

of countries who extend similar rights to Americans for redress for privacy violations are eligible.

As everyone here is aware, revelations about U.S. surveillance operations created serious trust issues, and both the government and tech sectors experienced a decline in that global trust. Advances in technology and innovation have made it possible and necessary for law enforcement to exchange information, but it should not be done at the expense of privacy rights.

In order to restore global trust and ensure continued competitiveness for our thriving tech industry, we must work to restore consumers' faith that their data is secure in U.S. tech companies and their privacy rights are protected.

□ 1615

The United States tech industry employed an estimated 6.5 million people in 2014 and made up a large 7.1 percent of the U.S. GDP, which is going to do nothing but grow.

The free flow of transnational data is critical for the continued success of this industry that contributes in such a major way to our economy. We have to show our allies that they can be confident sharing data across the oceans and the various barriers.

The Judicial Redress Act is a step toward regaining trust and rebuilding cooperation with our allies, ensuring that U.S. businesses can continue to grow and thrive internationally. H.R. 1428 is particularly important because the U.S. and the EU have negotiated the Data Protection and Privacy Agreement for the last 2 years.

During the negotiations over the agreement, the EU Parliament and EU Commission made clear that the Safe Harbor Agreement would not be finalized absent U.S. enactment of a law to enable EU citizens to sue the U.S. Government for major privacy violations. With the European Court of Justice Ruling on the Safe Harbor Agreement, it is more important than ever that we create solutions that work for today's ever-changing tech industry, from the small companies to the household names. It is also critical that we work with our allies to create a clear standard for governing the privacy of personal information to ensure strong and cooperative exchanges between law enforcement.

Laws and agreements written before many of today's innovations even existed are due for an update, and this bill is an important first step that I am proud to support. I am thankful that the chairman has brought it forward for this body to put its stamp on and send to the Senate so that it will be taken up and then sent to the President so that we will continue to move forward in the protection of privacy rights for all Americans and our companies.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate being part of this bill, and thank you for your efforts.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I again reiterate, this bill is a good bill. It is a very important bill that will help promote law enforcement cooperation around the globe and will help U.S. companies that do business overseas to be able to better obtain the respect and trust of foreign governments and foreign citizens, so I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1428.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SECURING THE CITIES ACT OF 2015

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3493) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Securing the Cities program to enhance the ability of the United States to detect and prevent terrorist attacks and other high consequence events utilizing nuclear or other radiological materials that pose a high risk to homeland security in high-risk urban areas, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3493

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Securing the Cities Act of 2015".

SEC. 2. SECURING THE CITIES PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title XIX of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 591 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 1908. SECURING THE CITIES PROGRAM.

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director for Domestic Nuclear Detection shall establish the 'Securing the Cities' ('STC') program to enhance the ability of the United States to detect and prevent terrorist attacks and other high consequence events utilizing nuclear or other radiological materials that pose a high risk to homeland security in high-risk urban areas. Through such program the Director shall—

"(1) assist State, local, tribal, and territorial governments in designing and implementing, or enhancing existing, architectures for coordinated and integrated detection and interdiction of nuclear or other radiological materials that are out of regulatory control;

"(2) support the development of a region-wide operating capability to detect and report on nuclear and other radioactive materials out of operational control;

"(3) provide resources to enhance detection, analysis, communication, and coordination to better integrate State, local, tribal, and territorial assets into Federal operations;

"(4) facilitate alarm adjudication and provide subject matter expertise and technical

assistance on concepts of operations, training, exercises, and alarm response protocols;

"(5) communicate with, and promote sharing of information about the presence or detection of nuclear or other radiological materials among appropriate Federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial governments, in a manner that ensures transparency with the jurisdictions served by such program; and

"(6) provide any other assistance the Director determines appropriate.

"(b) DESIGNATION OF JURISDICTIONS.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Director shall designate jurisdictions from among high-risk urban areas under section 2003, and other cities and regions, as appropriate.

"(c) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—The Director shall notify the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate not later than three days before the designation of new jurisdictions under subsection (b) or other changes to participating jurisdictions.

"(d) GAO REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the congressional committees specified in subsection (c) an assessment, including an evaluation of the effectiveness, of the STC program under this section.

"(e) PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL FUNDING.—No funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section. This section shall be carried out using amounts otherwise appropriated or made available for such purpose."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1907 the following new item:

"Sec. 1908. Securing the Cities program."

SEC. 3. MODEL EXERCISES.

Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director for Domestic Nuclear Detection of the Department of Homeland Security shall report to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate on the feasibility of the Director developing model exercises to test the preparedness of jurisdictions participating in the Securing the Cities program under section 1908 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (as added by section 2 of this Act) in meeting the challenges that may be posed by a range of nuclear and radiological threats.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 3493, the Securing the Cities Act of 2015.

In April 2010, the President stated: "The single biggest threat to U.S. security, both short-term, mid-term and long-term, would be the possibility of a terrorist organization obtaining a nuclear weapon."

Since that time, the threat to our cities from nuclear terrorism has not abated. The rise of ISIS and the resurgence of al Qaeda have only increased the likelihood that radiological material will fall into the hands of those who wish to harm America.

Just last week, the Associated Press reported that the FBI foiled an attempt by smugglers in Eastern Europe to sell nuclear material to Middle Eastern extremist groups. That report stated that, in the past 5 years, the FBI has disrupted four other attempts by smugglers from the former Soviet Union to sell nuclear materials to criminal organizations.

These events only reinforce the testimony delivered before the House Committee on Homeland Security last month by Commissioner William Bratton of the New York City Police Department. In that testimony, the commissioner described the current terrorist threat to Manhattan as the highest it has ever been, and he specifically referenced the danger of illicit nuclear material entering the city.

Thankfully, since the attacks of September 11, 2001, this Congress, successive administrations, and local law enforcement have partnered to build the capability to guard against this risk.

In particular, the Department of Homeland Security initiated the Securing the Cities program within the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office. The Securing the Cities program provided training, equipment, and other resources to State and local law enforcement in high-risk urban areas to prevent a terrorist group from carrying out an attack using a radiological or nuclear device.

The Securing the Cities program began in 2006 as a pilot program in the New York City region, which included Jersey City and Newark. Since 2007, the New York City region has purchased nearly 14,000 radiation detectors and has trained nearly 20,000 personnel.

The pilot program has been so successful, it was expanded to the Los Angeles-Long Beach region in fiscal year 2012, the national capital region in fiscal year 2014, and just last week the cities of Houston and Chicago were announced as the fiscal year 2015 and 2016 recipients.

H.R. 3493 would authorize the Securing the Cities program, which has proven its utility as a pilot program. With continued authorization, we can assure that the extraordinary capability built by local law enforcement in conjunction with DHS does not become a hollow capability, unable to be effectively used at the critical moment.

I would like to thank my colleagues who have helped bring this authoriza-

tion to the floor, especially Chairman MCCAUL of the Homeland Security Committee, and my good friend PETE KING, and also my friend from Texas Representative JACKSON LEE.

I urge all Members to join me in supporting this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and rise in support of H.R. 3493, Securing the Cities Act of 2015.

Mr. Speaker, the Securing the Cities program is a grant and technical assistance program administered by the Department of Homeland Security's Domestic Nuclear Detection Office. Since its inception nearly a decade ago, the Securing the Cities program has provided thousands of first responders with the tools they need to detect radiological and nuclear threats.

Started as a pilot project in 2006 in the New York City, Newark, and New Jersey metropolitan areas, the program has grown to include Los Angeles and Long Beach in 2012, and the Washington, D.C., Federal district in 2014. This year, the program has identified Houston and Chicago as high-priority areas for expanding the program.

Under the program, the initial grant award is generally used for planning and analysis at a regional level, with subsequent grants going towards equipment, training, and exercises. Importantly, through the Securing the Cities program, the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office is able to channel subject-matter expertise, training coordination, and technical support to all the identified high-risk metropolitan areas.

H.R. 3493, like the bill I introduced that will be next to be considered, is targeted at bolstering the security of our communities from the threat of a nuclear attack. As such, Mr. Speaker, I urge support of H.R. 3493.

We have an opportunity today to take action to bolster our defense against rogue actors and terrorists who would seek to detonate a nuclear device on U.S. soil. The disclosure in recent weeks of a thwarted plot by Moldovan operatives to provide smuggled nuclear materials to terrorist organizations with ambition to attack the United States has crystallized the need for action. Today, we can take such action. By approving H.R. 3493 and authorizing the Securing the Cities program, we will be enhancing the Nation's ability to detect and prevent a radiological and nuclear attack in cities facing the highest risk.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I once again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3493, the Securing the Cities Act of 2015.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN) that the House suspend the

rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3493, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

KNOW THE CBRN TERRORISM THREATS TO TRANSPORTATION ACT

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3350) to require a terrorism threat assessment regarding the transportation of chemical, biological, nuclear, and radiological materials through United States land borders and within the United States, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3350

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Know the CBRN Terrorism Threats to Transportation Act".

SEC. 2. TERRORISM THREAT ASSESSMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Under Secretary of Intelligence and Analysis, shall conduct a terrorism threat assessment of the transportation of chemical, biological, nuclear, and radiological materials through United States land borders and within the United States.

(b) CONSULTATION.—In preparing the terrorism threat assessment required under subsection (a), the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis shall consult with the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and the heads of other Federal departments and agencies, as appropriate, to ensure that such terrorism threat assessment is informed by current information about homeland security threats.

(c) DISTRIBUTION.—Upon completion of the terrorism threat assessment required under subsection (a), the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis shall disseminate such terrorism threat assessment to Federal partners, including the Department of Transportation and the Department of Energy, and State and local partners, including the National Network of Fusion Centers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.