



AFGE Leads the Fight to Stop Waste, Fraud, Abuse in Outsourcing

The American Federation of Government Employees is ramping up its effort to permanently stop waste, fraud, and abuse in government contracting by working with lawmakers to come up with a bill that would save taxpayer dollars and restore good government.

The Correction of Longstanding Errors in Agencies' Unsustainable Procurements (CLEAN UP) Act is set to be introduced in Congress on April 21 in response to eight years of the Bush administration's anti-federal employee, pro-business ideology, which resulted in the unprecedented number of sole source contracts and wholesale privatization of government jobs including those that should never be performed by contractors.

Specifically, the CLEAN UP Act would:

- Ensure that jobs that are inherently governmental or closely related to inherently governmental are performed by federal employees. Agencies would be required to identify those jobs being performed by contractors and come up with schedules to gradually bring the work back in house.
- Encourage agencies to give federal employees opportunities to perform new work and certain outsourced work, such as work that was contracted out without competition and outsourced work being poorly performed.
- Require agencies to come up with inventories of contracts to track costs and performance.
- Require agencies to determine whether there are or will be staffing shortages and develop plans to address these shortages.
- Direct the Obama administration to make drastic, long-overdue reforms to the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76, which governs outsourcing studies.
- Suspend the A-76 process until all the reforms have been made across the government.

“The CLEAN UP Act would result in big-time, long-term changes to the A-76 process that would make it far more friendly to federal employees and direct agencies to insource new work and outsourced work,” AFGE President John Gage said.

The bill is urgently needed now that Congress has issued a ban on all new A-76 studies across the government in this fiscal year after a series of problems have emerged, including agencies' exaggerated savings, faulty cost comparisons, lack of contract oversight, and cost overrun. These problems are well documented in both the Inspector General and Government Accountability Office reports.



