

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1300

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 30, 2015

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs

AN ACT

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to make anthrax vaccines and antimicrobials available to emergency response providers, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “First Responder An-
3 thrax Preparedness Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. PRE-EVENT ANTHRAX VACCINATION PROGRAM FOR**
5 **EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROVIDERS.**

6 (a) ANTHRAX PREPAREDNESS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Title V of the Homeland Se-
8 curity Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 6 U.S.C.
9 311 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the
10 following new section:

11 **“SEC. 526. ANTHRAX PREPAREDNESS.**

12 “(a) PRE-EVENT ANTHRAX VACCINATION PROGRAM
13 FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROVIDERS.—For the pur-
14 pose of domestic preparedness for and collective response
15 to terrorism, the Secretary, in coordination with the Sec-
16 retary of Health and Human Services, shall establish a
17 program to provide anthrax vaccines from the strategic
18 national stockpile under section 319F–2(a) of the Public
19 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d–6b(a)) that will be
20 nearing the end of their labeled dates of use at the time
21 such vaccines are to be administered to emergency re-
22 sponse providers who are at high risk of exposure to an-
23 thrax and who voluntarily consent to such administration,
24 and shall—

1 “(1) establish any necessary logistical and
2 tracking systems to facilitate making such vaccines
3 so available;

4 “(2) distribute disclosures regarding associated
5 benefits and risks to end users; and

6 “(3) conduct outreach to educate emergency re-
7 sponse providers about the voluntary program.

8 “(b) THREAT ASSESSMENT.—The Secretary shall—

9 “(1) support homeland security-focused risk
10 analysis and risk assessments of the threats posed
11 by anthrax from an act of terror;

12 “(2) leverage existing and emerging homeland
13 security intelligence capabilities and structures to
14 enhance prevention, protection, response, and recov-
15 ery efforts with respect to an anthrax terror attack;
16 and

17 “(3) share information and provide tailored an-
18 alytical support on threats posed by anthrax to
19 State, local, and tribal authorities, as well as other
20 national biosecurity and biodefense stakeholders.”.

21 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
22 tents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by in-
23 serting at the end of the items relating to title V the
24 following new item:

“Sec. 526. Anthrax preparedness.”.

25 (b) PILOT PROGRAM.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the pre-
2 event vaccination program authorized in section
3 526(a) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as
4 added by subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland
5 Security, in coordination with the Secretary of
6 Health and Human Services, shall carry out a pilot
7 program to provide anthrax vaccines to emergency
8 response providers as so authorized. The duration of
9 the pilot program shall be 24 months from the date
10 the initial vaccines are administered to participants.

11 (2) PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS.—By not
12 later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of
13 this Act, and prior to implementing the pilot pro-
14 gram under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Home-
15 land Security shall—

16 (A) establish a communication platform for
17 the pilot program;

18 (B) establish education and training mod-
19 ules for the pilot program;

20 (C) conduct economic analysis of the pilot
21 program; and

22 (D) create a logistical platform for the an-
23 thrax vaccine request process under the pilot
24 program.

1 (3) LOCATION.—In carrying out the pilot pro-
2 gram under this subsection, the Secretary of Home-
3 land Security shall select emergency response pro-
4 viders based in at least two States for participation
5 in the pilot program.

6 (4) DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION.—The
7 Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide to
8 each emergency response provider who participates
9 in the pilot program under this subsection disclo-
10 sures and educational materials regarding the asso-
11 ciated benefits and risks of any vaccine provided
12 under the pilot program and of exposure to anthrax.

13 (5) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
14 date of the enactment of this Act, and annually
15 thereafter until 1 year after the completion of the
16 pilot program, the Secretary of Homeland Security
17 shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Secu-
18 rity and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of
19 the House of Representatives and the Committee on
20 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the
21 Senate a report on the progress and results of the
22 pilot program, including the percentage of eligible
23 emergency response providers, as determined by
24 each pilot location, that volunteer to participate, the
25 degree to which participants obtain necessary vac-

1 cinations, as appropriate, and recommendations to
2 improve initial and recurrent participation in the
3 pilot program. The report shall include a plan under
4 which the Secretary plans to continue the program
5 to provide vaccines to emergency response providers
6 under section 526(a) of the Homeland Security Act
7 of 2002, as added by subsection (a).

8 (6) DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—The
9 Secretary of Homeland Security shall begin imple-
10 menting the pilot program under this subsection by
11 not later than the date that is 1 year after the date
12 of the enactment of this Act.

Passed the House of Representatives July 29, 2015.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,

Clerk.