

41. AN AMENDMENT TO BE OFFERED BY REPRESENTATIVE
Sarbanes OF Maryland, OR HIS
DESIGNEE, DEBATABLE FOR 10 MINUTES:

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**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2647, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. SARBANES OF MARYLAND**

At the end of title VIII, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 830. PROCUREMENT PROFESSIONALISM ADVISORY**
2 **PANEL.**

3 (a) GAO-CONVENED PANEL.—The Comptroller Gen-
4 eral shall convene a panel of experts, to be known as the
5 Procurement Professionalism Advisory Panel, to study the
6 ethics, competence, and effectiveness of acquisition per-
7 sonnel and the governmentwide procurement process, in-
8 cluding the following:

9 (1) The role played by the Federal acquisition
10 workforce at each stage of the procurement process,
11 with a focus on the following:

- 12 (A) Personnel shortages.
- 13 (B) Expertise shortages.
- 14 (C) The relationship between career acqui-
15 sition personnel and political appointees.
- 16 (D) The relationship between acquisition
17 personnel and contractors.

1 (2) The legislation, regulation, official policy,
2 and informal customs that govern procurement per-
3 sonnel.

4 (3) Training and retention tools used to hire,
5 retain, and professionally develop acquisition per-
6 sonnel, including the following:

7 (A) The Defense Acquisition University.

8 (B) The Federal Acquisition Institute.

9 (C) Continuing education and professional
10 development opportunities available to acquisi-
11 tion professionals.

12 (D) Opportunities to pursue higher edu-
13 cation available to acquisition personnel, includ-
14 ing scholarships and student loan forgiveness.

15 (b) ADMINISTRATION OF PANEL.—The Comptroller
16 General shall be the chairman of the panel.

17 (c) COMPOSITION OF PANEL.—

18 (1) MEMBERSHIP.—The Comptroller General
19 shall appoint highly qualified and knowledgeable per-
20 sons to serve on the panel and shall ensure that the
21 following groups receive fair representation on the
22 panel:

23 (A) Officers and employees of the United
24 States.

25 (B) Persons in private industry.

1 (C) Federal labor organizations.

2 (2) FAIR REPRESENTATION.—For the purposes
3 of the requirement for fair representation under
4 paragraph (1), persons serving on the panel under
5 subparagraph (C) of that paragraph shall not be
6 counted as persons serving on the panel under sub-
7 paragraph (A) or (B) of that paragraph.

8 (d) PARTICIPATION BY OTHER INTERESTED PAR-
9 TIES.—The Comptroller General shall ensure that the op-
10 portunity to submit information and views on the ethics,
11 competence, and effectiveness of acquisition personnel to
12 the panel for the purposes of the study is accorded to all
13 interested parties, including officers and employees of the
14 United States not serving on the panel and entities in pri-
15 vate industry and representatives of Federal labor organi-
16 zations not represented on the panel.

17 (e) INFORMATION FROM AGENCIES.—The panel may
18 secure directly from any department or agency of the
19 United States any information that the panel considers
20 necessary to carry out a meaningful study of administra-
21 tion of the rules described in subsection (a). Upon the re-
22 quest of the Chairman of the panel, the head of such de-
23 partment or agency shall furnish the requested informa-
24 tion to the panel.

25 (f) REPORT.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
3 Comptroller General shall submit a report on the re-
4 sults of the study to—

5 (A) the Committee on Oversight and Gov-
6 ernment Reform of the House of Representa-
7 tives;

8 (B) the Committee on Armed Services of
9 the House of Representatives;

10 (C) the Committee on Homeland Security
11 and Government Affairs of the Senate; and

12 (D) the Committee on Armed Services of
13 the Senate.

14 (2) AVAILABILITY.—The Comptroller General
15 shall publish the report in the Federal Register and
16 on a publically accessible website (acquisition.gov).

17 (g) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “Federal
18 labor organization” has the meaning given the term “labor
19 organization” in section 7103(a)(4) of title 5, United
20 States Code.

