

**NAME**

s390\_guarded\_storage – operations with z/Architecture guarded storage facility

**LIBRARY**

Standard C library (*libc*, *-lc*)

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <asm/guarded_storage.h> /* Definition of GS_* constants */
#include <sys/syscall.h>         /* Definition of SYS_* constants */
#include <unistd.h>
```

```
int syscall(SYS_s390_guarded_storage, int command,
            struct gs_cb *gs_cb);
```

*Note:* glibc provides no wrapper for `s390_guarded_storage()`, necessitating the use of `syscall(2)`.

**DESCRIPTION**

The `s390_guarded_storage()` system call enables the use of the Guarded Storage Facility (a z/Architecture-specific feature) for user-space processes.

The guarded storage facility is a hardware feature that allows marking up to 64 memory regions (as of z14) as guarded; reading a pointer with a newly introduced "Load Guarded" (LGG) or "Load Logical and Shift Guarded" (LLGFSG) instructions will cause a range check on the loaded value and invoke a (previously set up) user-space handler if one of the guarded regions is affected.

The *command* argument indicates which function to perform. The following commands are supported:

**GS\_ENABLE**

Enable the guarded storage facility for the calling task. The initial content of the guarded storage control block will be all zeros. After enablement, user-space code can use the "Load Guarded Storage Controls" (LGSC) instruction (or the `load_gs_cb()` function wrapper provided in the *asm/guarded\_storage.h* header) to load an arbitrary control block. While a task is enabled, the kernel will save and restore the calling content of the guarded storage registers on context switch.

**GS\_DISABLE**

Disables the use of the guarded storage facility for the calling task. The kernel will cease to save and restore the content of the guarded storage registers, the task-specific content of these registers is lost.

**GS\_SET\_BC\_CB**

Set a broadcast guarded storage control block to the one provided in the *gs\_cb* argument. This is called per thread and associates a specific guarded storage control block with the calling task. This control block will be used in the broadcast command **GS\_BROADCAST**.

**GS\_CLEAR\_BC\_CB**

Clears the broadcast guarded storage control block. The guarded storage control block will no longer have the association established by the **GS\_SET\_BC\_CB** command.

**GS\_BROADCAST**

Sends a broadcast to all thread siblings of the calling task. Every sibling that has established a broadcast guarded storage control block will load this control block and will be enabled for guarded storage. The broadcast guarded storage control block is consumed; a second broadcast without a refresh of the stored control block with **GS\_SET\_BC\_CB** will not have any effect.

The *gs\_cb* argument specifies the address of a guarded storage control block structure and is currently used only by the **GS\_SET\_BC\_CB** command; all other aforementioned commands ignore this argument.

**RETURN VALUE**

On success, the return value of `s390_guarded_storage()` is 0.

On error, `-1` is returned, and *errno* is set to indicate the error.

## ERRORS

### EFAULT

*command* was **GS\_SET\_BC\_CB** and the copying of the guarded storage control block structure pointed by the *gs\_cb* argument has failed.

### EINVAL

The value provided in the *command* argument was not valid.

### ENOMEM

*command* was one of **GS\_ENABLE** or **GS\_SET\_BC\_CB**, and the allocation of a new guarded storage control block has failed.

### EOPNOTSUPP

The guarded storage facility is not supported by the hardware.

## VERSIONS

This system call is available since Linux 4.12.

## STANDARDS

This Linux-specific system call is available only on the s390 architecture.

The guarded storage facility is available beginning with System z14.

## NOTES

The description of the guarded storage facility along with related instructions and Guarded Storage Control Block and Guarded Storage Event Parameter List structure layouts is available in "z/Architecture Principles of Operations" beginning from the twelfth edition.

The *gs\_cb* structure has a field *gsepla* (Guarded Storage Event Parameter List Address), which is a user-space pointer to a Guarded Storage Event Parameter List structure (that contains the address of the aforementioned event handler in the *gseha* field), and its layout is available as a **gs\_epl** structure type definition in the *asm/guarded\_storage.h* header.

## SEE ALSO

**syscall(2)**