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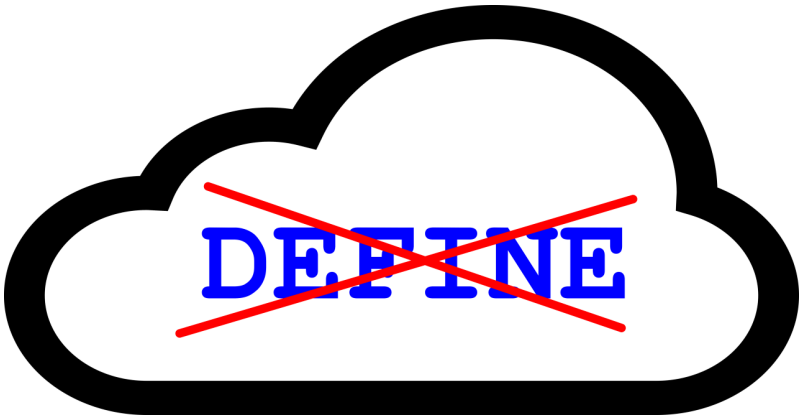

ABAP Cloud: Getting rid of those pesky macros

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The ABAP Cloud Programming Model does not allow using macros, however lots of old code still use macros, so how do we easily convert code to be cloud compatible?

Naming

ABAP is a programming language with many language constructs, and macros can easily make it more confusing. A macro named MULTIPLICATION can easily look like part of the language instead of a macro

```
MULTIPLICATION foo bar.
```

So if using macros, I like prefixing(ya ya) all macro names with an underscore enforced via https://rules.abaplint.org/macro_naming/

This makes it much easier to tell if there is something dodgy happening,

```
_MULTIPLICATION foo bar.
```

Inlining

Anyhow, macros cannot be used in the ABAP Cloud Programming Model, and most cloud/should be refactored to method calls. But in code maintained for Classic ABAP, there might be scenarios where the macros are preferred.

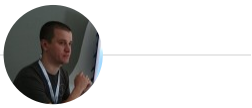
To automatically make the code ABAP Cloud compatible **https://rules.abaplint.org/expand_macros/** can be used, it will automatically take the macro contents and inline it instead of the macro call, try it out with above link. This can run both in **vscode** and in Continuous Integration pipelines.

Removing

When the macro call is removed the rule **https://rules.abaplint.org/unused_macros/** will trigger suggesting the remove the macro. Note that this is also useful when refactoring old code, reminding the developer if a macro becomes unused.

And voila, one problem making ABAP code cloud compatible is solved 🤠

Comments



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