CMS
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

The SHARE IT ACT

Source Code Harmonization and Reuse in Information Technology Act

Overview

March 2025

Overview of the SHARE IT Act

The SHARE IT Act aims to foster a culture of code sharing and reuse within the federal government, improving efficienc
and reducing duplication of effort.

Mandatory source code sharing → Agencies must store custom-developed code in public or private repositories for access by federal employees.

Reuse and collaboration → The Act enables greater reuse of code across government and allows for collaboration on improving shared code.

Metadata requirements → Agencies must make metadata for custom-developed code publicly accessible to aid in discovery and transparency.

Exemption process → Agencies can request exemptions for code that contains sensitive information or is subject to national security restrictions

Key Definitions

The Act establishes key definitions to provide a common understanding of the requirements for federal agencies to share and reuse custom-developed code.

Custom-Developed Code

Source code that is produced under a government contract or by a federal employee as part of their official duties.

Public Repository

A software storage location with open public access, containing source code, documentation, and revision history.

Private Repository

A software storage location with restricted access, containing source code, documentation, and revision history.

Sharing and Reuse of Source Code

- Share Custom-Developed Code

  Agencies must ensure their custom-developed code and related technical components (documentation, data models, schemas, metadata, architecture designs, configuration scripts, etc.) are stored in public or private repositories, accessible to federal employees, and owned by the agency.

- Acquisition of Reuse Rights

  Agencies must acquire and exercise rights sufficient to enable governmentwide access, sharing, use, and modification of any custom-developed code created under procurement contracts.

- Metadata Disclosure

  Agencies must make metadata created for custom-developed code publicly accessible, including information on whether the code was produced under a contract or shared in a repository, the contract number, and repository hyperlinks.

- Agency CIO Responsibilities

  Agency CIOs, in consultation with the Chief Acquisition Officer and the Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government, must develop policies to implement the sharing and reuse requirements, including procedures for managing access, public accessibility, and reporting.

- Exemptions

  Agencies can exempt custom-developed code from the sharing and reuse requirements if it is classified, developed primarily for national security systems, or its disclosure would violate other laws or create privacy risks.

Legislative Implementation & Reporting Timelines

Timeline	Date	Responsible Party	Responsibilities
Within 120 days of enactment	April 22, 2025	Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government (OGE)	Develop minimum standard reporting requirements for ***CIOs*** to report Agency code sharing information.
Within 180 days of enactment	June 21, 2025	Agency CIOs in consultation with Agency CAO & OGE	Develop agency-wide policy that implements the requirements of the Act consistent with OMB policy that governs the management and reporting on code sharing activities, repositories, and exemptions.
Within 210 days of enactment	July 21, 2025	Agency Head	Ensure agency code and other technical components of the code developed under contract are: (1) stored on at least 1 public-private repository, (2) accessible to Federal employees, (3) owned by the agency including rights to access, share, use, and modify the custom developed code.
Not after that 1 year after enactment, and annually thereafter	December 23, 2025 (first of an annual requirement)	Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government (OGE)	Publish: (1) report to Congress on the exemptions issued, and (2) report on a public website on progress on implementation of the Act, including exemptions issued.
Not later than 1 year after enactment	December 23, 2025	GSA	Revise the FAR as necessary to implement the provisions of the act.
Not later than December 31 of each year	December 31, 2025 (first of an annual requirement)	Agency CIO	Submit a report of source code exemptions and justifications issued during the year to the Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government (OGE)
Not later than 2 years after enactment	December 31, 2025	GAO	Report on the effectiveness of the implementation of the Act.

DSAC OSPO: Technical Implementation Strategy & Goals

Goals

1. Create modular and generalizable processes, tools, and documentation for inventorying private and public source code.
2. Create SHARE IT Act code.json metadata templates compatible with existing M-16-21 inventory standards
3. Create static hosted webforms for manual creation of metadata in repositories.
4. Create tooling that can automate detecting, adding, and updating repository metadata.
5. Create tooling and processes to help identify source code to be exempted from government wide sharing and reuse.
6. Create automated tooling that generates the required metadata indexes for agency-level reporting.
7. Create tooling that generates the required reports for the E-government Administrator and Congress.
8. Ensure CMS is SHARE IT Act ready and ship our first compliant repositories on Day 1 of the enforcement period. (July 2025)

Anti-goals

1. Create a completely new metadata standard. We will extend existing M-16-21 standards. We are not reinventing the wheel.

Technical Implementation MVP

DEMO TIME

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Proposed Exit Criteria & Metrics

Success Criteria:

- At least **80%** of public repositories include code.json metadata, are classified by maturity model framework, and meet baseline hygiene requirements
- CMS is tracking **80%** of public repositories on the Public OSPO Repo Metrics website
- CMS is tracking **80%** of private repositories on the internal OSPO Repo Metrics website
- CMS is producing an agency wide code.json index, and regularly updating our agency code.json automatically
- Procedures for public and private repository access are established and the update process is well-defined.

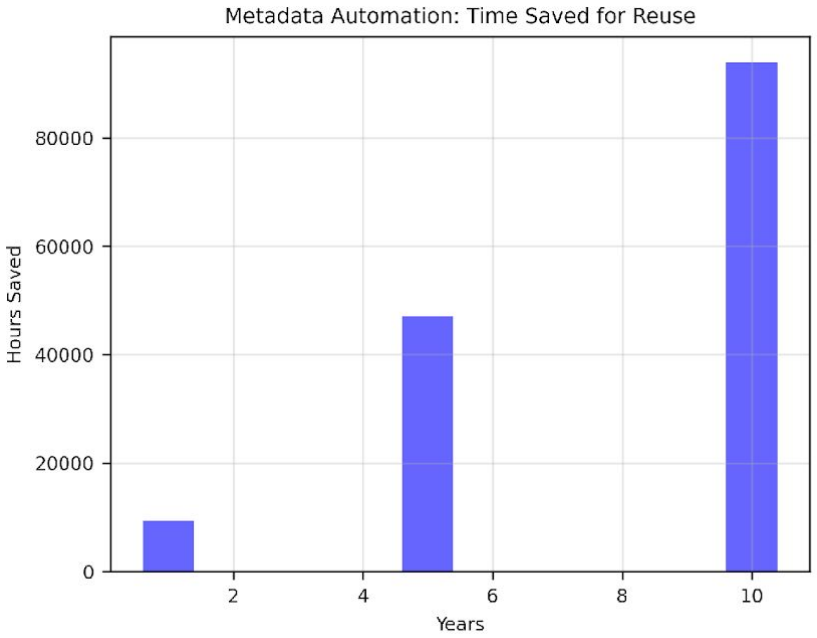
Failure Criteria:

- More than **20%** of public repositories lack code.json or fail repo hygiene baselines,
- More than **20%** of private repos lack code.json with exemption status
- More than **20%** of public repos are not listed on metrics websites,
- The agency-wide code.json index is incomplete, code.json index is not updated automatically,
- Repo access procedures not established or followed.

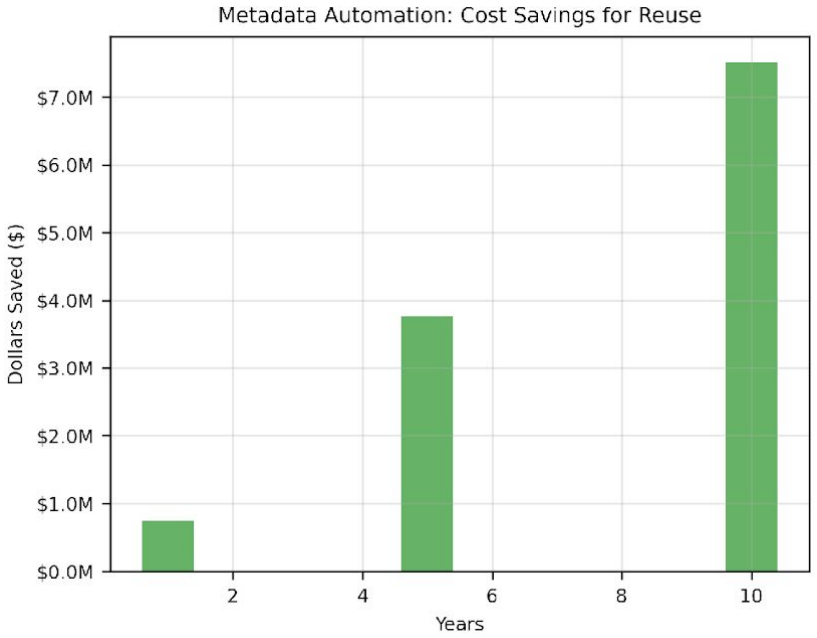
Estimated Savings: Metadata Tools & Repo Reuse

https://github.com/DSACMS/shareitsavings?tab=readme-ov-file#methodology

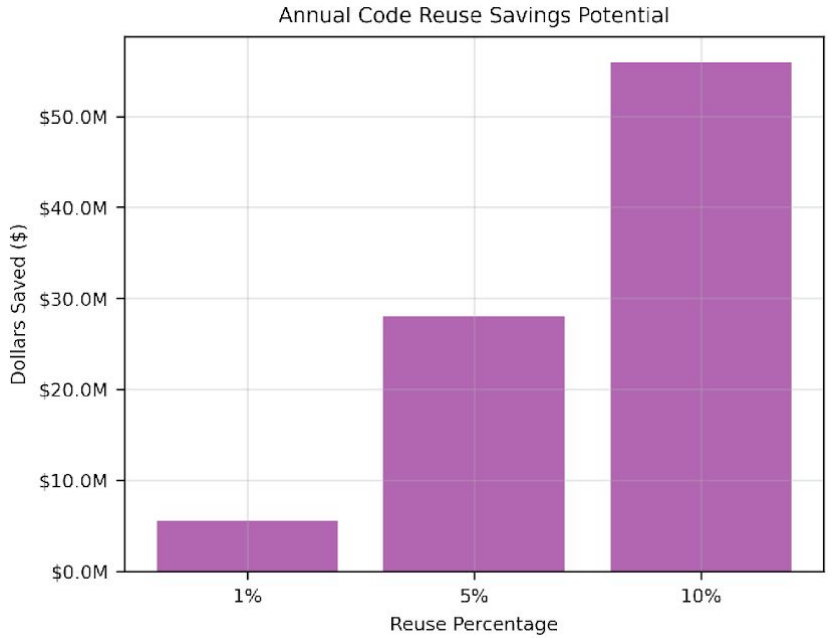
80% reduction, 1 hr per repository, 10K repos



$80/hr rate (GS 13/14 ~$100-150, Contractor ~$100-200)



CMS DME Budget of $700M, at 80% reuse efficiency



Period	Time Savings	Cost Savings
1 Year	9,400 hrs	$752K (+$205K)
5 Years	47,000 hrs	$3.76M
10 Years	94,000 hrs	$7.52M

CMS's annual IT spending for internal and contractor-operated systems was **~$2.8B** (FY2023).

- Operations & maintenance: **~$2.1B**
- Development, Modernization, & Enhancement: **~$700M**

Reuse Rate	Cost Savings
1% reuse	$5M
5% reuse	$28M
10% reuse	$56M