

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 136

To expand the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium to include the
Transportation Technology Center.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 4, 2007

Mr. ALLARD introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To expand the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium
to include the Transportation Technology Center.

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 “National Domestic
5 Preparedness Consortium Expansion Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) the Transportation Technology Center is a
9 federally-owned multi-modal testing and training fa-
10 cility in Pueblo, Colorado;

1 (2) this unique facility offers a significant op-
2 portunity to enhance technology and training that
3 will improve the ability of the Nation to prevent,
4 minimize, and respond to potential terrorist attacks
5 similar to those which recently occurred in London
6 and Madrid;

7 (3) the distinctive environment of the Transpor-
8 tation Technology Center allows testing and training
9 activities to be carried out at a remote Colorado lo-
10 cation without disruption to the flow of passenger
11 and rail traffic in and around urban areas;

12 (4) the Emergency Response Training Center
13 was established in 1985 at the Transportation Tech-
14 nology Center to instruct the transportation indus-
15 try, chemical shippers, fire departments, emergency
16 responders, and police services how to respond to
17 hazardous materials incidents safely and effectively;

18 (5) the Emergency Response Training Center is
19 regarded as the unofficial “graduate school” of haz-
20 ardous materials training because of the focus on
21 hands-on, true to life, training exercises on actual
22 rail vehicles, including tank cars and passenger rail
23 cars;

24 (6) the Emergency Response Training Center is
25 uniquely positioned to teach emergency response for

1 railway-related emergencies with 69 railway freight
2 cars, 15 railroad passenger cars, 25 highway cargo
3 tanks, van trailers, and intermodal containers, and
4 computer work stations equipped with the latest
5 emergency response software;

6 (7) the Passenger Railcar Security and Integ-
7 rity Training Facility is currently being developed at
8 Transportation Technology Center to test various in-
9 spection, response, and remediation techniques effec-
10 tiveness for mitigation to incidents involving pas-
11 senger railcars;

12 (8) this facility focuses on chemical, biological,
13 radiological, nuclear, or explosive incidents and other
14 activities associated with potential terrorist events;

15 (9) this public private partnership facility offers
16 a well-established infrastructure, a host of emer-
17 gency preparedness training experts, and the sup-
18 port of the American Public Transit Association, the
19 Association of American Railroads, the Federal Rail-
20 road Administration, the Federal Transit Authority,
21 and the Colorado Senate;

22 (10) railroad tunnels and underground stations
23 have been identified as particularly high-risk targets
24 for terrorists because of the potential for large pas-
25 senger volumes, confined spaces, relatively unre-

1 stricted access, and the possibility for network dis-
2 ruptions with significant economic, political and so-
3 cial impact;

4 (11) security experts have identified a number
5 of technology and training needs to prevent attacks
6 on tunnels and to mitigate and remediate the con-
7 sequences of such attacks, including detection sys-
8 tems, dispersal control, and decontamination tech-
9 niques; and

10 (12) the National Domestic Preparedness Con-
11 sortium does not currently include a facility that is
12 uniquely focused on emergency preparedness within
13 the railroad and mass transit environment.

14 **SEC. 3. EXPANSION OF THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC PRE-**
15 **PAREDNESS CONSORTIUM.**

16 The National Domestic Preparedness Consortium
17 shall include the Transportation Technology Center lo-
18 cated in Pueblo, Colorado.

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