

GAO REPORTS AND COMPTROLLER GENERAL DECISIONS

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ABOUT THE GAO

Headed by the Comptroller General of the U.S., the Government Accountability Office (GAO) is a legislative branch agency which provides auditing, evaluation, and investigative services for the United States Congress. Formerly known as the Government Accounting Office, the GAO was established by the Budget and Accounting Act of 1921. This Act required the GAO to "investigate, at the seat of government or elsewhere, all matters related to the receipt, disbursement, and application of public funds, and shall make to the President and to Congress reports and recommendations looking to greater economy of efficiency in public expenditures."



The GAO produces:

- Reports and written correspondence
- Testimonies and statements for the record
- Briefings for congressional staff members
- Legal decisions and opinions resolving bid protests and addressing issues of appropriations law

The GAO also possesses certain powers, including:

- Auditing agency operations to determine if federal funds are being spent efficiently and effectively
- Investigating allegations of illegal and improper activities
- Reporting on effectiveness of government programs and policies
- Performing policy analyses
- Outlining options for congressional consideration
- Issuing legal decisions and opinions advising Congress and executive agencies on government effectiveness and efficiency

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April 22, 1998

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It is important to note that the National Bankruptcy Reporting System's general lack of reliable, accurate data on the bankruptcy system splintered among several central reporting agencies and on data that it believed would reasonably approximate bankruptcy system costs for those debtors who filed of the bankruptcy code in 1997. ...Second, the sample national debt estimates came from only 3 (chapter 13) bankruptcy court locations. ...Third, the sample of bankruptcy petitions filed in various periods in 1991, of those who filed for bankruptcy under chapter 7 and profiles of the debtors who filed for bankruptcy in 1991 Financial Costs of Personal Bankruptcy #12;

2. Bankruptcy: Judiciary Should Take Further Steps To [GAO-09-28]
December 18, 2008

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The procedural aspects of the bankruptcy process are Procedure (Bankruptcy Rules) and local rules of each contain a set of official forms for use in bankruptcy cases. a bankruptcy case is known as the voluntary petition.

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