

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4978

To require the Comptroller General to conduct a study on the extent to which security operations at United States seaports are managed by nationals of foreign countries and other related matters.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 16, 2006

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To require the Comptroller General to conduct a study on the extent to which security operations at United States seaports are managed by nationals of foreign countries and other related matters.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Secure America Port
5 Accountability Act of 2006”.

6 **SEC. 2. STUDY AND REPORT BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL.**

7 (a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General shall conduct
8 a study on the following:

1 (1) The extent to which security operations at
2 United States seaports are managed by nationals of
3 foreign countries, including—

4 (A) an identification of the foreign coun-
5 tries involved;

6 (B) the general responsibilities and au-
7 thorities that the contracts accord to the for-
8 eign nationals; and

9 (C) the extent to which the contracts make
10 it possible for the foreign nationals to engage in
11 activities that could impact on the security of
12 the ports.

13 (2) Any incident in which foreign nationals de-
14 scribed in paragraph (1) have been charged with, or
15 convicted of, criminal conduct involving security op-
16 erations at United States seaports.

17 (3) A review of United States contracts to man-
18 age or supply United States seaports, taking effect
19 after December 31, 2001, with respect to the vulner-
20 ability of such seaports to threats to the national se-
21 curity of the United States, including an examina-
22 tion of—

23 (A) the number of such contracts awarded,
24 including the bid the number of international
25 parties represented in the contracts;

1 (B) the extent of oversight before the con-
2 tract was awarded and during the length of the
3 contract; and

4 (C) the relationship, if any, between the se-
5 curity breaches at the United States seaports
6 and the ownership or management of the sea-
7 ports.

8 (4) A review of the vulnerability of the ten larg-
9 est United States seaports to threats to the home-
10 land security of the United States, including threats
11 involving enemy infiltration, cargo shipping, and
12 passenger safety, among others.

13 (b) REPORT.—Not later than July 30, 2006, the
14 Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on
15 Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and
16 the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental
17 Affairs of the Senate a report on the results of the study
18 required by subsection (a).

○