

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4577

To establish a working group to determine ways to develop a domestic canine breeding network to produce high quality explosives detection canines, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 6, 2017

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama (for himself, Mr. McCAUL, Mr. KATKO, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. DONOVAN, and Mr. BACON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

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## A BILL

To establish a working group to determine ways to develop a domestic canine breeding network to produce high quality explosives detection canines, 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 “Domestic Explosives  
5 Detection Canine Capacity Building Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1           (1) BEHAVIORAL STANDARDS.—The term “be-  
2       havioral standards” means standards for the evalua-  
3       tion of explosives detection working canines for cer-  
4       tain factors, including canine temperament, work  
5       drive, suitability for training, environmental factors  
6       used in evaluations, and canine familiarity with nat-  
7       ural or man-made surfaces or working conditions  
8       relevant to the canine’s expected work area.

9           (2) MEDICAL STANDARDS.—The term “medical  
10      standards” means standards for the evaluation of  
11      explosives detection working canines for certain fac-  
12      tors, including canine health, management of hered-  
13      ity health conditions, breeding practices, genetics,  
14      pedigree, and long-term health tracking.

15          (3) TECHNICAL STANDARDS.—The term “tech-  
16      nical standards” means standards for the evaluation  
17      of explosives detection working canines for certain  
18      factors, including canine search techniques, handler-  
19      canine communication, detection testing conditions  
20      and logistics, and learned explosive odor libraries.

21 **SEC. 3. DOMESTIC CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT.**

22          (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the  
23      date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Home-  
24      land Security, acting through the Administrator of the  
25      Transportation Security Administration, shall establish a

1 working group to determine ways to develop a decentral-  
2 ized domestic canine breeding network to produce high  
3 quality explosives detection canines and modernize canine  
4 training standards.

5 (b) WORKING GROUP COMPOSITION.—The working  
6 group established under subsection (a) shall be comprised  
7 of representatives from the following:

8 (1) The Transportation Security Administra-  
9 tion.

10 (2) The Science and Technology Directorate of  
11 the Department of Homeland Security.

12 (3) National domestic canine associations with  
13 expertise in breeding and pedigree.

14 (4) Universities with expertise related to explo-  
15 sives detection canines and canine breeding.

16 (5) Domestic canine breeders and vendors.

17 (c) PRELIMINARY STANDARDS AND RECOMMENDA-  
18 TIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the establishment  
19 of the working group under subsection (a), such working  
20 group shall submit to the Administrator of the Transpor-  
21 tation Security Administration preliminary behavioral  
22 standards, medical standards, and technical standards for  
23 the domestic canine breeding network and canine training  
24 described in such subsection, including recommendations  
25 on how the Transportation Security Administration can

1 engage stakeholders to further the development of such  
2 network and training.

3 (d) STRATEGY.—Not later than 180 days after sub-  
4 mission of recommendations to the Administrator of the  
5 Transportation Security Administration under subsection  
6 (c), the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on  
7 Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and  
8 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
9 of the Senate a strategy for expanding the domestic canine  
10 breeding network described in subsection (a), based on  
11 such recommendations.

12 **SEC. 4. ACQUIRING BASELINE CAPACITY.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the  
14 submission of recommendations to the Administrator of  
15 the Transportation Security Administration under section  
16 3, the Administrator shall issue baseline behavioral stand-  
17 ards for explosives detection canines.

18 (b) STANDARDS.—The baseline behavioral standards  
19 issued pursuant to subsection (a), and the preliminary  
20 medical standards and technical standards issued pursu-  
21 ant to section 3, shall be incorporated into all statements  
22 of work for the Transportation Security Administration  
23 explosive detection canine contracts and reflect the detec-  
24 tion capabilities required to effectively mitigate terrorist  
25 threats. Such standards may be revised by the Adminis-

1 trator of the Transportation Security Administration, as  
2 necessary.

3 **SEC. 5. NONAPPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COM-**  
4 **MITTEE ACT.**

5 The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)  
6 shall not apply to the working group established under this  
7 Act.

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