

TITLE I — SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS & PURPOSE

Section 1. Short Title.

This Act may be cited as the “American Ambition & Accountability Act” or “AAA”.

Section 2. Findings & Purpose.

Congress finds and declares:

- (A) The United States faces a growing ambition deficit in public-sector innovation;
 - (B) Risk aversion, process opacity, and fragmented pilot authorities suppress transformative ideas;
 - (C) Transparent, auditable, and participatory sandbox frameworks can safely accelerate government experimentation;
 - (D) This Act establishes such a framework, protecting taxpayer interests and converting evidence-based wins into enduring policy.
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TITLE II — DEFINITIONS

Section 3. Definitions. For purposes of this Act:

- (A) “**Agency.**” An executive department or independent establishment of the Federal Government.
- (B) “**Algorithmic Impact Assessment.**” A structured analysis of algorithmic fairness, explainability, and bias risks under § 404(h).
- (C) “**Appeals Panel.**” The review body established under § 308.
- (D) “**Board.**” The Independent Red-Team & Audit Board created by Title IV.
- (E) “**COOP/DR Plan.**” The Continuity-of-Operations and Disaster-Recovery plan required by § 312.
- (F) “**Critical-Tech Shield.**” The list and tiered data-release protocol established under § 609.
- (G) “**DBOM.**” Dependency Bill of Materials filed under § 305.
- (H) “**GAO.**” The Government Accountability Office.
- (I) “**KPI.**” Key Performance Indicator defined in § 304 and Title VI.
- (J) “**Level-1 Sandbox.**” A pilot meeting § 302(A).
- (K) “**Level-2 Sandbox.**” A pilot meeting § 302(B).
- (L) “**Micro-grant Voucher.**” An award under § 304(b) not exceeding \$50,000.
- (M) “**OMB.**” The Office of Management and Budget.
- (N) “**PRA Waiver.**” The exemption created by § 303(A).
- (O) “**Rapid-Pilot Fund.**” The revolving fund established under Title VIII.
- (P) “**Sandbox.**” An experimental pilot authorized by this Act.
- (Q) “**SBOM.**” Software Bill of Materials as set forth in Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M-22-18 (or successor guidance).
- (R) “**SPO.**” Sandbox Program Office designated by an agency.
- (S) “**State/Tribal MOU.**” A memorandum under § 903.
- (T) [Reserved.]

TITLE III — FEDERAL AMBITION SANDBOX AUTHORITY & PILOT WORKFLOW

Section 301. Authority to Establish Sandboxes.

(A) Any agency may propose, operate, or partner in sandbox pilots under this Act (see § 304(b) for micro-grant vouchers).

(B) Pilots may originate via the Model Policy Registry, direct charter submission, or FMPSRA pathway.

Section 302. Eligibility and Levels.

(A) Level-1 Sandbox.

- (i) Total Federal obligation \leq \$5,000,000;
- (ii) Duration \leq 12 months;
- (iii) Eligible for PRA waiver and micro-grant support.

(B) Level-2 Sandbox.

- (i) Exceeds a Level-1 threshold;
- (ii) Requires Board super-majority and OMB budget sign-off.

Section 303. Pilot Workflow; Fast-Lane Procedures.

(A) Level-1 pilots receive 30-day OIRA review, Paperwork Reduction Act waiver, waiver of FAR Part 12 commercial-item procedures where appropriate, and Other-Transaction (OT) template contracting.

(B) Level-2 pilots require Red-Team adversarial review, Blue-Team OPSEC clearance, and public posting of charter and KPIs.

Section 304. Micro-Grants, KPI Schema, and Scaling Templates.

(A) Competitive micro-grant vouchers (\leq \$50,000) may be awarded to refine proposals.

(B) All pilots shall express KPIs using the GSA 18F Sandbox Data Schema **version 1.0** (or successor), with version number recorded in the public ledger.

(C) Pre-launch submission of Dependency BoM and Inter-Pilot Conflict Matrix is mandatory.

(D) Scaling Templates.

(1) Within 180 days of enactment, OMB shall publish reusable contract, Authority-to-Operate, and staffing templates;

(2) Templates shall be automatically attached to each pilot charter;

(3) Pilots graduating with successful KPIs may invoke templates without further competition.

(E) A COOP/DR Plan must be approved before “go-live.”

(F) Optional indemnification (\leq \$10 million) is available for GAO-designated “National Priority Testbeds.”

(G) [Reserved.]

Section 305. Technology & Security Controls.

(A) All Level-2 pilots and any pilot deploying firmware-based or IoT systems shall provide an SBOM (per OMB M-22-18) and signed firmware.

- (B) A DBOM shall be filed with the agency CIO and updated quarterly.
- (C) Level-2 pilots shall pass a third-party penetration test before launch.

Section 306. Stop-Loss and Fiscal Discipline.

- (A) No single pilot may obligate more than 10 percent of the Rapid-Pilot Fund.
- (B) A ≥ 25 percent cost-overflow automatically pauses obligations pending OMB and Board review.

Section 307. Lead-Agency Determination.

- (A) Competing claims shall be resolved by responsible Cabinet heads within 30 days; failing that, OMB becomes final arbiter.

Section 308. Sandbox Entry Appeals Panel.

- (A) Denied applicants may appeal; panel comprises one Board member, one OMB official, and one public-interest expert.

Sections 309–311. [Reserved.]

Section 312. COOP/DR, Dependency, and Conflict Planning.

- (A) Each SPO shall maintain: COOP/DR Plan, DBOM, and Inter-Pilot Conflict Matrix.

Section 313. Indemnification.

- (A) Optional indemnification as authorized in § 304(F) must be reported to Congress.

Section 314. Industry Transition Outreach.

- (A) GSA shall host quarterly webinars and publish a “Sandbox Partner Playbook,” funded at ≤ 0.2 percent of Rapid-Pilot outlays.

Section 315. [Reserved.]

Section 316. NEPA Pathway.

- (A) Micro-pilots receive categorical exclusion; Level-2 physical pilots comply with the National Environmental Policy Act.

TITLE IV — INDEPENDENT RED-TEAM & AUDIT BOARD

Section 401. Composition and Expansion.

- (A) Seven members: two Presidential; two bicameral majority; two bicameral minority; one GAO designee.
- (B) Quorum is four unless expanded.
- (C) When active Level-2 pilots exceed thirty, two additional members shall be nominated within 60 days (maximum eleven); quorum adjusts to 60 percent.
- (D) Six-year staggered terms; removal only for cause.

Section 402. Powers and Duties.

- (A) Conduct Red-Team reviews; approve Level-2 pilots.
- (B) Oversee Blue-Team OPSEC scrubs and anomaly detection tooling.
- (C) Publish all findings.

Section 403. Ethics and Cooling-Off.

- (A) Board members and SPO leads are barred from vendor employment or compensation for two years after service.

Section 404. Review Protocols.

- (A) Blue-Team must clear KPI releases; no data may post without written Blue-Team approval.
 - (B) All redactions logged in public ledger.
 - (C) Algorithmic Impact Assessment required for AI pilots.
 - (D) GAO shall randomize 5 percent of KPI definitions annually for blind validation.
 - (E) Ethics & Equity Sub-Panel (two seats) reviews pilots with potential disparate impact.
 - (F–H) [Reserved.]
 - (I) Automated anomaly-detection and OPSEC-scrub tooling shall be maintained by the Blue-Team.
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TITLE V — INCENTIVES & WORKFORCE**Section 501. Incentives for Public Learning.**

- (A) SES and GS-15 staff awarded career credit for publishing lessons-learned and transparency memos.

Section 502. Job Security & Union Participation.

- (A) No bargaining-unit employee shall be involuntarily separated solely due to sandbox outsourcing.
- (B) Right-of-first-refusal or funded reskilling required.
- (C) Unions granted non-voting observer status on Ethics & Equity Sub-Panel.

Section 503. Sandbox Program Office Staffing.

- (A) SPOs authorized direct-hire and SL/STS pay band for data science and KPI roles.
- (B) SPO leads must complete Sandbox Academy micro-credential before leading Level-1 pilot.

Section 504. Sandbox Academy Launch.

- (A) GSA 18F shall launch an online Sandbox Academy micro-credential program within 90 days; course completion is a prerequisite for pilot leads.
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TITLE VI — TRANSPARENCY DASHBOARD & PUBLIC COMMENT LOOPS

Section 601. AAA.gov Portal.

(A) Must maintain ≥ 99.9 percent quarterly uptime; DDoS mitigation and bot-rate-limiting costs are Rapid-Pilot-fund-eligible.

(B) API access shall default to 100 requests per minute per authenticated key, adjustable by rule.

Section 602. Data Integrity & Schema.

(A) KPI releases must include SHA-256 manifest and Merkle-tree proof.

(B) Each dataset shall reference its Sandbox Data Schema version number; backward-compatibility must be maintained or change-log published 60 days prior to migration.

(C) DNSSEC and HSTS are mandatory.

Section 603. Public Comment and Co-Design Window.

(A) Each proposed pilot shall allow for a 30-day public comment period, with Login.gov or verified e-mail for up-votes; rate-limit N comments/user/day.

Section 604. Privacy & Data Stewardship.

(A) Differential privacy noise budgets required on all datasets with <250 records.

(B) Privacy-loss metric published with each release; privacy budgets rotated quarterly; Red-Team triggers budget reset if re-ID risk $>1\%$.

(C) NARA-approved record schedule; 10-year cold storage budgeted.

(D) FOIA harmonization: narrow exemption for sandbox metrics covered by OPSEC carve-out (§609).

Section 605. [Reserved.]

Section 606. Transparency Resilience.

(A) Portal must maintain 99.9% uptime, with public SLA and status page.

Section 607. Public Audit Ledger.

(A) All redactions or publication delays require logging with statutory cite, public within 24 hours.

Section 608. Bulk Data & API.

(A) Nightly bulk KPI dump and open API endpoint required.

Section 609. OPSEC Carve-Out & Tiered Data-Release.

(A) DNI, Secretary of Commerce, and CISA Director shall publish a Critical-Tech Shield List within 120 days.

(B) Pilots under this list may only release Level-B data at T+90 days, unless DNI waives.

(C) Redaction/delay logged publicly within 24 hours.

Section 610. [Reserved.]

Section 611. Civic Literacy and Engagement.

(A) Civic-literacy micro-grants awarded annually to NGOs for public explainers.

TITLE VII — OVERSIGHT, GAO SPOT AUDITS & BIENNIAL SCORECARD

Section 701. GAO Random Spot-Audit Mandate.

(A) GAO shall conduct random compliance audits of $\geq 2\%$ of Level-1 pilots each fiscal year; findings posted within 90 days.

Section 702. Legacy Sunset and After-Action Library.

(A) OMB must file a Legacy Sunset Memo within 12 months of pilot graduation recommending de-scope or retirement of redundant programs.

(B) All pilots must publish a public after-action report with DOI-tagged case study.

Section 703. Biennial Scorecard.

(A) GAO shall deliver to Congress, every 24 months, a scorecard of AAA outcomes using four metrics: throughput, cost-efficiency, learning rate, equity.

(B) Each report must include two ROI case studies quantifying savings from early termination or scale-up.

Section 704. [Reserved.]

TITLE VIII — APPROPRIATIONS & RAPID-PILOT REVOLVING FUND

Section 801. Rapid-Pilot Fund; Structure.

(A) Treasury shall establish a \$500,000,000 revolving fund, no-year money, lifetime exposure capped at \$1,000,000,000.

(B) GSA Schedule contract fees shall offset appropriations.

(C) Fund immune from mid-year rescission or reprogramming, except by express act of Congress.

(D) Unused funds from pilots terminated early revert to the Fund.

Section 802. Appropriations.

(A) Congress authorizes such sums as necessary to seed and maintain the Fund, subject to §801 limits.

TITLE IX — COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH STATES & TRIBES

Section 901. State/Tribal Opt-In.

(A) Any state, territory, or federally recognized tribe may participate via State/Tribal MOU.

Section 902. Funding & Reporting.

(A) Joint pilots operate under Title III; funding share negotiated; joint KPI and reporting required.

Section 903. Model Cooperative Agreement.

(A) OMB shall publish a model State/Tribal MOU within 120 days of enactment.

TITLE X — MISCELLANEOUS; EFFECTIVE DATES; SEVERABILITY**Section 1001. Effective Date.**

(A) This Act takes effect 180 days after enactment.

Section 1002. Severability.

(A) If any provision of this Act is held invalid, the remainder of the Act, and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected.

Section 1003. [Reserved.]