

Data Act Implementation

PRESENTATION TO CIGIE AND GAO'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT
CONFERENCE

APRIL 28, 2015

DATA Act Summary

- Purpose: to establish government-wide financial data standards and increase the availability, accuracy, and usefulness of Federal spending information.
- Passed Congress on April 28. Signed into law on May 9, 2014 (P.L. 113-101).
- Amends the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) to require full disclosure of Federal agency expenditures.
- Takes steps to simplify financial reporting and reduce recipient reporting burden.

Accountability and IG Community Involvement

- The DATA Act specifies that agency IGs must report on the “completeness, timeliness, quality, and accuracy of the data sampled and the implementation and use of data standards by the Federal agency”
- First report must be issued by November 2016
- GAO required to report on government-wide implementation of the data standards by November 2017

Federal Spending Transparency: Goals

Improve federal spending data quality across the government through effective implementation of the DATA Act

Increase public access to federal spending information by refreshing the USAspending.gov website to be more user-friendly and transparent

Work with federal and non-federal stakeholders to **communicate our commitment to improving spending transparency** and to stay informed of the public's concerns and interests

Develop a source of financial data that can be used with other datasets to **improve decision-making** across federal and non-federal organizations

Better data, better decisions, better government

Agencies will have higher quality spending data and a more complete picture of where their federal funds go

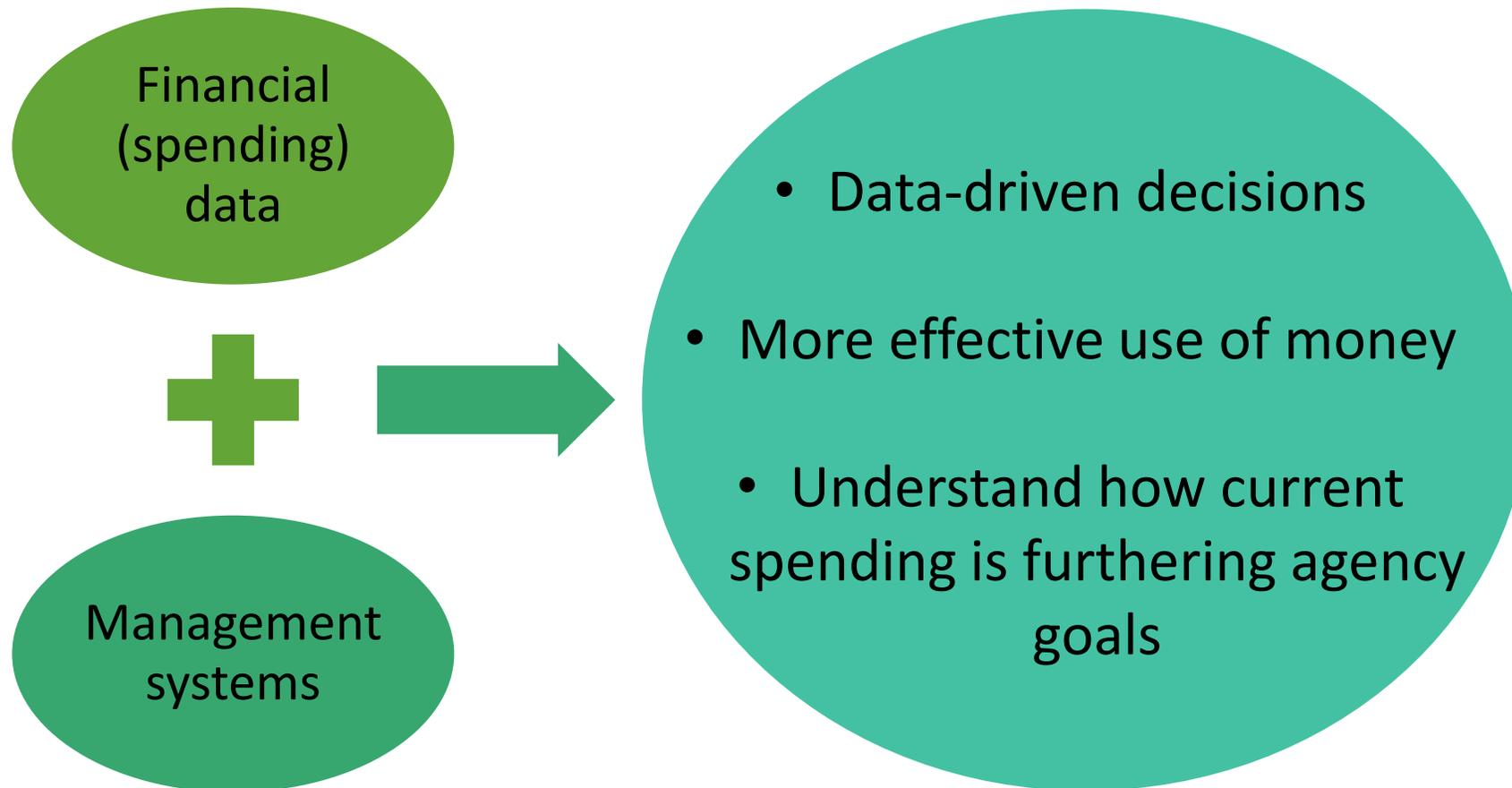


Management will have more data, more tools, and more insight into how to improve performance

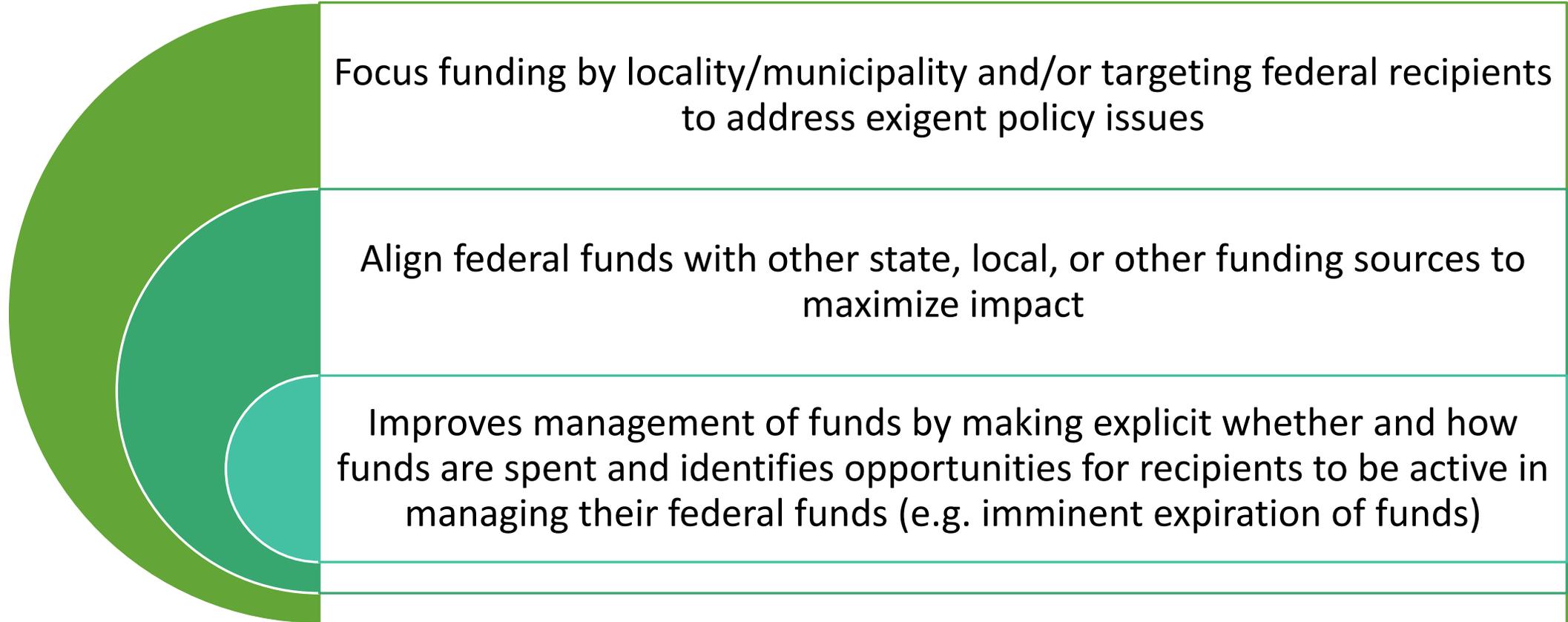


What can agencies do with these improvements?

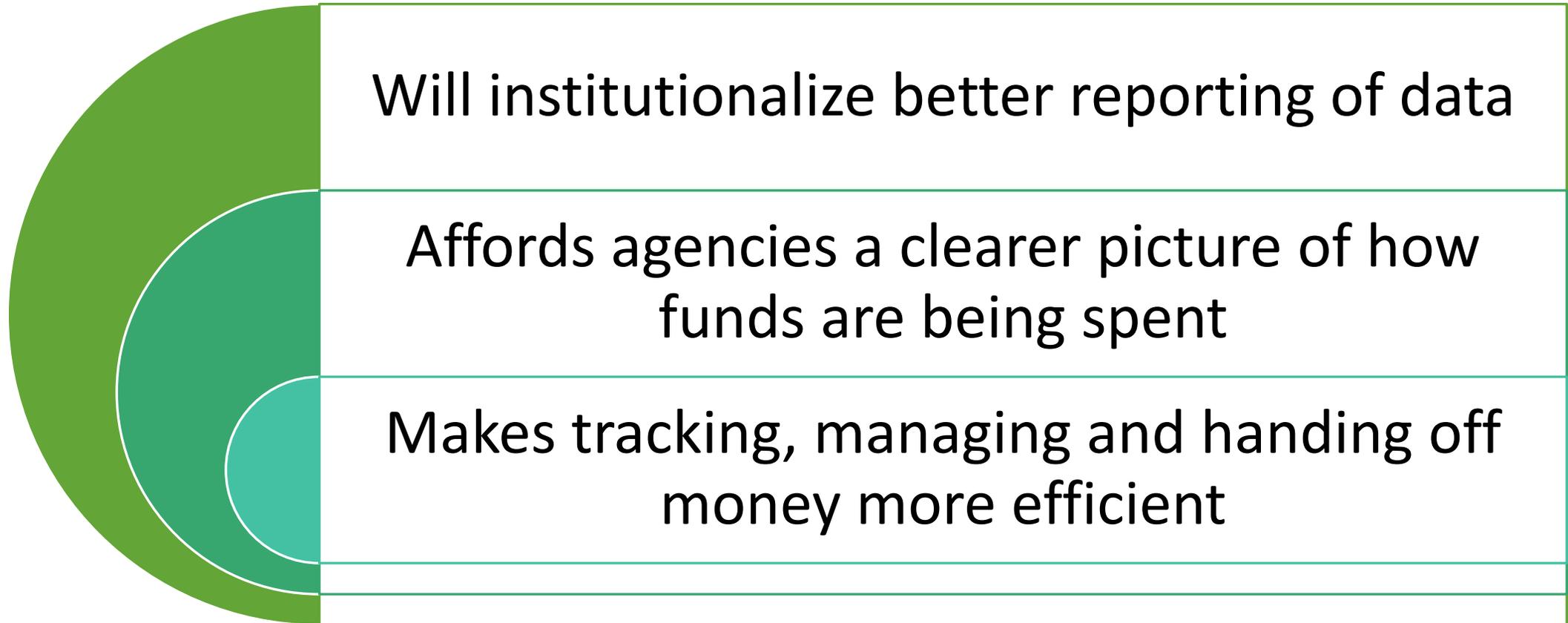
Use financial data to make better management decisions



Target funding to recipients to maximize impact



Improve operations and increase efficiency



Respond to criticisms from watchdogs

- Improved spending data will help identify areas of duplication and waste

- Agencies will be better positioned to either defend against allegations of unnecessary spending, or to take actions to respond

Update on implementation: where we are and where we're going

Current

- Working with stakeholders to develop data definition standards
- Identifying necessary policy changes and implementation steps

May 2015

- Issuing policy guidance to agencies
- Issuing financial data standards
- Issuing data exchange
- Launching pilot to reduce reporting burden

May 2017 and beyond

- Ongoing standardization of data definitions
- Agencies fully implement policy guidance and necessary systems changes
- USA Spending refreshed to display additional spending data

Governance and Implementation Structure

Executive Steering Committee – OMB and Treasury

Inter-Agency Advisory Committee – OMB, Treasury, and
Representatives from: CFOC, BOAC, ACE, COFAR, CAOC, CIOC, PIC, OSTP, GSA

Lead

Treasury
(Data Transparency
PMO)

OMB

Design and Implement

OMB

Data Definition Standards

Treasury

Blueprint/roadmap
between data elements

Treasury

Data Exchange Standards

OMB

Pilot to Reduce Admin
Burden

Treasury

Data Analytics

Support

Senior
Accountable
Officials from
agencies

Consult

Industry

Non-Federal
stakeholders

Federal Lines of
Business

What's next for agencies

Organize team

Within agency, identify stakeholders and roles

Determine available resources and plan coordination

Review systems

Locate all 83 data elements within systems

Analyze business processes and data inventory

Understand where likely changes will have to be made

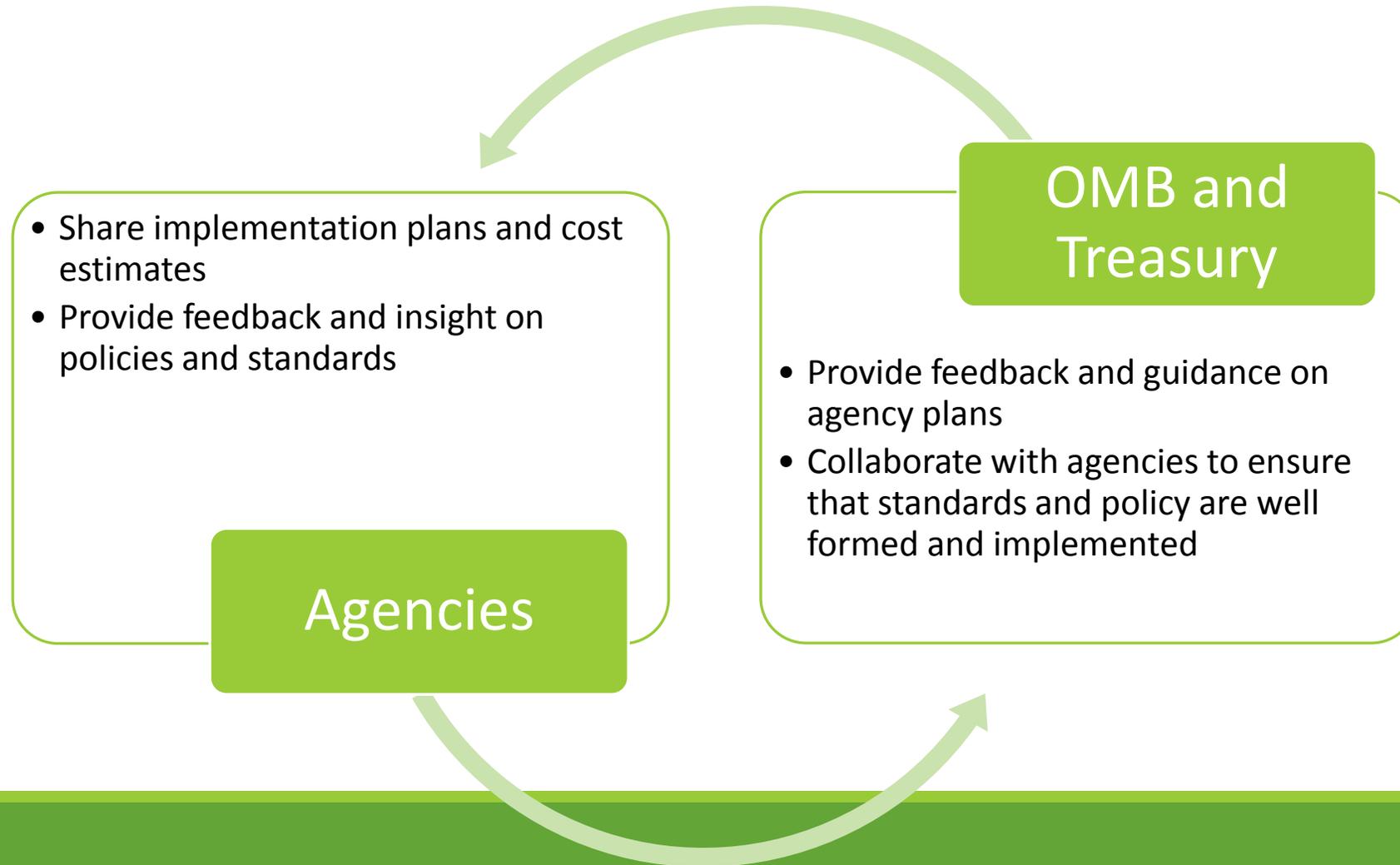
Design and strategize

Map out necessary changes and associated costs

Strategize how changes can be made to meet timelines

Identify critical steps and potential challenges

Moving forward: Collaboration with agencies



What's next for IGs

Monitor development of standards and policy issued by OMB and Treasury

Stay aware of agency's implementation and how your agency is planning and preparing

Begin audit work sufficiently in advance of the November 2016 statutory deadline