110TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION H.R.6098

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve the financial assistance provided to State, local, and tribal governments for information sharing activities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 20, 2008

Mr. REICHERT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

- To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve the financial assistance provided to State, local, and tribal governments for information sharing activities, and for other purposes.
 - 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 "Personnel Reimburse5 ment for Intelligence Cooperation and Enhancement of
6 Homeland Security Act" or the "PRICE of Homeland Se7 curity Act".

1 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

2 The Congress finds as follows:

3 (1) After the terrorist attacks on September 11,
2001, State, local, and tribal governments redoubled
their efforts to combat terrorism and expended tremendous energy and financial resources to help the
Federal Government fight the terrorist threat.

8 (2) States and localities have formed fusion 9 centers, hired intelligence analysts, and contributed 10 law enforcement officers and other resources to the 11 expansion of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's 12 Joint Terrorism Task Forces and the establishment 13 of Field Intelligence Groups, among other efforts.

14 (3) These actions, in conjunction with the ef15 forts of the Federal Government and private indus16 try, have materially contributed to the common de17 fense of this Nation and have helped keep our home18 land secure.

19 The National Strategy for Information (4)20 Sharing issued by the President in October 2007 21 plainly states that "The Federal Government may 22 need to provide financial and technical assistance, as 23 well as human resource support, to these fusion cen-24 ters if they are to achieve and sustain a baseline 25 level of capability. The objective is to assist State 26 and local governments in the establishment and the

sustained operation of these fusion centers. A sus tained Federal partnership with State and major
 urban area fusion centers is critical to the safety of
 our Nation, and therefore a national priority.".

5 (5) The Federal Government has endeavored to 6 support these State efforts through the State Home-7 land Security Grant Program and other methods of 8 Federal assistance but have placed restrictions on 9 the use of these funds that make long-term planning 10 for fusion centers unmanageable.

(6) It is vital to the security of our homeland
that States and localities are able to continue to receive funding for the participation of State and local
analysts in fusion centers and in their State and
local efforts to combat terrorism and terrorist-related activities.

17 SEC. 3. GRANT ELIGIBILITY FOR ANALYSTS.

18 Section 2008(a) of the Homeland Security Act of19 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609(a)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by
striking "Grants" and all that follows through
"plans, through" and inserting the following: "The
Administrator shall permit grant recipients under
section 2003 or 2004 to use grant funds to achieve
and sustain target capabilities related to preventing,

preparing for, protecting against, and responding to
 acts of terrorism, consistent with a State homeland
 security plan and relevant local, tribal, and regional
 homeland security plans, through"; and

5 (2) in paragraph (10) by inserting the following 6 after "analysts": "regardless of whether such ana-7 lysts are current or new full-time employees or con-8 tract employees and such funding shall be made 9 available without time limitations placed on the pe-10 riod of time that such analyst can serve under 11 awarded grants.".

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