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Sequestration Transparency Act

President Obama signed the <u>Sequestration Transparency Act of 2012</u> (PL 112-155) on August 07, 2012. Under the terms of the Act, the Obama Administration now has until September 6, 2012 to submit to Congress a detailed report on the sequestration scheduled to go into effect on January 2, 2013. As part of that report, the Administration must provide for discretionary appropriations an estimate, for each category of spending, the percentages and amounts necessary to achieve the required reductions. While the Act draws a distinction between specific departmental appropriation bills that are enacted and any Continuing Resolution (CR) for all other departments, both categories require the Obama Administration to explain any resulting reductions at the "program, project and activity levels." Finally, the Act requires the Obama Administration to provide any other data and explanations "that enhance public understanding of the sequester and actions to be taken under it."