



‘Rule’ Determinations by the Government Accountability Office for Congressional Review Act Consideration

August 3, 2026

The Congressional Review Act (CRA) created a legislative mechanism to strike down final rules issued by federal agencies. Congress can overturn actions by administrative agencies only if they are first considered a “rule” under the CRA.

Agencies engage in numerous actions, and under the CRA they are required to submit to Congress only those actions that are considered “rules.” If an agency does not consider its action a rule, it does not need to be submitted to Congress. However, if a member of Congress wants an agency action to be considered a rule under the CRA, a lawmaker can ask the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to determine whether the action should be considered a rule.

While the response times vary widely, it takes the GAO an average of 160 days to determine CRA eligibility, or about six and a half months. The GAO’s timeline for responses is notable. GAO has taken between a few weeks to over a year and a half to issue CRA determinations. While a majority of its determinations have resulted in submission to Congress, only a few of those resolutions have gained any traction. During the first Trump Administration, 18% of all requests for GAO determinations were made; over 38% of all requests for GAO determinations were made during the Biden Administration; and during the second Trump Administration so far, 30% of requests for GAO determinations have been made. The number of requests have been increasing.

If the GAO finds that an agency’s action meets CRA’s broad definition of a rule, its report may be published in the Congressional Record, which commences the period of congressional review and green lights the CRA’s fast-track procedures for disapproval.

The chart below documents the requests and GAO responses for “rule” determinations. It includes the names of the congressional requesters, the GAO’s opinion, and the amount of time that it took to respond to each request for a rule determination – dating back to the first GAO opinion issued in response to a “rule” determination request in 1996.

Agency Action Under Consideration	GAO Citation	GAO Opinion	Opinion Date	Requested By	Date Requested	Days Between Request and Opinion	CRA Res. Passed By
Federal Communications Commission—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Order on Reconsideration in Protecting the Nation’s Communications Systems from Cybersecurity Threats	B-338053	RULE; SUBMIT	July 29, 2026	Senator Maria Cantwell	January 28, 2026	182	

U.S. Small Business Administration—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Policy and Procedural Notices Updating Citizenship and Residency Requirements for 7(a) and 504 Loans	B-338157	RULE; SUBMIT	July 1, 2026	Senator Edward J. Markey and Representative Nydia M. Velázquez	February 24, 2026	127	
U.S. Department of Commerce—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to the Section 232 Report on the Effects of Copper Imports on the National Security of the United States	B-338091	NOT A RULE	June 4, 2026	Senators Tim Kaine and Ron Wyden	February 6, 2026	118	
U.S. Postal Service—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Service Standards for Market-Dominant Mail Products	B-338071	NOT A RULE	May 21, 2026	Senator M. Michael Rounds	January 30, 2026	111	N/A
U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Industry and Security—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to the Rescission of the Artificial Intelligence Diffusion Rule	B-337935	RULE; SUBMIT	May 12, 2026	Senator Elizabeth Warren	November 19, 2025	174	
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Notice Implementing the Wasteful and Inappropriate Services Reduction (WISeR) Model	B-337994	RULE; SUBMIT	May 12, 2026	Senators Ron Wyden, Patty Murray, Richard Blumenthal, and Kirsten Gillibrand	December 18, 2025	145	
U.S. Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to the Suspension of Direct File	B-337954	NOT A RULE	March 12, 2026	Senator Ron Wyden	November 25, 2026	258	N/A
Commodity Futures Trading Commission—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Letter No. 25-14	B-337960	NOT A RULE	April 9, 2026	Senators Jack Reed, Tina Smith, and Dick Durbin	December 2, 2025	128	N/A
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to the Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Alaska Region (Version 2.0)	B-337895	NOT A RULE	March 24, 2026	Representative Nicholas J. Begich	November 4, 2025	140	N/A
National Credit Union Administration—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Withdrawal of Fee Reporting Requirements	B-337673	RULE; SUBMIT	January 16, 2026	Senator Elizabeth Warren	July 15, 2025	185	
U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan	B-337705	RULE; SUBMIT	January 15, 2026	Representative Celeste Maloy	July 22, 2025	177	
U.S. Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program Restructuring Policy Notice	B-337604	RULE; SUBMIT	December 16, 2025	Senator Michael Bennett	June 10, 2025	189	

U.S. Department of the Interior—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Decision Letter on the Acquisition of Land for the Coquille Indian Tribe in Medford, Oregon and its Eligibility for Gaming	B-337582	NOT A RULE	November 20, 2025	Senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden, Representative Cliff Bentz	March 17, 2025	248	N/A
U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Buffalo Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment	B-337503	RULE; SUBMIT	September 18, 2025	Senators John Barrasso and Cynthia Lummis	May 13, 2025	128	N/A
U.S. Department of the Interior—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Decision Letter on the Acquisition of Land for the Koi Nation in Sonoma County, California and its Eligibility for Gaming	B-337380	NOT A RULE	September 11, 2025	Representative Mike Thompson	April 4, 2025	160	N/A
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Policy on Adhering to the Text of the Administrative Procedure Act	B-337397	RULE; SUBMIT	August 27, 2025	Senator Ron Wyden, Representative Richard E. Neal, and Representative Frank Pallone, Jr.	April 11, 2025	138	N/A
U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to 2024 Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program Record of Decision	B-337330	RULE; SUBMIT	August 25, 2025	Senator Lisa Murkowski, Senator Dan Sullivan, and Representative Nick Begich	March 20, 2025	158	N/A
U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs—Applicability of Congressional Review Act to Guidance Directive 2024-04	B-337392	NOT A RULE	August 12, 2025	Senator Marsha Blackburn	March 26, 2025	139	N/A
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Findings of Failure To Attain and Reclassification of Areas in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin as Serious for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards	B-337370	NOT A RULE	July 24, 2025	Representatives Bryan Steil, Glenn Grothman, Bill Huizenga, John R. Moolenaar, Scott Fitzgerald, Robert E. Latta, Tom Tiffany, Derrick Van Orden, Tony Wied, and Rudy Yakym III	April 7, 2025	108	N/A

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Central Yukon Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan	B-337200	RULE; SUBMIT	June 25, 2025	Senator Lisa Murkowski, Senator Dan Sullivan, and Representative Nick Begich	February 28, 2025	117	N/A
U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Miles City Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment	B-337163	RULE; SUBMIT	June 25, 2025	Senator Steve Daines, Senator Tim Sheehy, Representative Troy Downing, Representative Ryan K. Zinke	February 14, 2025	131	N/A
U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Record of Decision for Barred Owl Management Strategy	B-337059	RULE; SUBMIT	March 28, 2025	Senator Cory Booker	January 21, 2025	66	N/A
Observations Regarding the Environmental Protection Agency's Submission of Notices of Decision on Clean Air Act Preemption Waivers as Rules Under the Congressional Review Act	B-337179	NOT A RULE	March 6, 2025	Senators Whitehouse, Padilla, Schiff	February 21, 2025	13	Congress
Federal Housing Finance Agency—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to FHFA Bi-Merge Requirement and Determination on Two New Credit Score Models	B-336260	NOT A RULE	October 1, 2024	Senators Michael Rounds and Bill Hagerty	April 16, 2024	168	N/A
Office of Management and Budget—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Controller Alert CA-23-6, Enhancing Transparency Through Use of the Investing in America Emblem on Signs	B-336512	RULE; SUBMIT	August 29, 2024	Senator Ted Cruz	June 20, 2024	70	N/A
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Supervision and Regulation Letter 23-8	B-336217	RULE; EXEMPT FROM SUBMISSION	August 6, 2024	Representative French Hill	December 12, 2023	238	N/A
U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Notice to Lessees and Operators of Federal Oil and Gas, and Sulphur Leases in the Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf B-336217	B-335629	RULE; SUBMIT	July 8, 2024	Senator Bill Cassidy	September 25, 2023	287	N/A
Office of the United States Trade Representative—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Japan on Strengthening Critical Minerals Supply Chains	B-335714	NOT A RULE	May 23, 2024	Senator Crapo	October 13, 2023	223	N/A
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to an Order Modifying and Approving Surrender of the Lower Klamath Project License	B-335030	NOT A RULE	May 8, 2024	Representatives LaMalfa and Bentz	February 6, 2023	457	N/A

U.S. Department of Commerce -- Applicability of Congressional Review Act to Notice of Funding Opportunity CHIPS Incentives Program -- Commercial Fabrication Facilities	B-335175	RULE; SUBMIT	May 6, 2024	Senator Tillis	March 20, 2023	413	N/A
Office of Management and Budget and U.S. Department of Labor—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to a Joint Memorandum Titled, Strengthening Support for Federal Contract Labor Practices	B-335142	RULE; EXEMPT FROM SUBMISSION	May 1, 2024	Senator Cassidy and Representative Foxx	March 16, 2023	412	N/A
U.S. Sentencing Commission—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Amendments to Sentencing Guidelines	B-335515	NOT A RULE	May 1, 2024	Senator Cruz	August 29, 2023	246	N/A
Federal Housing Finance Agency—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to FHFA Updates to the Enterprises' Single-Family Pricing Framework, FHFA Targeted Increases to Enterprise Pricing Framework, and FHFA Targeted Pricing Changes to Enterprise Pricing Framework	B-335424	NOT A RULE	March 7, 2024	Senators Tillis, Crapo, Risch, Moran, Hoeven, Rubio, Johnson, Cassidy, Lankford, Daines, Rounds, Cramer, Romney, Lummis, Marshall, Budd, Schmitt, and Britt	May 1, 2023	311	N/A
U.S. Department of the Interior—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Cancellation of Oil Leases in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge	B-335781	NOT A RULE	February 27, 2024	Congressional Requestors	November 16, 2023	103	N/A
U.S. Department of Education—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Agency Statement titled "Fact Sheet: President Biden Announces New Actions to Provide Debt Relief and Support for Student Loan Borrowers"	B-335516	RULE; EXEMPT FROM SUBMISSION	January 24, 2024	Congressional Requestors	August 7, 2023	170	N/A
Environmental Protection Agency Notice of Decision on Clean Air Act Waiver of Preemption	B-334309	NOT A RULE	November 30, 2023	Senator Capito	May 11, 2022	568	N/A
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Recommended Immunization Schedule for Children and Adolescents Aged 18 Years or Younger	B-335316	NOT A RULE	November 29, 2023	Senator Tom Cotton	May 16, 2023	197	N/A
Securities and Exchange Commission Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 121	B-334540	RULE; SUBMIT	October 31, 2023	Senator Cynthia M. Lummis	August 2, 2022	455	N/A
U.S. Department of Transportation Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Department of Transportation's FY 2023-2024 Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Opportunity	B-335488	RULE; SUBMIT	October 18, 2023	Senator Ted Cruz	July 27, 2023	83	N/A
U.S. Department of Defense Certain Healthcare Memoranda	B-335115	RULE; EXEMPT	September 26, 2023	Senator Tuberville	March 9, 2023	201	N/A

		FROM SUBMISSION					
U.S. Food and Drug Administration Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) Single Shared System for Mifepristone 200 mg	B-334995	NOT A RULE	July 6, 2023	Congressional Requestors	March 8, 2023	120	N/A
Department of Homeland Security Memoranda Terminating the Migrant Protection Protocols	B-334045	RULE; EXEMPT FROM SUBMISSION	July 5, 2023	Senator Hagerty	February 16, 2022	504	N/A
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service Food and Nutrition Service Policy Memorandum CRD 01-2022, Application of Bostock v. Clayton County to Program Discrimination Complaint Processing—Policy Update	B-334411	RULE; SUBMIT	June 5, 2023	Senators Roger Marshall, Marsha Blackburn, John Barrasso, Tom Cotton, and James Lankford	June 16, 2022	354	N/A
U.S. Department of Agriculture Documents Implementing Four Financial Assistance Programs	B-334146	RULE; SUBMIT	June 5, 2023	Senator Roger Marshall	March 22, 2022	440	N/A
Office of Personnel Management Guidance on Enforcing Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination Requirement for Federal Employees- Executive Order 14043	B-334237	RULE; EXEMPT FROM SUBMISSION	April 6, 2023	Senator Ted Cruz	April 13, 2022	358	N/A
Federal Highway Administration—Request for Reconsideration—Policy on Using Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Resources to Build a Better America	B-334032.2	RULE; SUBMIT	April 5, 2023	Senator Thomas R. Carper	February 8, 2023	56	N/A
Department of Education's Student Loan Debt Relief Website and Accompanying Federal Register Publication	B-334644	RULE; SUBMIT	March 17, 2023	Chairwoman Virginia Foxx, Senators Bill Cassidy and John Cornyn; Representatives Bob Good and Mariannette Miller-Meeks	September 23, 2022	175	Congress
Office of Personnel Management Memorandum on Achieving a \$15 Per Hour Minimum Pay Rate for Federal Employees	B-334221	RULE; EXEMPT FROM SUBMISSION	February 9, 2023	Senator Lee	April 8, 2022	307	N/A
Environmental Protection Agency June 2022 Denial of Petitions for Small Refinery Exemptions Under the Renewable Fuel Standard Program	B-334400	NOT A RULE	February 9, 2023	Senators Hagerty, Moore Capito, and Wicker	June 9, 2022	245	N/A
Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency, Pretrial Services Agency—Privacy Act of 1974; Systems of Records Notice	B-334005	NOT A RULE	January 18, 2023	Congressional Requestors	February 3, 2022	349	N/A

Federal Highway Administration Policy on Using Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Resources to Build a Better America	B-334032	RULE; SUBMIT	December 15, 2022	Senator Shelley Moore Capito	February 10, 2022	308	N/A
United States Department of Agriculture's 2021 Updates to the Thrifty Food Plan	B-333732	RULE; SUBMIT	July 28, 2022	Senator Tillis	October 27, 2021	274	N/A
Safer Federal Workforce Task Force, OMB COVID-19 Workplace Safety Guidance for Federal Contractors and Subcontractors	B-333725	NOT A RULE	March 17, 2022	Senators Sullivan, Scott, Wicker, Lee, Braun, and Daines	October 19, 2021	149	N/A
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Requirement for Persons to Wear Masks While on Conveyances and at Transportation Hubs	B-333501	RULE; SUBMIT	December 14, 2021	Senator Rand Paul	August 9, 2021	127	Senate
Department of Housing and Urban Development guidance entitled "Assessing a Person's Request to Have an Animal as a Reasonable Accommodation Under the Fair Housing Act"	B-331171	RULE; SUBMIT	December 17, 2020	Representative Steve King	April 26, 2019	601	N/A
Federal Communications Commission order entitled "LightSquared Technical Working Group Report, et al."	B-332233	NOT A RULE	August 13, 2020	Senators James Inhofe and Jack Reed	May 22, 2020	83	N/A
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System Supervision and Regulation Letter 15-8	B-331560	RULE; SUBMIT	April 16, 2020	Senator Thom Tillis	October 24, 2019	175	N/A
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System Supervision and Regulation Letters 12-17, 14-8, 15-7	B-330843	Letters 12-17 and 14-8: RULE; SUBMIT Letter 15-7: NOT A RULE	October 22, 2019	Senators Thom Tillis, Mike Crapo, David Perdue, Michael Rounds, Kevin Cramer	February 22, 2019	242	N/A
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System Supervision and Regulation Letter 11-7	B-331324	RULE; SUBMIT	October 22, 2019	Senator Thom Tillis	April 26, 2019	179	N/A
Departments of Health and Human Services and Treasury guidance entitled "State Relief and Empowerment Waivers"	B-330811	RULE; SUBMIT	July 15, 2019	Senator Ron Wyden, Representative Frank Pallone Jr.	February 6, 2019	159	N/A
Department of Commerce memorandum regarding a citizenship question on the 2020 Census	B-330288	NOT A RULE	February 7, 2019	Senator Brian Schatz	N/A	N/A	N/A
Department of Justice memorandum to federal prosecutors along the southwest border of the United States	B-330190	RULE; EXEMPT FROM SUBMISSION	December 19, 2018	Senator Edward Markey	June 19, 2018	183	N/A
Social Security Administration Hearings, Appeals, and Litigation Law Manual ("HALLEX")	B-329926	RULE; EXEMPT	September 10, 2018	Representative Jason Smith	February 16, 2018	206	N/A

		FROM SUBMISSION					
Internal Revenue Service statement on health care reporting requirements	B-329916	RULE; EXEMPT FROM SUBMISSION	May 17, 2018	Representative Mark Meadows	February 16, 2018	90	N/A
U.S. Agency for International Development fact sheet on global health assistance and revisions to standard provisions for U.S. nongovernmental organizations	B-329206	NOT A RULE	May 1, 2018	Senators Jeanne Shaheen, Benjamin Cardin, Richard Blumenthal, Patty Murray; Representatives Nita M. Lowey, Diana DeGette, Eliot L. Engel, Barbara Lee	May 27, 2017	339	N/A
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau bulletin on Indirect Auto Lending and Compliance with the Equal Credit Opportunity Act	B-329129	RULE; SUBMIT	December 5, 2017	Senator Pat Toomey	N/A	N/A	President
Bureau of Land Management Eastern Interior Resource Management Plan	B-329065	RULE; SUBMIT	November 15, 2017	Senator Lisa Murkowski	N/A	N/A	N/A
U.S. Forest Service 2016 Amendment to the Tongass Land and Resource Management Plan	B-238859	RULE; SUBMIT	October 23, 2017	Senator Lisa Murkowski	N/A	N/A	N/A
Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Federal Reserve Board, and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Interagency Guidance on Leveraged Lending	B-329272	RULE; SUBMIT	October 19, 2017	Senator Pat Toomey	N/A	N/A	N/A
Environmental Protection Agency proposed rule on Standards of Performance for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from New Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units	B-325553	PROPOSED RULE IS NOT A RULE; FINAL RULE MUST BE SUBMITTED	May 29, 2014	Senator Mitch McConnell	N/A	N/A	Congress *Final rule was submitted to Congress and CRA resolution was later vetoed under CRA*
Department of Health and Human Services Information Memorandum concerning the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Program	B-323772	RULE; SUBMIT	September 4, 2012	Senator Orrin Hatch, Representative Dave Camp	July 12, 2012	54	House

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Letter on the State Children's Health Insurance Program	B-316048	RULE; SUBMIT	April 17, 2008	Senators John D. Rockefeller IV and Olympia Snowe	February 13, 2008	64	N/A
Department of Veterans Affairs memorandum terminating Vendee Loan Program	B-292045	NOT A RULE	May 19, 2003	Representative Lane Evans	February 7, 2003	101	N/A
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) memorandum regarding the VA's marketing activities to enroll new veterans in the VA health care system	B-291906	NOT A RULE	February 28, 2003	Representative Ted Strickland	January 2, 2003	57	N/A
Department of the Interior Record of Decision "Trinity River Mainstem Fishery Restoration"	B-287557	RULE; SUBMIT	May 14, 2001	Representative Doug Ose	March 19, 2001	56	N/A
Farm Credit Administration national charter initiative	B-286338	RULE; SUBMIT	October 17, 2000	Representative James Leach	September 21, 2000	26	N/A
Environmental Protection Agency "Interim Guidance for Investigating Title VI Administrative Complaints Challenging Permits"	B-281575	RULE; SUBMIT	January 20, 1999	Representative David McIntosh	September 1, 1998	141	N/A
American Heritage River Initiative, created by Executive Order 13061	B-278224	NOT A RULE	November 10, 1997	Senator Conrad Burns	September 17, 1997	54	N/A
U.S. Forest Service Tongass National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan	B-275178	RULE; SUBMIT	July 3, 1997	Senators Ted Stevens and Frank Murkowski, Representative Don Young	June 5, 1997	28	N/A
Department of Agriculture memorandum concerning the Emergency Salvage Timber Sale Program	B-274505	RULE; SUBMIT	September 16, 1996	Senator Larry Craig	August 27, 1996	20	N/A

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