on the grant made available to a consortium, known as Sematech, or the Semiconductor Cooperative Research Program, and the Comptroller General shall review and comment upon the annual reports of the Sematech auditor. (101 Stat. 1069-1071)

The Comptroller General shall study allegations of censorship by military commanders of DOD's newspaper, Stars and Stripes, and report the results of the study to the Congress no later than March 4, 1988. (101 Stat. 1078)

The Comptroller General is to report to the Armed Services Committees on the relationship to military promotions in the Military Education Program for Army National Guard Civilian Technicians. This report shall describe the program's cost effectiveness, as well as the effect on readiness, sick leave, annual leave, morale, and other benefits of Army National Guard civilian technicians. (101 Stat. 1087)

The Comptroller General shall submit a review and report on the military housing allowance system as it pertains to dual-service couples and divorced members of the uniformed services. This report shall recommend appropriate changes in legislation and regulations to promote fairness in compensation issues related to military housing for dual-service, single-service, divorced, and unmarried members of the uniformed services. This review and report is to be submitted to the Armed Services Committees by March 1, 1988.

The Comptroller General is to submit a report reviewing section 411g of title 37, U.S. Code, which will (1) compare the total cost to DOD of the transportation allowance allowed under this section and, (2) compare the total cost that would have been incurred by the Department over such period if this section had not been in effect, including the costs of more frequent moves by service members in connection with the permanent station changes. This review, which is to begin 1 year after the implementation of section 411g, shall be submitted to the Armed Services Committees no later than March 1, 1989. (101 Stat. 1094)

This act also instructs the Comptroller General to monitor the conduct of the operational test and evaluation phase of the Composite Health Care System acquisition activities. The Comptroller General shall then submit a report evaluating both the results of the operational test and evaluation phase of the competitive acquisition followed by the Secretary of Defense in awarding a contract for full production of a medical information system for use in all military medical treatment facilities. This report shall be submitted to the Armed Services Committees not more than 30 days after the committees receive a report on the Health Care System from the Secretary of Defense. (101 Stat. 1122)

The Comptroller General shall review and evaluate the practices under various insurance plans regarding payments to hospitals for charges for medical services in cases where the hospital does not impose a legal obligation on patients to pay for such services. This report shall review the practices regarding such payments of private-sector insurance plans, including self-insured plans, as well as federally sponsored or funded programs, including Medicare, Medicaid, and the Federal Employees Health Benefit Plan. The report will also provide an assessment and comparison of the practices regarding such payments under regulations of the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services. This will be followed by an estimate of the costs involved in carrying out such recommendations. The report shall be submitted to the Committees no later than 180 days after the enactment of this act. (101 Stat. 1123)

Other requirements direct the Comptroller General to study the criteria used by the Secretary of Defense in determining whether to designate a program a special access program and to submit to the Committees a report no later than April 1, 1988. (101 Stat. 1153)

Section 1212 of this act instructs the Comptroller General to convene and chair a Conventional Study Group composed of representatives of the Library of Congress, the Office of Technology Assessment, and the Congressional Budget Office. This study group shall assess the balance of conventional forces in Europe with forces of the Warsaw Pact and shall submit a report on such assessment to the Secretary of Defense and the Armed Services Committees. The report is to be submitted no later than April 15, 1988, and shall provide (1) the study group's assessment of that balance of forces and (2) recommendations for improving that balance to provide for a more adequate conventional defense for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. (101 Stat. 1156-1157)

According to section 1241 of this act, the Comptroller General is called upon to conduct a comprehensive study on both the smuggling of illegal drugs into the United States and the current capabilities of the nation to deter such smuggling. The results of this study are to be reported to the appropriate Committees no later than March 31, 1988, for some elements. The various elements contained within this requirement are detailed in section 1241(a)(1-10) of the act. Any reports resulting from this study will be in both classified and unclassified form. (101 Stat. 1163)

Agency Appropriations

Public Law 100-202, December 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1329, Further Continuing Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 1988, contains the following requirements for the GAO:

1.The Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 1988, provides that the Comptroller General shall perform semiannual financial reviews of expenditures from the Independent Counsel permanent indefinite appropriation and report the findings to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate. (101 Stat. 1329-9)

Section 204 (b)(3) of this act provides that it be reported to the Comptroller General if a corporation or business entity established or acquired as part of an undercover operation with a net value of more than \$500,000 is to be liquidated, sold, or otherwise disposed of. (101 Stat. 1329-30)

2.GAO shall perform a mid-year audit of the Commission on Civil Rights to determine compliance and report its findings to the Appropriations Committees of the Senate and House by June 1, 1988. (101 Stat. 1329-30)

3.The Department of Housing and Urban Development—Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1988, under title IV (General Provisions) states that no funds appropriated by this act may be expended pursuant to a certification of an officer or employee of the United States unless such expenditure is subject to audit by GAO or is specifically exempt by law from such audit. (101 Stat. 1329-16)

4.The Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1988, states that all financial transactions of territorial and local governments, including such transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by such governments, shall be audited by GAO, in accordance with chapter 35 of title 31, U.S. Code. (101 Stat. 1329-231)

Another requirement contained in this act provides that all financial transactions of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, including such transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by such Trust Territory, shall be audited by GAO, in accordance with chapter 35, of title 31, U.S. Code. (101 Stat. 1329-232)

5.The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1988, provides that the

Comptroller General shall deliver to the President recommendations regarding appropriation accounts from which expenses for travel, transportation, and substances are paid. (101 Stat. 1329-288 - 1329-289)

6.The Treasury Postal Service and General Government Appropriations Act, 1988, provides that GAO shall, within 60 days after the enactment of this act, submit an estimate of the fair market value of the main post office in Denver, Colorado, located at 1823 Stout Street, to the General Administration, the Congress of the United States, the United States Postal Service, and the Administrative Office of the United States Courts. This estimate is to be used as the basis for transferring of this property to the General Services Administration. (101 Stat. 1329-410 - 1329-411)

Omnibus Budget Reconciliation

Public Law 100-203, December 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1330, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987, contains the following GAO-related provisions:

1.The Comptroller General is directed to report to the Congress on a study and recommendations of (1) all benefits provided by Federal Financing Bank Lending and the procedures and conditions for the prepayment of current Federal Financing Bank loans, (2) the benefits and costs to Federal Financing Bank borrowers of making payments, and (3) alternative conditions and procedures for prepayment of all Federal Financing Bank loans to balance benefits with federal costs. The report is to be submitted to the Congress no later than January 1, 1989. (101 Stat. 1330-20)

2.Within 5 days after determining the cost of money rate for a fiscal year, the Governor of the Rural Telephone Bank shall furnish a copy of the determination to the Comptroller General. The Comptroller General shall then review the determination on an expedited basis and report to the Congress within 15 days of receipt. (110 Stat. 1330-25)

3.Within 180 days after the date of enactment of this act, GAO shall complete a study of the Rural Telephone Bank and report recommendations to the Congress. The study shall consider the effects of such recommendations on telephone bank borrowers, the subscribers of such borrowers, and the U.S. government. (101 Stat. 1330-27)

4.The Comptroller General shall submit to designated entities a report resulting from periodic audits of the Family Independence Demonstration

Project to verify the amounts payable to the State of Washington. (101 Stat. 1330-33)

5. Before the termination of the National Economic Commission, the Comptroller General shall conduct an audit of the Commission's financial books and records to determine that the limitations on expenses have been met and shall include this determination in an opinion in the Commission's report. (101 Stat. 1330-36)

6. Section 4007 of this act requires data collected by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under a demonstration project to "establish a uniform reporting system for Medicare participation hospitals et al. to be submitted to the Comptroller General no later than 45 days after the end of each calendar year. (101 Stat. 1330-54)

The Comptroller General shall then analyze the adequacy of the existing system for reporting hospital information and the costs and benefits of data reporting under the demonstration system and recommend improvements in hospital data in support of policy making. (101 Stat. 1330-55)

7. Section 4015 of this act provides that the Comptroller General shall monitor Medicare payment demonstration projects and report periodically (not less often than once every year) to the specified congressional committees on the status of such projects and the effect on such projects of the requirements of this section. A final report to the committees will consider the results of such projects. (101 Stat. 1330-63)

8. The Comptroller General shall conduct a study on Medicare capitation rates covering specified points of analysis. Interim reports on the analysis and assessment of this study are to be submitted to the appropriate congressional committees on specified dates with a final report due no later than January 1, 1991. (101 Stat. 1330-64, 65).

9. The Comptroller General is to conduct a study of the use of the telephone to conduct Medicare hearings under section 1869(b)(1) of the Social Security Act and to report the results no later than 6 months after the date of enactment of the act. (101 Stat. 1330-80)

10. Two reporting requirements appeared in section 4048. One requires the Comptroller General to report on the results of a study on the appropriateness of anaesthesia times reported by physicians for Medicare

reimbursement purposes, and recommendations on adjustments of payments for physician supervision of nurse anesthetists no later than January 1, 1989. Another report, to be submitted by April 1, 1990, requires the Comptroller General to conduct a study on the impact of an amendment made by subsection (a). (101 Stat. 1330-90)

11. A requirement under section 4062 directs the Comptroller General to conduct a study on the appropriateness of payments allowed for covered items under the Medicare program, and to report the results of the study (including recommendations on the transition to regional or national rates) by no later than January 1, 1991. (101 Stat. 1330-108)

12. The Comptroller General shall conduct a study of fee schedules established for clinical diagnostic laboratory services under section 1833(h)(2) of the Social Security Act to determine, based on the costs of and revenues received for such tests, the appropriateness of the fee schedules. The results of this study shall be reported to the Congress no later than January 1, 1990. (101 Stat. 1330-110)

13. GAO is to conduct a study of the cost effectiveness of requiring hearings with a carrier under part B of title XXVIII of the Social Security Act before having a hearing before an administrative law judge respecting carrier determination under that part. The results of the study shall be reported no later than June 30, 1989. (101 Stat. 1330-128)

14. Section 5052 of this act requires the Comptroller General, among others, to provide the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board with such facilities, support, funds, and services, including staff, necessary for the effective performance of the Board. (101 Stat. 1330-250)

15. The Comptroller General, along with the National Academy of Sciences, shall conduct a study of the manner in which oil and gas resources are considered in the land use plans developed by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (90 Stat. 2743). (101 Stat. 1330-262)

16. No later than September 1, 1988, for fiscal year 1988 and September 1, 1989, for fiscal year 1989, GAO shall conduct a preliminary audit of U.S. Postal Service compliance with the implementation and interim report of contributions by the Postal Service to the Employees Health Benefits Fund. A further requirement directs GAO to make a final determination and audit, along with any recommendations and necessary action, of the

compliance to this fund by the Postal Service. This final report is to be submitted to the Congress on October 31, 1988, for fiscal year 1988, and October 31, 1989, for fiscal year 1989. (101 Stat. 1330-278).

17.A study of the operation and effectiveness of the amendments made by section 2653 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 1984 is the subject of a requirement to be carried out by the Comptroller General in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate. The study shall compile and evaluate information on the effect of those amendments on voluntary compliance with the income tax laws. The report and recommendations of this study shall be submitted to the appropriate congressional committees no later than April 1, 1989. (101 Stat. 1330-377)

18.The Comptroller General shall conduct a comprehensive analysis, including a cost-benefit study, of the centralized cargo examination station concept from the perspective of both the U.S. Customs Service and business community users. The analysis, with recommendations on how best to implement cargo inspection procedures, is to be submitted to the Congress no later than March 30, 1988. (101 Stat. 1330-380)

Foreign Relations Authorization

Public Law 100-204, December 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1331, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989, requires the Comptroller General to audit and inspect the operation of the merit personnel system in the Foreign Service. This report is to be transmitted to the Congress no later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this act and shall report on any improvements in the merit personnel system considered necessary by the Comptroller General. The report shall pay particular attention to reports of racial, ethnic, sexual, and other discriminatory practices in the recruitment, appointment, assignment, and promotion of Foreign Service employees. (101 Stat. 1360-1361)

The provisions of subchapter II of chapter 7 of title 31 of the U.S. Code (relating to the general duties and powers of GAO) shall apply with respect to the programs and activities of the U.S. Commission on Improving the Effectiveness of the United Nations. This shall include the receipt, disbursement, and use of funds contributed to this Commission to the extent that those provisions apply to other agencies of the U.S. government. (101 Stat. 1394)

Agricultural Credit

Public Law 100-233, January 6, 1988, 101 Stat. 1568, the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987, calls for the Comptroller General to annually review and to report to the Congress on the actuarial soundness and reasonableness of the fees established by the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation. (101 Stat. 1701)

This act further authorizes the Comptroller General to perform a financial audit of the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation on whatever basis he determines necessary. The full cooperation of the Corporation regarding records and facilities with the Comptroller General is also authorized. (101 Stat. 1726)

Computer Security

Public Law 100-235, January 8, 1988, 101 Stat. 1724, the Computer Security Act of 1987, states that GAO shall maintain standards and programs relevant to this act in improving the security and privacy of sensitive information in federal computer systems. (101 Stat. 1726)

Housing and Community Development

Public Law 100-242, February 5, 1988, 101 Stat. 1815, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987, requires the Comptroller General to submit to the Congress, no later than October 30, 1988, a report on the utility allowances provided to residents of public housing and housing assisted under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937. Further requirements for this report are detailed in several parts in section 102 of this act. (101 Stat. 1821-1822)

The Comptroller General et al. shall have access to the books, documents, papers, or other records pertinent to the activities carried out under the Comprehensive Improvement Assistance Program to make audit examinations, excerpts, and transcripts. (101 Stat. 1834)

No later than October 1, 1988, the Comptroller General shall report on the study of the long-term financial exposure of the federal government under the mortgage insurance program pursuant to section 242 of the National Housing Act. The results of the study, including documentation of the long-term financial exposure determined during the study and recommendations for appropriate legislation, shall be submitted to the Congress. (101 Stat. 1906)

No later than the expiration of the 1-year period following the date of enactment of this act, and every 3 years thereafter, the Comptroller

General shall submit to the Congress a comprehensive report evaluating the eligibility standards and selection criteria applicable under section 119 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. (101 Stat. 1933)

The Comptroller General shall also report to the Congress on the effect of amendment made by section 515 of this act on (1) the targeting of grant funds to cities and urban counties having the highest level of economic distress; (2) the distribution of grant funds among regions of the United States; (3) the number and types of projects receiving grants; (4) the per-capita funding levels for each city, urban county, or identifiable community receiving assistance as described under section 119 of this act; and (5) the stimulation of the maximum economic development activity. This report shall be submitted to the Congress no later than the expiration of the 3-month period following the date of the final competition for grants for fiscal year 1988 under section 119 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. (101 Stat. 1933-1934)

Assistance to Central America

Public Law 100-276, April 1, 1988, 102 Stat. 62, Assistance to Central America, contains a proviso in section 7 that the Comptroller General shall conduct an independent audit of funds expended in the provision of assistance and support under this joint resolution. (102 Stat. 65)

Elementary and Secondary School Improvements

Public Law 100-297, April 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 130, the Augustus F. Hawkins-Robert T. Stafford Elementary and Secondary School Improvement Amendments of 1988, contains a proviso that the Comptroller General or any of the Comptroller General's authorized representatives shall have access for audit and examination to any books, documents, papers, and records pertinent to any grant in connection with the Allen J. Ellender Fellowship Program grant. (102 Stat. 242)

The Comptroller General shall have access for audit and examination purposes to any books, documents, papers, and records of any local educational agency partnership receiving assistance under this title that are pertinent to the sums received and disbursed in connection with projects and programs designed to address school dropout problems and to strengthen basic skills instruction. (102 Stat. 273)

By no later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Congress the report of a study on the number of 3- to 4-year-old handicapped children who are eligible for

services provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). This study will determine the (1) geographic disbursement, (2) estimate of the number such children who will receive services under the preschool services described under Public Law 99-457, (3) sufficiency of the preschool services described under Public Law 99-457, (4) unmet needs of such children, (5) estimated number of children who will attend education programs (schools or residential programs) funded by BIA. (102 Stat. 369)

Section 6203 provides that the Comptroller General shall submit the report of a study of the State Operated Program for Handicapped Children under chapter 1 of title 1 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. This report, which shall include recommendations for legislation, shall be submitted to the Congress no later than January 30, 1989. (102 Stat. 425).

The Comptroller General shall review and assess programs conducted under section 6209 of this act (Immigrant Education Report and Assessment) and submit the findings to the Congress by March 15, 1991. (102 Stat. 427)

Section 6216 of this act requires the Comptroller General to conduct a thorough study of the need for financial assistance for school construction as authorized by the Act of September 23, 1950 (Public Law 815, 81st Congress). The Comptroller General shall prepare and submit to the Congress a report on the study required by section 6216 no later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this act, together with recommendations for legislation. The six items detailing the study are in section 6216. (102 Stat. 430)

Veterans' Benefits and Services

Public Law 100-322, May 20, 1988, 102 Stat. 487, the Veterans' Benefits and Services Act, provides that research corporations covered under this act shall be considered agencies for the purposes of section 716 of title 31 (relating to availability of information and inspection of records by the Comptroller General). (102 Stat. 511)

Worker Adjustment and Retraining

Public Law 100-379, August 4, 1988, 102 Stat. 890, the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act, requires the Comptroller General to submit to the Congress a detailed and objective analysis of the effect of this act on employees (especially of small- and medium-sized businesses), the economy (international competitiveness), and employees (levels and

conditions of employment). The Comptroller General shall assess both costs and benefits, including rates and compensation, and worker retraining and readjustment. (102 Stat. 894)

Presidential Transitions

Public Law 100-398, August 17, 1988, 102 Stat. 985, the Presidential Transitions Effectiveness Act, calls for the President-elect and Vice President-elect (as a condition for receiving services under this act) to make available to the Administrator and the Comptroller General all information concerning such contributions as the Administrator or the Comptroller General may require for purposes of auditing both the public and private funding used in the activities authorized by this act. (102 Stat. 986)

Department of Housing and Urban Development— Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1989

Public Law 100-404, August 19, 1988, 102 Stat. 1014, the Department of Housing and Urban Development—Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1989, provides that the Administrator of Veterans Affairs promptly report in writing to the Comptroller General any approved major construction project for which obligations are not incurred within the time limitations established in this section. Further, the Comptroller General shall review the report in accordance with section 1015 of the Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (title X of Public Law 93-344). (102 Stat. 1033)

Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness

Public Law 100-418, August 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1107, the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988, provides that the Comptroller General, along with the International Trade Commission, report to the Congress on a study of whether the definition of indigenous ethyl alcohol or mixtures thereof used in applying section 423 of the Tax Reform Act of 1986 is consistent with and will contribute to achieving the Congress's policy of encouraging economic development of the beneficiary countries under the Caribbean Basin Recovery Act and insular possessions of the United States through the maximum use of the natural resources of those countries and possessions. This report is to be submitted to the appropriate Congressional committees before the 180th day after the date of enactment of this act. (102 Stat. 1319-1320)

No later than 180 days after the enactment of this act, the Comptroller General shall report to the Congress the results of a study of the circumvention of agricultural quotas. This study shall investigate whether

dairy and sugar products are being imported into the United States in ways that avoid legal limitations on their manner and quantity. In conducting the study, the Comptroller General shall investigate (1) efforts by the U.S. Customs Service in enforcing existing quantitative limitations; (2) the change in the composition, volume, and pattern of imports containing dairy products subsequent to the initial imposition of the quantitative limitations; (3) the effectiveness of section 22 of the Agriculture Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 624), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, in preventing the circumvention of avoidance of the quantitative limitations; and (4) the use of U.S. foreign trade zones to circumvent quantitative limitations. (102 Stat. 1405)

At the end of fiscal year 1992 the Comptroller General shall review the implementation of this act and upon completion of such review shall report his findings to the Congress along with any legislative recommendations. (102 Stat. 1452)

The Comptroller General shall have access for audit and examination purposes to any books, documents, papers, and records of any local education agency or educational partnership receiving assistance under this chapter that are pertinent to the sums received and disbursed for projects and programs designed to address school dropout problems and strengthen basic skills instruction. (102 Stat. 1499)

Section 8008 of this act, Small Business Innovation Research, further amends section 6 of Public Law 97-219, as amended by Public Law 99-443 by adding a statement at the end of subsection (a) regarding the inclusion of the Comptroller General's recommendations on the advisability of amending the Small Business Innovation Research Program. (102 Stat. 1562)

No later than December 1, 1988, the Comptroller General shall conduct a study and submit a report to the Congress on the costs incurred by small businesses in pursuing rights and remedies under the trade laws. (102 Stat. 1562)

GAO Personnel Amendments

Public Law 100-426, September 9, 1988, 102 Stat. 1598, the General Accounting Office Personnel Amendments Act of 1988, is intended to improve the administration of the GAO personnel system. The various sections of this act include:

- Title I, Personnel Appeals Board, which deals with members, pay rates, and judicial review;
- Title II, Retirement and Annuities, which deals with eligibility requirements for retirement, definitions, annuity of the Comptroller General, election of survivor benefits, survivor annuities, payment, payment of survivor benefits and annuity increases; and
- Title III, Miscellaneous Provisions, which deals with prevailing rate employees, maximum number of positions payable at GS-18, and technical and conforming amendments. (102 Stat. 1548-1602)

Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations

Public Law 100-440, September 22, 1988, 102 Stat. 1721, the Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations Act, 1989, provides that no funds appropriated under this act or made available by 39 U.S.C. 240(a) be used by the U.S. Postal Service to implement Phase II of the contract between the U.S. Postal Service and Perot Systems until 45 days after GAO reports to the Congress on the Perot Systems sole-source contract and that GAO report to the Congress within 45 days of the adoption of this amendment. (101 Stat. 1728)

Territorial Governments

Public Law 100-446, September 27, 1988, 102 Stat. 1774, Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations, Fiscal Year 1989, contains two provisos regarding the administration of U.S. territories.

The first states that all financial transactions of the territorial and local governments provided for in this act, including such transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by such governments, shall be audited by GAO, in accordance with chapter 35 of title 31, U.S. Code. (102 Stat. 1797)

The second proviso requires all financial transactions of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, including such transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by the Trust Territory, shall be audited by GAO in accordance with Title 31. (102 Stat. 1797)

National Defense Authorization

Public Law 100-456, September 29, 1988, 102 Stat. 1918, the National Defense Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1989, directs the Secretary of the Army to obligate funds for procurement and advanced procurement of the Air Defense Antitank System for any fiscal year after fiscal year 1989 only

after the Comptroller General provides the congressional committees his evaluation of the system's performance. (102 Stat. 1929)

The Comptroller General shall submit a report certifying whether the production certification conditions for the BIGEYE binary chemical bomb have been met. (102 Stat. 1932)

A proviso in section 232 of this act calls for the Comptroller General to review and report on the costs of the Advanced Technology B-2 Bomber program. This report shall be submitted to the Armed Services Committees no later than March 1, 1989. (102 Stat. 1943-1944)

The Comptroller General shall submit to the Congress a report on a review of the Secretary of Defense of defense inventory security and control enhancement. The Comptroller General report, which is to be submitted to the Congress within 90 days after receipt of the Secretary's report shall present any findings and recommendations on procedures for ensuring the security and control of supplies at Department of Defense depots. (102 Stat. 1958-1959)

Section 702 of this act requires financial management systems of the Department of the Army (including accounting, internal control, and financial reporting systems) to be established and maintained in conformance with the accounting and financial reporting principles, standards, and requirements established by the Comptroller General under section 3511 of title 31 and the internal control standards established by the Comptroller General under section 3512 of title 31. (102 Stat. 1993)

Department of Transportation and Related Agencies

Public Law 100-457, September 30, 1988, 102 Stat. 2125, the Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1989, provides that no funds appropriated to the Department of Transportation or the U.S. Coast Guard shall be used to close any Coast Guard search and rescue operation until after the expiration of the 90-day period following the Comptroller General's report to the Congress evaluating whether or not to close or curtail such operation. (102 Stat. 2156)

Legislation Enacted During Fiscal Year 1989

Legislation Branch Appropriations

Public Law 100-458, October 1, 1988, 102 Stat. 2158, which makes appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1989, provides for necessary expenses for GAO, including but not to exceed \$7,000 to be expended on certification of the Comptroller General; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, at rates not to exceed the per-diem equivalent to the rate for grade GS-18; hire of one passenger motor vehicle; advance payments in foreign countries; and living quarters and travel benefits comparable with those granted Agency for International Development employees.

This appropriation and the appropriations for administrative expenses of any other department or agency that belongs to the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program (JFMIP), the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum, or Regional Intergovernmental Audit Forum shall be available to finance an appropriate share of cost, including but not limited to the salary of the Executive Secretary and secretarial support of JFMIP and necessary travel expenses of nonfederal Forum participants.

Further, this appropriation and appropriations for administrative expenses of any other department or agency that belongs to the American Consortium on International Public Administration (ACIPA) shall be available to finance an appropriate share of ACIPA costs, including any expenses attributable to membership of ACIPA in the International Institute of Administrative Sciences.

It further provides that \$100,000 of this appropriation shall be available for the expenses of planning the triennial Congress of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) to be hosted by GAO in Washington, D.C., in 1992, to the extent that such expenses cannot be met by the authorized trust. GAO is authorized to solicit and accept contributions to be held in trust, that shall be available without fiscal year limitation for the planning, administration, and such other expenses as the Comptroller General deems necessary to act as the sponsor of the aforementioned triennial Congress of INTOSAI. Monies in the trust not to exceed \$10,000 shall be available upon the request of the Comptroller General to be expended for the purposes of the trust. (102 Stat. 2180-81)

It further provides that the Comptroller General shall audit the activities of the Government Printing Office at least once every 3 years and furnish reports of such audits to the Congress and the Public Printer. (102 Stat. 2184)

It further provides that the activities of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Development may be audited by GAO. Representatives of GAO shall have access to records necessary to facilitate the audit. (102 STAT. 2175)

Commerce, Justice, State, Judiciary, and Related Agencies' Appropriations

Public Law 100-459, October 1, 1988, 102 Stat. 2186, which makes appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, State, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1989, requires the FBI or the DEA to report to the Comptroller General the circumstances under which a corporation or business entity established or acquired as part of an undercover operation with a net value of more than \$50,000 is to be liquidated, sold, or otherwise disposed of. (102 Stat. 2200)

It further provides that GAO audit the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights's use of its appropriation under such conditions as deemed appropriate by the Comptroller General and report its findings to the Appropriations Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives. (102 Stat. 2215)

Section 609 prohibits appropriated funds from being expended by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, directly or indirectly, to enforce subpoenas issued in conjunction with any investigations by the Commission into implementation by Indian tribal governments of title II of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 until 60 days following the receipt by this Committee and the Select Committee on Indian Affairs of a Comptroller General opinion on the scope of authority and jurisdiction of the Civil Rights Commission over Indian tribal government officials. (102 Stat. 228)

Nonimmigrant Visas

Public Law 100-461, October 1, 1988, 102 Stat. 2268, which makes appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1989, provides that the Comptroller General examine the use of nonimmigrant visas under section 101(a)(15)(J) of the Immigration and Nationality Act for current programs of educational and cultural exchange. A report on whether cultural exchange participants receiving visas under that section are performing activities consistent with the congressional intent of that section shall be submitted to the Committees on the Judiciary no later than 30 days before the end of fiscal year 1989. (102 Stat. 2268-37)

Department of Defense Appropriations

Public Law 100-463, October 1, 1988, 102 Stat. 2270, which makes appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1989, includes regulations allowing costs to promote the export of products of the U.S. defense industry, including the cost of exhibiting or demonstrating products. No later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this act, the Comptroller General is to submit to the Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the House and Senate a report assessing these regulations. (102 Stat. 2270-37)

Section 8139 amends 31 U.S.C. 3554(a)(1) by striking out "unless the Comptroller General determines and states in writing the reasons that the specific circumstances of the protest require a longer period." (102 Stat. 2270-47)

Section 2345 regulates the use of sewage facilities at Fort Chaffee, Arkansas, by the city of Barling, Arkansas. The Comptroller General is to report to the Congress no later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this act his assessment of the effectiveness of the regulations prescribed under this section. (102 Stat. 2270-48)

Advisory Panel

Public Law 100-485, October 13, 1988, 102 Stat. 2343, the Family Support Act of 1988, requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to convene an advisory panel that may include representatives from GAO, et al. within 3 months after the date of enactment of this act. The panel shall meet periodically to design, implement, and monitor a series of implementation and evaluation studies to assess the methods and effects of the programs initiated under this act. (102 Stat. 2380)

Computer Watching and Privacy Protection

Public Law 100-503, October 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 2507, the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988, provides that no record contained in a system of records may be disclosed to a recipient agency or nonfederal agency for use in a computer matching program except as agreed to in a written agreement between the source agency and the recipient or nonfederal agency. The Comptroller General shall have access to all records of a recipient or nonfederal agency necessary to monitor or verify compliance with these written agreements. (102 Stat. 2508)

Inspector General Act Amendments

Public Law 100-504, October 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 2515, the Inspector General Act Amendments of 1988, requires the Director of the Office of

Management and Budget (OMB), after consulting with the Comptroller General, to publish (no later than April 30, 1989) in the Federal Register, a list of the federal entities, designated federal entities, and the head of each entity (as defined under subsection (a) of section 8E). On October 31 of each year beginning in 1989, the head of each federal entity is to submit a report that includes assurance that audits are conducted of its programs and operations in accordance with the standards for audit of governmental organizations, programs, activities, and functions issued by the Comptroller General. (102 Stat. 2524, 2525)

To determine if internal quality controls are in place and operating and if established audit standards, policies, and procedures are being followed, reviews shall be performed exclusively by an audit entity in the federal government, including GAO. (102 Stat. 2529)

National Commission on Executive Organization

Public Law 100-527, October 25, 1988, 102 Stat. 2635, the Department of Veterans Affairs Act, contains a provision allowing the President 30 days to determine whether to establish the National Commission on Executive Organization to review the structural organization of the executive branch. If established, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Commission an index to and synopses of materials of the organization's official that such official considers useful to the Commission. (102 Stat. 2647)

GAO Property Management

Public Law 100-545, October 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 2727, provides for the transfer of control of the GAO Building to the Comptroller General, including its operation, maintenance, protection, alteration, repair, and assignment of space. Additionally, the Comptroller General is authorized to lease or otherwise provide space within the Building and to make all needed rules and regulations for the government of the GAO Building. (102 Stat. 2727-2729)

Commission for the Improvement of the Federal Crop Insurance

Public Law 100-546, October 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 2730, the Federal Crop Insurance Commission Act of 1988, establishes a Commission for the Improvement of the Federal Crop Insurance Program. The head of each executive agency and GAO shall furnish the Commission such personnel and support services necessary to assist the Commission in its duties and functions. (102 Stat. 2734)

Imported Vehicle Safety Compliance

Public Law 100-562, October 31, 1988, 102 Stat. 2818, the Imported Vehicle Safety Compliance Act of 1988, restricts the importation of certain vehicles that do not conform to federal safety standards. The Comptroller General is to review this importation control program considering (1) the extent to which motor vehicles imported under this program fully comply with federal standards when released to operate on public roads; (2) whether safety considerations warrant extension of the program; and (3) the administration and enforcement of this program by the Secretary of Transportation. Upon completion of the review, a report is to be submitted to the Congress. (102 Stat. 2824, 2825)

Lead Poisoning Prevention

Public Law 100-572, October 31, 1988, 102 Stat. 2884, the Lead Contamination Control Act of 1988, provides grants to states for initiating and expanding programs designed to prevent lead poisoning, particularly in children. The Comptroller General shall have access to any books, documents, papers, and records needed to audit such grants. (102 Stat. 2889).

Native Hawaiian Health Care

Public Law 100-579, October 31, 1988, 102 Stat. 2916, the Native Hawaiian Health Care Act of 1988, provides for grants or contracts to improve the health status of native Hawaiians. The Comptroller General shall audit any reports and records concerning the grants made under this act. (102 Stat. 2920)

Pan-Pacific Educational and Cultural Experiments by Satellite Program

Public Law 100-584, November 3, 1988, 102 Stat. 2970, authorizes appropriations for activities of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. One section provides funds to the managers of the Pan-Pacific Educational and Cultural Experiments by Satellite Program for managing the operation of satellite communications services acquired under this subsection. The Comptroller General shall have access to any pertinent books, documents, papers, and records for auditing and examining these funds. (102 Stat. 2971)

Small Business Administration Reauthorization

Public Law 100-590, November 3, 1988, 102 Stat. 2989, the Small Business Administration Reauthorization and Amendment Act of 1988, requires GAO to report to the Congress, no later than December 1, 1989, on the function being performed by volunteers in the Service Corps of Retired Executives and the Active Corps of Executives. The report shall evaluate the

programs as well as make conclusions and recommendations concerning the efficiency and cost effectiveness of the volunteers. (102 Stat. 2993)

No later than September 30, 1992, GAO is to report to the Congress on the impact that contracts awarded under section 15(c) on the Small Business Act have had on for-profit small business concerns for fiscal year 1989-1991. (102 Stat. 3006)

Title II, the Preferred Surety Bond Guarantee Program Act of 1988, requires the Comptroller General to report to the Congress an evaluation of this program. The report should include whether standard surety firms' participation has been expanded and whether access to bonds by small business concerns, especially those owned and controlled by the economically disadvantaged, has been improved. (102 Stat. 3009)

Health Programs Extension

Public Law 100-607, November 4, 1988, 102 Stat. 3048, Health Omnibus Programs Extension of 1988, provides allotments to each State for fiscal year 1989-1990 for home- and community-based health services with respect to acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). States must submit a description of the intended uses of the funds. States must conduct audits in compliance with GAO standards. From time to time, the Comptroller General shall evaluate the states' expenditures to ensure that they are consistent with the provisions of this part (102 Stat. 3082-3083).

Each state and each entity receiving fund payments made to a state under this section 2401(a) must make appropriate documents available to the Comptroller General. (102 Stat. 3086)

Further, funds to the states are allotted for programs designed to prevent AIDS. States are also to audit these expenditures in conformance with GAO standards, and the Comptroller General is to evaluate these expenditures from time to time (102 Stat. 3096).

The Comptroller General may investigate compliance with this section and require that any appropriate document necessary to such an investigation be made available. (102 Stat. 3100)

Another section charges the Comptroller General with conducting a study to determine the practices and policies of the states in licensing by endorsement physicians who are graduates of schools of medicine outside

the United States. Within 9 months after the enactment of this act, GAO is to submit this study to the Congress. (102 Stat. 3146-3147)

Federal Property Management

Public Law 100-612, November 5, 1988, 102 Stat. 3180, the Federal Property Management Improvement Act of 1988, requires the Administrator of the General Services Administration to report to the Congress every 2 years on programs for the donation of federal surplus property. A copy of this report is to be reviewed and evaluated by the Comptroller General. (102 Stat. 3181)

Homeless Assistance Programs

Public Law 100-628, November 7, 1988, 102 Stat. 3224, the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Amendments Act of 1988, amends the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, to require the Comptroller General to submit to the Congress an annual summary of the status of each program authorized under this act. (102 Stat. 3227)

Another provision charges the Comptroller General with studying and reporting to the Congress on the programs implemented to prevent homelessness. (102 Stat. 3232)

The act also entitles each state to the payment of a bonus for the successful job placement of certain employable dependent individuals. The bonus is to be paid after verifying the accuracy of the state's application. A sampling methodology for such verifications may be used in a manner approved by the Comptroller General. (102 Stat. 3251-3252)

States may apply to the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a demonstration project aimed at reducing the number of Aid to Families With Dependent Children homeless families in welfare hotels. Within 90 days after receiving a copy of such an application from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Comptroller General shall review and report to the Congress whether or not the application meets this criterion. The cost to the federal government of transitional housing must be no more than the cost in commercial or transient facilities. (102 Stat. 3258-3259)

Technical and Miscellaneous Revenue Act of 1988

Public Law 100-647, November 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3342, the Technical and Miscellaneous Revenue Act of 1988, provides for a recapture tax on the disposal of a residence that has a federally subsidized indebtedness. The

Comptroller General shall conduct a study and report to the Congress on the recapture tax and possible alternatives. (102 Stat. 3651)

Another provision that requires a study and report to the Congress by the Comptroller General extends for 1 year the income tax credit for qualified research expenditures. (102 Stat. 3652)

Further, the Comptroller General shall conduct a study on the effectiveness of the revised tax treatment of life insurance and annuity products in preventing the sale of life insurance primarily for investment purposes and the policy justification for and implications of the present law's treatment of the earnings on the cash surrender value of life insurance and annuity contracts in light of the reforms made by the Tax Reform Act of 1986. (102 Stat. 3666)

The Comptroller General shall also study and report to the Congress on the frequency of fraud and payment errors in the railroad unemployment compensation program. (102 Stat. 3774)

Additionally, the Comptroller General shall make recommendations to the Congress on the advisability of amending the Small Business Innovation Research Program. (102 Stat. 3809)

Minority Small Business and Capital Ownership Development Program

Public Law 100-656, November 15, 1988, 102 Stat. 3853, the Business Opportunity Development Reform Act of 1988, provides for the Comptroller General to conduct a review of the operation of the Minority Small Business and Capital Ownership Development Program. The review shall report on the implementation of the provisions of this act by the Small Business Administration and the various executive departments and agencies providing contracting opportunities to the program. The act prescribes the contents of the report. (102 Stat. 3882-3883)

Judicial Officers' Retirement Fund

Public Law 100-659, November 15, 1988, 102 Stat. 3910, the Retirement and Survivors' Annuities for Bankruptcy Judges and Magistrates Act of 1988, establishes a Judicial Officers' Retirement Fund. The Comptroller General shall use the information provided in reports filed under 31 U.S.C. 9503 to make determinations concerning the unfunded liability of this fund. (102 Stat. 3916)

Congressional Award Board

Public Law 100-674, November 17, 1988, 102 Stat. 3996, the Congressional Award Act Amendments of 1988, requires the Congressional Award Board to submit a number of reports to the Congress. The Comptroller General shall verify the contents of those reports and in turn submit his own report to the Congress. (102 Stat. 3998)

Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Program

Public Law 100-676, November 17, 1988, 102 Stat. 4012, the Water Resources Development Act of 1988, directs GAO to conduct a review of the Civil Works Program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and report its findings to the Congress. (102 Stat. 4041)

Cost Accounting Standards Board Establishment

Public Law 100-679, November 17, 1988, 102 Stat. 4055, the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act Amendments of 1988, establishes the Cost Accounting Standards Board within the Office of Federal Procurement Policy. The Board shall consult with the Comptroller General before promulgating its cost accounting standards and also during the 60-day period between the publication of a proposed rule and its implementation. (102 Stat. 4061)

The Comptroller General may have the right to examine and make copies of any documents, papers, or records relating to a contractor's or subcontractor's compliance with cost accounting standards. (102 Stat. 4063)

Nothing in the section of this law pertaining to procurement integrity shall be construed to authorize the withholding of any information from the Congress, the Comptroller General, or any other named entities. (102 Stat. 4067)

The Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy, in consultation with the Comptroller General, shall conduct a study and report to specified congressional committees the extent to which the data collected by the Federal Procurement Data System are adequate for the management oversight and evaluation of federal procurement. (102 Stat. 4069)

Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988

Public Law 100-690, November 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4181, proposes to prevent the manufacture, distribution, and use of illegal drugs. One section requires the Comptroller General to submit a report to the Congress evaluating the status of the implementation of State Mental Health Service Plans. (102 Stat. 4205)

Another section calls for an audit by the Comptroller General of the reports and records of any entity that uses a grant to Papa Ola Lakahi to develop a native Hawaiian comprehensive health care master plan. (102 Stat. 4227)

Additionally, the Comptroller General shall conduct a study on the extent of anabolic steroid and human growth hormone use among high school and college students and other adults. (102 Stat. 4230)

The Comptroller General shall conduct an annual audit of the Department of Justice Assets Forfeiture Fund established by this act. (102 Stat. 4322)

A National Advisory Commission on Law Enforcement is established and the Comptroller General is designated Chairman of the Commission. (102 Stat. 4347)

The Office of National Drug Control Policy shall develop a comprehensive plan for using existing federal research and development facilities for developing technologies and providing evaluation support to federal law enforcement agencies. The Comptroller General shall monitor the development of the plan and report periodically to the Congress on its progress. (102 Stat. 4351 and 102 Stat. 4511)

The Comptroller General shall conduct a study of the various procedures used by the states for determining whether to impose the death penalty. The report to the Congress should include whether or not any or all of the various procedures create a significant risk that race influenced the application of the death sentence. In addition, GAO shall examine separately and include in this report death penalty cases similar to those covered under section 7001 of this law. (102 Stat. 4392-4393)

Further, the Comptroller General shall carry out a study to review the cost of implementing the procedures for imposing and carrying out a death sentence prescribed by this title. The study shall include information concerning impact on workload of federal prosecutors and judiciary and law enforcement necessary to obtain capital sentences and executions under this act. No later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Congress a report describing the results of the study. (102 Stat. 4395)

Another section establishes processing fees necessary to cover the costs associated with the issuance of certificates of registration of aircraft,

issuance of airman certificates to pilots, and the processing of forms for major repairs and alterations of fuel tanks and fuel systems of aircraft. GAO is charged with auditing the collection and use of such fees during the first 5 years of their imposition. (102 Stat. 4428)

The Comptroller General shall conduct an investigation of the extent to which court orders are used in placing juveniles in detention facilities and submit the results of this investigation to the Congress. The report shall specify separately the various types of facilities with respect to the following:

- frequency with which juveniles were confined,
- length of confinement, and
- type of conduct for which they were confined. (102 Stat. 4462)

One provision calls for expedited procedures for deporting of aliens convicted of committing aggravated felonies. The Comptroller General shall monitor, review, and evaluate these deportation proceedings and report to the Congress on the extent to which these proceedings may adversely affect the ability of such aliens to contest deportation effectively. (102 Stat. 4472)

Further, the Comptroller General is to conduct an annual financial audit of the Customs Forfeiture Fund established by section 7364 of this act. (102 Stat. 4478)

If a corporation or business entity established or acquired as part of an undercover operation with a net value more than \$50,000 is to be liquidated, sold, or otherwise disposed of, the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service shall report the circumstances to the Comptroller General as much in advance as practicable. (102 Stat. 4505)

Additionally, the Comptroller General shall conduct a study to determine the impact of added resources to certain components of the federal criminal justice system on other components of the system and of enhanced or new federal criminal penalties or laws on specified agencies of the federal criminal justice system. The findings shall be used to develop a model to help determine appropriate staff and budget responses for effectively implementing changes in resources, laws, or penalties. (102 Stat. 4535)

Arizona-Idaho Conservation Act of 1988

Public Law 100-696, November 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4571, provides for the exchange of land in Florida for land in Arizona. It requires the Comptroller General to submit a report to the Congress analyzing the specific place where the exchange will take place. (102 Stat. 4586-4587)

Another provision establishes the U.S. Capitol Preservation Commission and requires GAO to conduct annual audits of this Commission. (102 Stat. 4610)

Insider Trading and Securities Fraud

Public Law 100-704, November 19, 1988, Stat. 4677, the Insider Trading and Securities Fraud Enforcement Act of 1988, mandates a study and investigation of Federal securities laws, rules, and regulations by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The Comptroller General is authorized to assist the SEC in fulfilling its obligations under this section. (102 Stat. 4683)

Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance

Public Law 100-707, November 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4689, the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Amendments of 1988, amends the Disaster Relief Act of 1974 to provide for more effective assistance in response to major disasters and other emergencies. For audits and investigations, the Comptroller General may inspect any books, documents, papers, and records of any person relating to any activity undertaken or funded by this act. (102 Stat. 4695)

The Comptroller General shall conduct a study of the process by which disaster declarations are made. The Comptroller General shall submit to the Congress the findings of this study as well as recommendations on ways to improve and ensure the nonpolitical functioning of the process for declaring disasters. (102 Stat. 4711)

Indian Health Care Amendments of 1988

Public Law 100-713, November 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4784, the Indian Health Care Amendments of 1988, provides for the establishment of a demonstration project, Native Hawaiian Program for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, whose purpose is to explore ways to meet the unique health needs of native Hawaiians. The reports and records of any native Hawaiian organization that concern any contract entered into under this provision shall be subject to audit by the Comptroller General. (102 Stat. 4810)

Another provision establishes programs in urban centers to make health services more accessible to urban Indians. The reports and records of an urban Indian organization with respect to a contract under this provision shall be subject to audit by the Comptroller General. (102 Stat. 4824)

Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989

Public Law 101-12, April 10, 1989, 103 Stat. 16, the Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989, amends title 5 of the U.S. Code to strengthen the protections available to federal employees against prohibited personnel practices. 5 U.S.C. 1213 delineates procedures for the receipt and processing by the Office of Special Counsel of disclosures of violations of law, gross mismanagement, waste of funds, abuse of authority, or danger to public health or safety. The Office of Special Counsel is required to submit certain information concerning these disclosures to the Comptroller General, among others. (103 Stat. 22)

Political Status of Puerto Rico

Public Law 101-45, July, 30, 1989, 103 Stat. 97, the Dire Emergency Supplemental Appropriations and Transfers, Urgent Supplementals, and Correcting Enrollment Errors Act of 1989, requires the Comptroller General to audit the financial transactions made by the Popular Democratic Party, the New Progressive Party, and the Puerto Rican Independence Party of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in connection with grants made to each party to participate in the legislative process involving the future political status of Puerto Rico. (103 Stat. 125)

Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989

Public Law 101-73, September 9, 1989, 103 Stat. 183, the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989, was enacted to reform, recapitalize, and consolidate the Federal deposit insurance system, to enhance the regulatory and enforcement powers of federal financial institutions regulatory agencies, and for other purposes. GAO is required to perform the following functions and duties:

Section 212 delineates the conservatorship and receivership powers of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). With respect to each conservatorship or receivership to which the Corporation is appointed, it is to make an annual accounting or report available to the Comptroller General, among others. (103 Stat. 233)

The Comptroller General is to audit annually the financial transactions of the FDIC, the Bank Insurance Fund, the Savings Association Insurance

Fund, and the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation (FSLIC) Resolution Fund and is provided access to records necessary to do so. (103 Stat. 265)

The Comptroller General is to report to the Congress the results of a study conducted jointly with the Attorney General on the extent to which insured depository institutions are entering into contracts with vendors in which vendors agree to purchase stock or assets from insured depository institutions or invest capital in or make deposits to such institutions and the extent to which these practices have an anticompetitive effect and should be prohibited. (103 Stat. 275-276)

An Office of Thrift Supervision is established in the Department of the Treasury, and the Comptroller General is provided access to the records necessary to audit all of the activities of the Office. (103 Stat. 279)

The amended section 5 of the Home Owners' Loan Act of 1933 providing for charter of federal savings associations or federal savings banks allows the Comptroller General to analyze information contained in a report of condition, subject to reasonable requirements of confidentiality. (103 Stat. 312)

The law provides for the establishment of the Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC) and for annual audit by the Comptroller General of the financial statements of the Corporation. (103 Stat. 385-386)

The Comptroller General is to examine and monitor all insolvent institution cases resolved by the FSLIC from January 1, 1988, through August 9, 1989, and report to the Congress an estimate of the costs of the agreements entered into by the Corporation pursuant to the resolutions. (103 Stat. 394)

RTC's Oversight Board is to report annually on RTC's operations, activities, budget, receipts, and expenditures for the preceding 12-month period. Included in the report, among other things, is to be the result of the annual audit of the financial transactions of the Resolution Funding Corporation conducted by the Comptroller General pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9105 (a). (103 Stat. 404)

31 U.S.C. 9105(a)(2) is amended to provide for the annual audit of the Resolution Funding Corporation by the Comptroller General. (103 Stat. 406)

Section 20 the Federal Home Loan Bank Act is amended to provide that the Comptroller General may audit or examine the Board and the banks to determine the extent to which the Board and the banks are fairly and effectively fulfilling the purposes of the law. (103 Stat. 415)

The Federal Home Loan bank Act is amended to provide for the establishment by each bank of an Affordable Housing Program to subsidize the interest rate on advances to members engaged in lending for long term, low- and moderate-income, owner-occupied, and affordable rental housing at subsidized interest rates. The Comptroller General is to audit and evaluate this program after it has been in operation for 2 years. (103 Stat. 426)

The law provides for a GAO audit of the mortgage transactions of the Federal National Mortgage Association in accordance with the principles and procedures applicable to commercial corporation transactions. (103 Stat. 436)

The Comptroller General is to conduct a study of deposit insurance issues raised in a study to be conducted by the Secretary of the Treasury of the Federal deposit insurance system. The Comptroller General's study is to emphasize (1) an analysis of the policy considerations affecting the scope of deposit insurance coverage, (2) an evaluation of the risks associated with bank insurance contracts and (3) the effect of proposed changes in the definition of "deposit" on market discipline and the ability of other participants in capital markets to raise funds. (103 Stat. 509)

The Comptroller General is to conduct a study of the risks undertaken by all government-sponsored enterprises and the appropriate level of capital for such enterprises consistent with (1) the financial soundness and stability of the government-sponsored enterprises, (2) minimizing any potential financial exposure of the federal government, and (3) minimizing any potential impact on borrowing by the federal government. With respect to this study, the law delineates the specific requirements of the study; the procedures for consultation and cooperation with other agencies; access by the Comptroller General to relevant information; and the reporting requirements. (103 Stat. 509-511)

The Comptroller General is to conduct a comprehensive study of the nation's credit union system and report the results of the study to the Congress before the close of the 18-month period beginning on the date of this law's enactment. (103 Stat. 519)

Section 1213 of the law provides that, with certain delineated exceptions, all agencies, corporations, organizations, and other persons of any description that perform any under this act or any other act amended by this act shall be subject to audit by the Comptroller General with respect to such activity.

All persons and organizations which by contract, grant, or otherwise provide goods or services to or receive financial assistance from any agency or person performing functions or activities under this act shall be subject to audit by the Comptroller General with respect to the provision of goods or services or receipt of financial assistance.

The Comptroller General is to determine the nature, scope, terms, and conditions of audits conducted under this section.

The authority of the Comptroller General under this section is in addition to any audit authority available to the Comptroller General under other provisions of this law or any other law.

The section also provides for access to records, enforcement of the right of access, and the maintenance of confidential records. (103 Stat. 528)

With respect to each conservatorship of liquidation to which the National Credit Union Administration Board was appointed, the Board is to make an annual accounting or report available to the Comptroller General or, in the case of a State-chartered credit union, to the authority that appointed the Board as conservator or liquidating agent. (103 Stat. 537)

Legislation Enacted During Fiscal Year 1990

Territorial Governments

Public Law 101-121, October 23, 1989, 103 Stat. 701, the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act for Fiscal Year 1990, provides for GAO audit of all financial transactions of the territorial and local governments and of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, including transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by such governments. (103 Stat. 716, 717)

Major Fraud Act Amendments of 1989

Public Law 101-123, October 23, 1989, 103 Stat. 759, the Major Fraud Act Amendments of 1989, adds a new subsection 18 U.S.C. 1031(g) pertaining to rewards for whistleblowers. The subsection stipulates that an individual is not eligible for payment if the information furnished is based upon public disclosure of allegations in a GAO report, hearing, audit, or investigation. (103 Stat. 759)

Child Abuse Prevention Challenge Grants Reauthorization Act of 1989

Public Law 101-126, October 25, 1989, 103 Stat. 764, the Child Abuse Prevention Challenge Grants Reauthorization Act of 1989, transfers a child abuse prevention program from title IV of Public Law 98-473 to the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act and requires the Comptroller General to study and report to the Congress on the trust funds or other funding mechanisms established by the states pursuant to the program. (103 Stat. 768-769)

Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act

Public Law 101-144, November 9, 1989, 103 Stat. 839, the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1990, provides, with respect to appropriations for the Department of Veterans Affairs, that funds appropriated for fiscal year 1990 for "Construction, Major Projects" be obligated for each approved project (1) by awarding a working drawings contract by September 30, 1990, and (2) by awarding a construction contract by September 30, 1991. The Secretary is to report to the Comptroller General and to the Committees on Appropriations any approved major construction project in which obligations are not incurred within the time limits established. The Comptroller General is to review the report in accordance with section 1015 of the Impoundment Control Act of 1974. (103 Stat. 84)

Rural Development
Agriculture and
Related Agencies
Appropriations Act,
1990

Public Law 101-161, November 21, 1989, 103 Stat. 951, the Rural Development, Agriculture, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1990, requires the Comptroller General to review reports made by the Secretary of Agriculture to the Congress at the end of each fiscal year on the amounts obligated and expended by the Department during the fiscal year for the procurement of advisory and assistance services. The Comptroller General is to transmit to the Congress any comments and recommendations he considers appropriate. (103 Stat. 986-987)

FBI and DEA
Undercover
Operations

Public Law 101-162, November 21, 1989, 102 Stat. 988, the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1990, provides that, if a corporation or business entity established or acquired in connection with a net value of more than \$50,000 is to be liquidated, sold, or otherwise disposed of, the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the Drug Enforcement Administration is to report the circumstances to the Attorney General and the Comptroller General. (103 Stat. 1004)

Legislative Branch
Appropriations Act,
1990

Public Law 101-163, November 21, 1989, 103 Stat. 1041, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1990, provides an appropriation for GAO salaries and expenses for fiscal year 1990 in the amount \$364,720,000. An additional amount not to exceed \$5,564,000 is made available without fiscal year limitation pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 782 with respect to leasing of space in the GAO Building. (103 Stat. 1063-1063)

The law also provides that the Architect of the Capitol, in consultation with the Comptroller General, among others, is to develop an overall plan for satisfying the telecommunications requirements of the agencies of the legislative branch, using a common system architecture for maximum interconnection capability and engineering compatibility. (103 Stat. 1064)

Hereafter, GAO is authorized to use telecommunications systems and services provided by the Architect of the Capitol, or the House of Representatives, or the Senate under the plan required by section 305 of Public Law 100-202 if certain delineated requirements are met. (103 Stat. 1064)

Department of
Defense
Appropriations Act,
1990

Public Law 101-165, November 21, 1989, 103 Stat. 1112, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 1990, requires the Comptroller General to review reports made by the Secretary of Defense to the Congress at the end of each fiscal quarter on the amounts obligated and expended by the Department during the quarter for the procurement of advisory and assistance services. The Comptroller General is to transmit to the Congress any comments and recommendations he considers appropriate. (103 Stat. 1143)

With respect to the disputes relating to the withdrawal of Landfill No. 26, Hamilton Air Force Base, Novato, California, and buffer acreage from the original sale parcel, the purchaser is to be granted the right to withdraw from the sales contract at any time before the closing of the sale and receive its deposit and any predevelopment expenses, as documented by GAO, incurred since the date of the General Services Administration auction, plus accrued interest, in return for the release from any and all damages and claims against the U.S. government with respect to the site and contamination. (103 Stat. 1144)

None of the funds appropriated by this act are available for payments under the Department of Defense (DOD) contract with the Louisiana State University Medical Center involving the use of cats for Brain Missile Wound Research until after the final GAO report on the contract is submitted for review. (103 Stat. 1157)

Departments of Labor,
Health and Human
Services, and
Education, and
Related Agencies
Appropriations Act,
1990

Public Law 101-166, November 21, 1989, 103 Stat. 1159, the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1990, requires the Comptroller General to review reports made by the Secretaries of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education to the Congress at the end of each fiscal quarter on the amounts obligated and expended by the Departments during that fiscal quarter for the procurement of advisory and assistance services. The Comptroller General is to transmit to the Congress any comments and recommendations he considers appropriate. (103 Stat. 1191)

**Foreign Operations,
Export Financing, and
Related Programs
Appropriations Act,
1990**

Public Law 101-167, November 21, 1989, 103 Stat. 1195, the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1990, establishes categories of aliens for admission purposes as refugees where such alien has a well-founded fear of persecution due to race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.

The Comptroller General is to report on the implementation of this provision in Italy and the Soviet Union. Certain delineated information is to be included in a preliminary report to be submitted by December 31, 1989, and final report by March 31, 1990. (103 Stat. 1263)

**Support for East
European Democracy
(SEED) Act of 1989**

Public Law 101-179, November 28, 1989, 103 Stat. 1298, the Support for East European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989, provides for Enterprise Funds for Poland and Hungary to promote private-sector development of those countries. The financial transactions of each Enterprise Fund may be audited by GAO as long as the Enterprise Fund is in receipt of a U.S. government grant. (103 Stat. 1307)

**National Defense
Authorization Act for
Fiscal Years 1990 and
1991**

Public Law 101-189, November 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1352, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1990 and 1991, contains a number of provisions relating to GAO:

1. The Comptroller General is to review all test reports and evaluation documents of DOD concerning the B-2 aircraft program and report to the Congress as indicated. (103 Stat. 1373-1374)
2. With respect to the B-1B electronic countermeasures recovery program, the Secretary of Defense is to ensure that GAO has full, direct, and timely access to documentation, including test data and results. The Comptroller General is to actively monitor this program and provide periodic reports on status and effectiveness to the Congress. (103 Stat. 1380)
3. With respect to restriction on obligation of funds for procurement of binary chemical munitions, the Comptroller General is to provide monthly reports to the Congress on the previous month's production rate for the M20 plastic, M20 steel, 21 components of the M687 projectile, and on the status of the production backlog for fiscal years 1986, 1987, and 1988 for those components. These reports are to continue until the Comptroller

General certifies either that the production backlog for those components has been eliminated or that their production has been terminated.

The Comptroller General is also to assess whether the monthly delivery rates demonstrate reasonable grounds to believe that the incumbent contractor will continue to deliver at those monthly rates to eliminate the backlog of deliveries by October 1, 1990. (103 Stat. 1392)

4.The law provides for the testing and evaluation of certain infantry antitank weapons systems to select the superior system and requires the Comptroller General to conduct an assessment of those operational tests and evaluations and report to the Congress no later than 2 months after the end of the tests. (103 Stat. 1406)

5.No later than February 1, 1991, the Comptroller General is to report to the Congress on options for providing technical training for military recruits and members of the reserve components. (103 Stat. 1442)

6.The Comptroller General is to submit a report to the House and Senate Armed Services Committees no later than September 15, 1990, evaluating the aviator assignment policies and practices of the Armed Forces. (103 Stat. 1455)

7.The Comptroller General is to evaluate the accuracy of the most recently completed commercial activities study for the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base, New York, including an analysis of comparable situations at other U.S. military installations. (103 Stat. 1455)

8.The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the attorney General, is to study and report to the Congress on matters relating to military child care that are the concern of the Department of Justice. The Comptroller General is to submit to the Congress a report evaluating the findings in the report submitted by the Secretary of Defense. (103 Stat. 1594)

9.The Comptroller General is to report on the methodology, findings, and recommendations of the Commission on Base Realignment and Closure. (103 Stat. 1661-1662)

Ethics Reform Act of 1989

Public Law 101-194, November 30, 1989, 103 Stat. 1716, the Ethics Reform Act of 1989, provides the Comptroller General access to financial disclosure reports filed under Title II, Financial Disclosure of Federal

Personnel, for carrying out his statutory responsibilities. No later than December 31, 1992, and regularly thereafter, the Comptroller General is to conduct a study to determine if the provisions of this title are being carried out effectively. (103 Stat. 1741)

If the Senate Select Committee on Ethics determines that there is a reasonable basis to believe that a member, officer, or employee of the Senate may have committed an ethics violation, the Committee may request GAO to conduct fact finding and an investigation into the matter. (103 Stat. 1754)

GAO staff are included in the definition of the term "employee of any other legislative office of the Congress" in Title I—Post Employment Restrictions on the Executive and Legislative Branches (103 Stat. 1721).

GAO staff are included in the definition of "legislative branch" in Title II—Financial Disclosure of Federal Personnel (103 Stat. 1741) and also in the definition of "legislative branch" in Title IV, which contains amendments to Title 18 of the U.S. Code (103 Stat. 1748).

Minnesota Family Investment Plan

Public Law 101-202, December 6, 1989, 103 Stat. 1796, authorizing the food stamp portion of the Minnesota Family Investment Plan, provides for the Comptroller General to conduct periodic audits of the operation of the project to verify the amounts payable to the state. (103 Stat. 1802)

Local Rail Service Reauthorizing Act

Public Law 101-213, December 11, 1989, 103 Stat. 1843, the Local Rail Service Reauthorization Act, provides, with respect to the local rail freight assistance program, that the Comptroller General have access to records pertinent to grants, contracts, or other arrangements and that GAO regularly conduct financial and performance audits of the activities and transactions assisted under this program. (103 Stat. 1847)

Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989

Public Law 101-239, December 19, 1989, 103 Stat. 2106, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989, requires the following studies and other activities by GAO:

1. By no later than June 1, 1990, the Comptroller General is to report to the Congress on a study to assess the differences in costs and case-mix

between hospital-based and freestanding skilled nursing facilities participating in the Medicare program. (103 Stat. 2168)

2.The Comptroller General is to provide for (1) a study of alternative ways of paying, under section 1848 of the Social Security Act, for the malpractice component for physicians' services, in a manner that would assure, to the extent practicable, payment for Medicare's share of malpractice insurance premiums; and (2) a study to examine alternative resolution procedures for malpractice claims respecting professional services furnished under the Medicare program, including a review of the feasibility of establishing procedures that involve no-fault payment or mandatory arbitration. (103 Stat. 2185)

3.The Comptroller General is to conduct a study of the effect of antitrust laws on the ability of physicians to act in groups to educate and discipline peers to reduce and eliminate ineffective practice patterns and inappropriate utilization. The study is also to address antitrust issues as they relate to the adoption of practice guidelines by third-party payers and the role that practice guidelines might play as a defense in malpractice cases. (103 Stat. 2187)

4.The Comptroller General is to conduct a study of the appropriate uses of items of durable medical equipment and of the appropriate criteria for making determinations of medical necessity under title XVIII of the Social Security Act for such items, with particular emphasis on items (including seat-lift chairs) that may be subject to abusive billing practices. (103 Stat. 2224)

5.The Comptroller General is to conduct a study and report to the Congress on the ownership of hospitals and other providers of Medicare services by referring physicians. (103 Stat. 2242)

6.The Secretary of Health and Human Services is to submit to the Congress and the Comptroller General, no later than 90 days after the end of each calendar quarter, a report providing a statistical profile (by state and type of item of service) comparing use of items and services by Medicare beneficiaries served by entities in which the referring physician has a direct or indirect financial interest and by Medicare beneficiaries served by other entities. (103 Stat. 2243)

7.The Comptroller General is to conduct a study and report to the Congress on the administrative burden of Medicare regulations and

program requirements on providers of services, fiscal intermediaries, and carriers. (103 Stat. 2253-2254)

8. The Comptroller General, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, is to conduct a study on procedures to resolve, with the least disclosure of return information possible, discrepancies between taxpayer identity information shown on returns and such information in Internal Revenue Service (IRS) records. (103 Stat. 2394)

9. The Comptroller General, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, is to conduct a study of whether persons engaged in the business of transmitting information returns of other documents to the IRS on behalf of other persons should be subject to registration or other regulation. (103 Stat. 2394-2395)

10. The Comptroller General is to submit to the Congress and the President a compliance report setting forth the information required under section 253 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 in connection with deficits in excess of the maximum deficit amount. (103 Stat. 2491)

International Development and Financial Act of 1989

Public Law 101-240, December 19, 1989, 103 Stat. 1492, the International Development and Finance Act of 1989, amends the Inter-American Development Bank Act to provide for U.S. participation in a capital increase in resources of the Fund for Special Operations. The Secretary of the Treasury is not to make any payment for the subscription and contribution authorized until he certifies to the Congress, among other things, that the bank has given the Comptroller General access to the audit memorandum issued by the Auditor General of the bank with respect to the November 1987 disbursement of funds to the Government of Nicaragua and the Comptroller General has access to all documents of the bank on the same terms and conditions as such documents are made available to the U.S. Executive Director of the Bank. (103 Stat. 2497-2498)

Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1990 and 1991

Public Law 101-246, February 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 15, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1990 and 1991, requires the Comptroller General to evaluate the National Endowment for Democracy's programs and operations, effectiveness in fulfilling its goals, and management structure. The results of the study are to be reported to the House

Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. (104 Stat. 54)

Library Services and Construction Act Amendments of 1990

Public Law 101-254, March 15, 1990, 104 Stat. 101, Library Services and Construction Act Amendments of 1990, requires a study by the Comptroller General of the Department of Education Research Library. The study is to include (1) an assessment of the historic and scholastic value and significance of the library's collection, (2) a review of the feasibility and merits of expanding public access to and use of the library's collection and alternative means by which such access could be promoted, and (3) an evaluation of the quality and effectiveness of services provided by the library to Department personnel and recommendations for improving such services. (104 Stat. 104)

Ethics Reform Act of 1989

Public Law 101-280, May 4, 1990, 104 Stat. 149, makes technical changes in the Ethics Reform Act of 1989, including an amendment to the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 with respect to financial disclosure reports of federal personnel that refers to officers and employees of GAO. (104 Stat. 153)

Wildfire Disaster Recovery Act of 1989

Public Law 101-286, May 9, 1990, 104 Stat. 171, the Wildfire Disaster Recovery Act of 1989, establishes the National Commission on Wildfire Disasters and requires the Comptroller General, among others, to provide the Commission such information as may be required to carry out its duties and functions. Additionally, on request from the Commission, the Comptroller General may furnish office personnel or support services. (104 Stat. 173)

Dire Supplemental Appropriation, Fiscal Year 1990

Public Law 101-302, May 25, 1990, 104 Stat. 213, Dire Emergency Supplemental Appropriation, Fiscal Year 1990, requires GAO to report to the Congress, assessing the effectiveness of the Economic Support Fund assistance provided under the act for Panama and Nicaragua, emphasizing commodity import programs and cash transfers used for balance of payments and budget support in meeting stated objectives, the effectiveness of fiscal and administrative controls, and the application of lessons learned from the implementation of these programs to similar ones administered by the Agency for International Development. (104 Stat. 225)

Mount Rushmore Commemorative Coin Act

Public Law 101-332, July 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 313, provides for the minting of coins in commemoration of the Golden Anniversary of the Mount Rushmore National Memorial. Surcharges received by the Secretary of the Treasury from the sale of the coins are to be divided between the Mount Rushmore National Memorial Society of Black Hills and the Federal Treasury for reduction of the national debt. The Comptroller General is provided access to records relating to these surcharges. (104 Stat. 315)

Americans With Disabilities Act

Public Law 101-336, June 26, 1990, 104 Stat. 327, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, establishes a clear and comprehensive prohibition of discrimination on the basis of disability. The rights and protections under this act apply to each instrumentality of the Congress, including GAO. The chief official of each instrumentality shall report to the Congress on any remedies or procedures it establishes to carry out its responsibilities under this act. Nothing in this section shall alter the enforcement procedures for individuals with disabilities provided in the General Accounting Office Personnel Act of 1980 and regulations provided pursuant to that act. (104 Stat. 375)

Civil Service Amendments

Public Law 101-376, August, 17, 1990, 104 Stat. 461, Civil Service Due Process Amendments, allows certain excepted service employees to appeal certain adverse personnel actions to the Merit System Protection Board. Persons excluded from these provisions include GAO employees. (104 Stat. 462)

Oil Pollution Act

Public Law 101-380, August 18, 1990, 104 Stat. 484, the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, establishes liability for damages resulting from oil pollution as well as a fund for the compensation for such damages. The Comptroller General shall audit all payments, obligations, reimbursements, and other uses of the fund to assure that it is being properly administered and that claims are being appropriately and expeditiously considered. The Comptroller General shall thereafter audit the fund as appropriate. Each federal agency shall cooperate with the Comptroller General in carrying out this subsection. (104 Stat. 500)

Title V provides for the establishment of a Prince William Sound Oil Spill Recovery Institute. The Comptroller General shall have access, for purposes of audit and examination, to any books, documents, papers, and records of the Institute and its administering agency that are pertinent to

the funds received and expended by the Institute and its administering agency. (104 Stat. 543)

One section provides for the disposition of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline Liability Fund after reserving amounts for certain expenses and claims. The Comptroller General shall certify that the requirements of this section have been met before the disposal of the balance and any excess reserve amount takes place. (104 Stat. 565-566)

Another provision establishes a Presidential Task Force on the Trans-Atlantic Pipeline System. Before it begins its audit and review, the Task Force shall consult with those government entities conducting ongoing investigations, including GAO. Additionally, the Comptroller General shall have access for purposes of audit and examination to any books, papers, documents, and records of the Task Force that are pertinent to the funds received and expended by it. (104 Stat. 569)

Customs and Trade Act

Public Law 101-382, August 20, 1990, 104 Stat. 629, the Customs and Trade Act of 1990, requires the Comptroller General to determine the extent to which custom user fees are collected on merchandise that is sent by mail and to develop recommendations for maximizing the collection of such fees. The Comptroller General shall submit a written report on these findings to the House Ways and Means and Senate Finance Committees. (104 Stat. 640)

The Commissioner of Customs shall transmit to the Congress a report, for the previous fiscal year, containing a complete set of audited financial statements prepared in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Comptroller General. (104 Stat. 641)

Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act

Public Law 101-391, September 25, 1990, 104 Stat. 747, the Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act of 1990, provides percentage guidelines for the total nights spent by federal agency employees on official business in public accommodations meeting fire safety guidelines. GAO shall audit the compliance of agencies with the requirements of this section (5 U.S.C. 5707 (d)) and submit a report to the Congress describing the results. (104 Stat. 751)

Vocational Education

Public Law 101-392, September 25, 1990, 104 Stat. 763, the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act, directs GAO to conduct a 3-year study of the effects of title II of this act on access to and participation in vocational education of disadvantaged students, students with handicaps, students of limited English proficiency, and, to the extent practicable, foster children.

The act lists seven issues to consider in the study. Among these are the number of such students who participate in vocational education programs that lead to an occupational skill or job placement; the number of such students who enroll in vocational education programs for the first time during the period of study; and the extent to which academics are incorporated into vocational education courses. GAO shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report describing the results of the study no later than July 1, 1995. (104 Stat. 827-828)

GAO shall conduct an investigation should the Secretary of Education fail to submit on time any report or research finding or issue any regulation required by this act and report its findings to specified congressional committees. (104 Stat. 831)

Additionally, GAO shall conduct a thorough study of the Dual System of Vocational Education in the Federal Republic of Germany. This study should include an analysis of the desirability, advantages, and disadvantages of establishing a similar U.S. job apprenticeship program. It should be completed and presented to the Congress within 1 year of the date of enactment of this act. (104 Stat. 841)

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