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(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To suspend proposed rulemaking signed by former Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency Scott Pruitt, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CONNOLLY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

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A BILL

To suspend proposed rulemaking signed by former Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency Scott Pruitt, and for other purposes.

1   *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*

2   *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3   **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4   This Act may be cited as the ''Ensuring Scott Pruitt

5   is Accountable Act of 2018'' or the ''EPA Act of 2018''.

6   **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7   Congress finds that—

1   (1) on August 28, 2017, the Office of Inspector

2 General of the Environmental Protection Agency (re-

3 ferred to in this Act as the "EPA OIG") announced

4 that it would conduct an audit of Scott Pruitt, then-

5 Administrator of the Environmental Protection

6 Agency (referred to in this Act as the "Agency"),

7 for—

8   (A) the unprecedented and frequent travel

9   expenses incurred by Mr. Pruitt for travel to

10   his home State of Oklahoma; and

11   (B) the reliance by Mr. Pruitt on first-

12   class seats on commercial airplanes;

13   (2) on December 6, 2017, the EPA OIG an-

14 nounced that it would review whether Mr. Pruitt or

15 his staff violated Federal lobbying laws during a

16 meeting in April 2017 with the National Mining As-

17 sociation, during which meeting it was reported that

18 Mr. Pruitt advised the Association to encourage

19 President Trump to withdraw from the Paris Cli-

20 mate Agreement;

21   (3) on December 8, 2017, the EPA OIG opened

22 a review into the manner in which the Agency de-

23 cided to spend more than $25,000 to install a secure

24 soundproof communications booth in the office of

25 Mr. Pruitt;

1   (4) on January 8, 2018, the EPA OIG began

2 an audit on the exploitation of the Safe Drinking

3 Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.) by Mr. Pruitt

4 to give pay raises to 2 top aides, even after the

5 Trump administration refused the request for those

6 pay raises;

7   (5) on April 17, 2018, the EPA OIG opened an

8 investigation into the use of a security detail by Mr.

9 Pruitt during personal trips to Disneyland and the

10 Rose Bowl;

11   (6) on April 19, 2018, the EPA OIG confirmed

12 a probe into a request from Mr. Pruitt for around-

13 the-clock security protection;

14   (7) on April 25, 2018, the EPA OIG agreed to

15 examine the use by Mr. Pruitt of Agency staff for

16 personal errands, including—

17   (A) inquiring about purchasing a used

18 mattress from the Trump International Hotel;

19   (B) locating a particular lotion from the

20 Ritz-Carlton Hotels; and

21   (C) seeking a Chick-fil-A franchise for his

22 wife;

23   (8) on April 27, 2018, the EPA OIG opened a

24 review into the rental by Mr. Pruitt of a bedroom in

25 Capitol Hill, Washington, DC, from an energy in-

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1 dustry lobbyist for $50 per night, a rate that is well

2 below market value; and

3   (9) on May 15, 2018, the EPA OIG announced

4 that it would look into the use of multiple email ad-

5 dresses by Mr. Pruitt as potential violations of chap-

6 ter 31 of title 44, United States Code, relating to

7 records management by Federal agencies, and of the

8 records management policy of the Agency.

9 **SEC. 3. SUSPENSION OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING BY PRU-**

10   **ITT.**

11   (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Agency

12 shall not finalize or engage in any rulemaking with respect

13 to a rule for which the advance notice of proposed rule-

14 making or the notice of proposed rulemaking was signed

15 by Scott Pruitt until the date on which the report de-

16 scribed in subsection (b) becomes publicly available.

17   (b) REPORT.—On completion of the audits, reviews,

18 investigations, and probe described in section 2, the In-

19 spector General of the EPA OIG shall make publicly avail-

20 able a report that describes the findings and conclusions

21 of each audit, review, investigation, and probe.