

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2689

To establish a United States-Canada customs inspection pilot project.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 27, 2002

Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To establish a United States-Canada customs inspection pilot
project.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. AUTHORITY FOR THE CREATION OF INTE-**
4 **GRATED BORDER INSPECTION AREAS AT THE**
5 **UNITED STATES-CANADA BORDER.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
7 ings:

8 (1) The increased security and safety concerns
9 that developed in the aftermath of the terrorist at-
10 tacks in the United States on September 11, 2001,
11 need to be addressed.

1 (2) One concern that has come to light is the
2 vulnerability of the international bridges and tunnels
3 along the United States borders.

4 (3) It is necessary to ensure that potentially
5 dangerous vehicles are inspected prior to crossing
6 those bridges and tunnels, however, currently, these
7 vehicles are not inspected until after they have
8 crossed into the United States.

9 (4) Establishing Integrated Border Inspection
10 Areas (IBIAs) would address these concerns by in-
11 specting vehicles before they gained access to the in-
12 frastructure of international bridges and tunnels
13 along the United States-Canada border.

14 (b) CREATION OF INTEGRATED BORDER INSPECTION
15 AREAS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner of Cus-
17 toms, in consultation with the Canadian Customs
18 and Revenue Agency (CCRA), shall seek to establish
19 Integrated Border Inspection Areas (IBIAs) on ei-
20 ther side of the United States-Canada border in
21 which United States Customs officers can inspect ve-
22 hicles entering the United States from Canada be-
23 fore they enter the United States, or Canadian cus-
24 toms officers can inspect vehicles entering Canada
25 from the United States before they enter Canada.

1 (2) ELEMENTS OF THE PROGRAM.—Using the
2 authority granted under section 629(a) of the Tariff
3 Act of 1930, the Commissioner of Customs, in con-
4 sultation with the CCRA, shall endeavor to—

5 (A) locate IBLAs in an area with bridges
6 or tunnels with high traffic volume, significant
7 commercial activity, and that have experienced
8 backups and delays since September 11, 2001;

9 (B) ensure that United States Customs of-
10 ficers stationed in any IBIA on the Canadian
11 side of the border are vested with the maximum
12 authority to carry out their duties and enforce
13 United States law; and

14 (C) encourage appropriate officials of the
15 United States to enter into an agreement with
16 Canada permitting Canadian customs officers
17 stationed in any IBIA on the United States side
18 of the border to exercise the authority to en-
19 force Canadian law as permitted by Canada.

20 (3) PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.—United
21 States Customs officers stationed in an IBIA, on the
22 Canadian side of the border, shall be afforded the
23 same privileges and immunities for the performance
24 of their duties as they would enjoy if they were sta-
25 tioned in the United States. Canadian customs offi-

1 cers stationed in an IBLA on the United States side
2 of the border, shall be afforded the same privileges
3 and immunities for the performance of their duties
4 as they would enjoy if they were stationed in Can-
5 ada.

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