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107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3101

To direct the National Institute of Standards and Technology to ensure the development of standards and measures for effective aviation security technologies, to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to carry out a pilot program to test and evaluate new and emerging aviation security technologies, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 11, 2001

Mr. MATHESON (for himself and Mr. HONDA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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A BILL

To direct the National Institute of Standards and Technology to ensure the development of standards and measures for effective aviation security technologies, to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to carry out a pilot program to test and evaluate new and emerging aviation security technologies, 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 ''Aviation Security Technology Enhancement Act''.

SEC. 2. STANDARDS AND MEASUREMENTS FOR AVIATION SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) ACTIVITIES.—The National Institute of Standards and Technology shall—

(1) develop best practices specifications for aviation security technologies;

(2) establish standards and testbeds for aviation security technologies;

(3) research error rates associated with the use of aviation security technologies;

(4) identify procedures for improved interoperability of aviation security technologies;

(5) develop technology-neutral policy guidelines for aviation security technologies for use by Federal agencies with aviation security responsibilities;

(6) develop appropriate measures for assessing the quality and effectiveness of aviation security programs at United States airports;

(7) perform evaluations and tests to assess existing aviation security technologies;

(8) develop uniform testing procedures for determining the conformance of commercially available aviation security products to the specifications,

standards, procedures, and guidelines developed, established, or identified under this section;

(9) establish procedures for the certification of private sector laboratories to perform the testing procedures developed under paragraph (8); and

(10) compile, maintain, and make available to the Federal Aviation Administration and the public a list of commercially available products utilizing aviation security technologies that have been tested by the National Institute of Standards and Technology or a private sector laboratory certified pursuant to paragraph (9).

(b) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall transmit to the Federal Aviation Administration and to the Congress an initial report on its activities under this section. Such report shall contain as many near-term recommendations as possible.

(c) FINAL REPORT.—At any point when the National Institute of Standards and Technology considers its activities under this section to be completed, but not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall transmit to the Federal Aviation Administration and to

the Congress a final report on its activities under this section.

SEC. 3. PILOT PROGRAM TO TEST AND EVALUATE AVIATION SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) PILOT PROGRAM.—Upon the transmittal of a report under section 2(b), the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall carry out a pilot program to test and evaluate new and emerging aviation security technologies designed for the following purposes:

(1) Controlling the access of air carrier employees, airport employees, and other personnel to closed and secure areas of an airport.

(2) Enhancing identification and authentication systems for air passenger check-in, baggage control, and access to an aircraft.

(3) Identifying suspected terrorists through the use of biometrics or other means.

(b) PARTICIPATION BY AIRPORTS.—In carrying out the pilot program, the Administrator shall provide for the implementation of 1 or more of the technologies described in subsection (a) at not less than 20 airports.

(c) SHARING OF INFORMATION.—To the extent feasible, the Administrator shall ensure that information obtained under the pilot program, including information con-

cerning any threat to aviation security, is shared among air carriers, airports, and government agencies.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall transmit to Congress a report on the results of the pilot program, including an assessment of the feasibility, costs, benefits, and effectiveness of implementing each of the technologies described in subsection (a).

SEC. 4. BIOMETRIC DATABASE.

The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, in cooperation with Federal agencies with aviation security responsibilities, including the Office of Homeland Security, shall carry out a program to establish a biometric database with images of suspected terrorists and to incorporate use of the database into the air passenger screening system of the Federal Aviation Administration.

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2002—

(1) $4,500,000 to carry out section 2; and

(2) $45,000,000 to carry out sections 3 and 4.

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