

A BILL

To abolish the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, repeal section 101 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Abolition Act of 2026”.

SECTION 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB), a component of the Securities and Exchange Commission, registers, inspects, and disciplines accounting firms that audit public companies.

(2) The functions of the PCAOB are not “necessary and proper for carrying into Execution” any power vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States and therefore find no support in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, which Madison in Federalist No. 44 described as a means of executing powers already granted rather than a source of new ones, as the Anti-Federalist writer Brutus warned in his first essay of 1787 it would otherwise become.

(3) The PCAOB exercises lawmaking power by issuing rules and standards that carry the force of law, contrary to Article I, Section 1, which vests “All legislative Powers herein granted” in the Congress alone, which may not transfer them to officers unaccountable to the people at the ballot box.

(4) By disciplining firms, the PCAOB exercises judicial power in tribunals of the executive branch, contrary to Article III, Section 1, which vests “the judicial Power of the United States” in courts whose judges “shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour.”

(5) By inspecting private records, the PCAOB infringes the Fourth Amendment’s protection of “the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures,” and its requirement that no warrants shall issue “but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.”

(6) By imposing penalties without a jury, the PCAOB denies Americans the Seventh Amendment’s guarantee that “In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved.”

(7) By imposing penalties, the PCAOB subjects Americans to penalties and forfeitures that may be grossly disproportionate to any offense, contrary to the Eighth Amendment's command that excessive fines shall not be "imposed."

(8) In carrying out its functions, the PCAOB disregards the Ninth Amendment, which provides that "The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people," including the right of the people to order their own lives, property, and affairs free of federal direction in matters the Constitution does not commit to the Federal Government.

(9) The Constitution delegates to the United States no power over private professions. By inspecting and disciplining private accounting firms, the PCAOB exercises powers that the Tenth Amendment reserves "to the States respectively, or to the people," contrary to Federalist No. 45, in which Madison described the powers delegated to the Federal Government as "few and defined" and those remaining in the States as "numerous and indefinite."

(10) The Declaration of Independence affirms that governments are instituted to secure the unalienable rights of the people and derive "their just powers from the consent of the governed," and it charged the Crown with having "erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance." The PCAOB perpetuates the centralized administration the Declaration condemned.

(11) Abolishing the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board and repealing section 101 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 will reduce the size and cost of the Federal Government, return to the States and to the people the powers the Constitution reserves to them, and restore the constitutional principles of limited government and enumerated powers.

SECTION 3. ABOLITION OF THE PUBLIC COMPANY ACCOUNTING OVERSIGHT BOARD.

(a) In General.—The Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, a component of the Securities and Exchange Commission, is hereby abolished effective immediately following the enactment of this Act.

(b) Wind-Down Operations.—Immediately following the enactment of this Act, the President shall designate an appropriate official to expeditiously wind down the operations of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, ceasing all functions, none of which shall be transferred to any other department or agency of the Federal Government.

(c) Transfer of Assets and Liabilities.—All assets, liabilities, contracts, property, and records of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board shall be transferred to the designated official under subsection (b) for appropriate disposition.

(d) Employee Transition.—Employees of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board shall be offered opportunities for reassignment within the federal government or provided with severance and retraining assistance as prescribed by existing federal law.

SECTION 4. REPEAL OF PROVISIONS OF LAW ESTABLISHING THE PUBLIC COMPANY ACCOUNTING OVERSIGHT BOARD.

(a) In General.—Section 101 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (15 U.S.C. 7211), and any other provision of law establishing the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board or vesting functions in the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, are hereby repealed.

(b) Conforming Amendments.—The United States Code and all other relevant Federal laws are amended by—

(1) striking all references to the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board and to any office, officer, or function established in or vested in the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board;

(2) terminating every function of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, no part of which shall be reassigned to any other department or agency of the Federal Government; and

(3) making such other conforming changes as necessary to reflect the repeal and the permanent abolition of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board.

(c) Effective Date.—The repeal under this section shall take effect immediately following the enactment of this Act.

SECTION 5. TRANSITION PROVISIONS.

(a) No Restoration of Prior Structures.—No element of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board shall revert to its organizational structure as it existed prior to the establishment of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, and no function of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board shall be restored to any predecessor department, agency, or office.

(b) Permanent Abolition.—No department, agency, office, or other entity shall be established to carry out the functions of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board abolished by this Act.

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this Act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of the Act and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.