

However, this is not the case. Currently, the CBP lacks the statutory authority to assign CBP personnel to specialized counternetwork details and liaison assignments with a national security focus.

H.R. 4578 seeks to mitigate this deficiency by giving the Commissioner of the CBP the statutory authority to assign personnel to these specialized task forces and collaborate with appropriate Federal, State, local, and Tribal entities to enhance border security operations that focus on disrupting and dismantling transnational criminal organizations and foreign terrorist networks.

By granting this authority to the Commissioner, the CBP's collaborative efforts will result in enhanced information sharing and an increase in intelligence-driven enforcement operations.

Lastly, H.R. 4578 requires the Commissioner to provide a report to Congress within 6 months of enactment, substantially describing the ongoing efforts to defeat threats posed by transnational criminal and foreign terrorist groups.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Border and Maritime Security Subcommittee Ranking Member VELA for introducing this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the law enforcement community and to vote in favor of this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4578, the Counter Terrorist Network Act.

Mr. Speaker, I introduced H.R. 4578, the Counter Terrorist Network Act, to support U.S. Customs and Border Protection's ongoing efforts to prevent individuals who pose a known threat to our country from entering the United States.

Over the years, the CBP has pushed out our borders through various programs, including international partnerships where officers are posted overseas.

The CBP's National Targeting Center, or NTC, uses the latest technology and analytical tools to identify threats and share that information with both domestic and international law enforcement partners.

The CBP vets foreign nationals traveling to the United States prior to arrival through the use of various sophisticated screening techniques. Time and again, we see terrorist acts carried out by individuals who were not on the Federal radar for terrorism.

In the 17 years since the September 11 attacks, we have made huge investments in this country in intelligence to better connect the dots about those risks.

My legislation seeks to ensure that the NTC is positioned to continue embedding its analysts in overseas operations so that individuals associated

with terrorist and transnational criminal networks are prevented from operating with impunity.

H.R. 4578 authorizes the NTC to continue building its collaborative intelligence and law enforcement partnerships to stay one step ahead of those individuals who wish to do us harm or commit other criminal acts.

The bill also authorizes CBP personnel to be posted abroad to perform critical preemptive operations to make sure the travelers and visa petitioners coming to our country are thoroughly screened and vetted.

Mr. Speaker, it is imperative for the DHS and its law enforcement partners to do everything practicable to screen and vet individuals before they arrive at our borders.

H.R. 4578 underscores this imperative by authorizing the CBP to counter terrorist and criminal networks' efforts to infiltrate our borders in a way that has proven effective and adaptive.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4578.

In closing, H.R. 4578 is a bipartisan bill that was unanimously approved by the Committee on Homeland Security late last year.

The partnerships that the CBP has established to disrupt and dismantle terrorists and other criminal networks are valuable and merit congressional support.

H.R. 4578 provides the CBP with statutory authority to continue these partnerships and it enables CBP personnel to be posted within different Federal and international entities in furtherance of their antiterrorism and homeland security missions. Congress must continue to support this effort, and we can do so today by passing this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues on the Committee on Homeland Security for their support, and I urge my House colleagues to pass H.R. 4578.

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

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I, once again, urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4578, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. ESTES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4578.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. 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.

#### GLOBAL AVIATION SYSTEM SECURITY REFORM ACT OF 2017

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4559) to conduct a global

aviation security review, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4559

*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 "Global Aviation System Security Reform Act of 2017".

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term "Administration" means the Transportation Security Administration.

(2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration.

(3) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term "appropriate congressional committees" means the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

#### SEC. 3. GLOBAL AVIATION SECURITY REVIEW.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall conduct a global aviation security review to address improving aviation security standards, including standards intended to mitigate cybersecurity threats, across the global aviation system.

(b) COMPOSITION.—The global aviation security review established under subsection (a) shall include input from the following entities:

(1) The Office of Global Strategies of the Administration.

(2) The Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Administration.

(3) The Office of Security Policy and Industry Engagement of the Administration.

(c) COORDINATION.—The Administrator shall coordinate with the following entities on the global aviation security review:

(1) U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

(2) The Office of International Engagement of the Department of Homeland Security.

(3) The Department of State.

(4) Any other relevant office or agency of the Federal government, as determined by the Administrator.

(d) BEST PRACTICES.—The global aviation security review shall establish best practices regarding the following:

(1) Collaborating with foreign partners to improve global aviation security capabilities and standards.

(2) Identifying foreign partners that have not successfully implemented security protocols from the International Civil Aviation Organization or the Department of Homeland Security and have not taken steps to implement such security protocols.

(3) Improving the development, outreach, and implementation process for security directives or emergency amendments, as the case may be, issued to domestic and foreign air carriers.

(4) Assessing the cybersecurity and cyber espionage risk of security screening equipment.

#### SEC. 4. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

(a) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall report to the appropriate congressional committees on the organization, development, and progress of the global aviation security review required under section 3.

(b) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 240 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on

best practices identified by the global aviation security review required under section 3 and the actions the Administrator has taken to implement such best practices.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. ESTES) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman KATKO for his leadership on this important piece of legislation.

It is essential that we continue to improve aviation security in order to stay ahead of the evolving threat posed by Islamist terrorists. It is clear that terrorists around the world remain intent on attacking aircraft.

That is why over the past year the Department of Homeland Security and the Transportation Security Administration have worked to raise the global level of aviation security. One area of potential improvement is through working to increase security at overseas last point of departure airports.

In October, I joined a bipartisan delegation of congressional members from the House Homeland Security Committee to several of the largest last point of departure airports, including Amman, Jordan; and Frankfurt, Germany. We examined current threats to aviation security and got to look at how our foreign partners have worked to stay ahead of all the potential threats.

This legislation seeks to improve global aviation security standards by directing the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration to conduct a comprehensive review of aviation security implementation and challenges across the global aviation system. This legislation will help improve coordination and outreach, both within the United States Government and with foreign partners regarding improvements to aviation security.

It makes sense for our security agencies to work with our foreign allies who are facing the same security threat that we face. This legislation will help the DHS locate and implement best practices, which are being used overseas. The fight to protect travelers isn't one that we face alone in America, and this threat isn't going to dissipate anytime soon. That is why this legislation is focused on ensuring

that our agencies build partnerships and can learn from our foreign partners.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4559, the Global Aviation System Security Reform Act of 2017.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for his leadership on this legislation.

This legislation would require the TSA to conduct a global aviation security review in order to improve aviation standards across the global aviation system within 180 days of enactment.

The security review within this bill is required to include input from the TSA's Office of Global Strategies, Office of Intelligence and Analysis, and the Office of Security Policy and Industry Engagement, and must identify best practices for foreign partners.

While the TSA has taken tremendous steps to improve aviation security at airports with direct service to the U.S., there is more that can be done.

In the last 12 months, we have seen the global aviation threat landscape evolve to include an increased threat to cargo security, and passenger planes being targeted with bombs hidden in large electronic devices.

The TSA is continually working with global partners and stakeholders to ensure that aviation standards are being maintained and elevated as needed.

Under this legislation, improvements that should be made to aviation security will be highlighted for Congress.

This legislation has the potential of providing a very good roadmap for Congress to address areas of improvement for global aviation security and to ensure that we constantly strive towards the safest and most secure aviation community.

Mr. Speaker, I note that, in the last couple of days, through the holiday season, those people who were either stuck in airports, and bags that were stacked, and people couldn't find bags are not considered a security issue. It was a weather issue. But we understand how crucial it is that the traveling public has needs in the free flowing and secure flowing of aviation. Giving the Congress a roadmap, I believe, is a very important step.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4559, the "Global Aviation System Security Reform Act of 2017."

This legislation would require TSA to conduct a global aviation security review in order to improve aviation standards across the global aviation system within 180 days of enactment.

The security review within this bill is required to include input from TSA's Office of Global Strategies, Office of Intelligence and Analysis, and the Office of Security Policy and Industry Engagement, and must identify best practices for foreign partners.

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Under this legislation, improvements that should be made to aviation security will be highlighted for Congress.

This legislation has the potential of providing a roadmap for Congress to address areas of improvement for global aviation security, and ensure that we constantly strive towards the safest and most secure aviation community.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4559 will give this body a strong sense of the direction for global aviation security improvements.

As threats to aviation security grow more sophisticated, this bill seeks to ensure that TSA is keeping pace with the threat landscape.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me again emphasize the importance of identifying best practices to be utilized by our system and to utilize these best practices to improve the security for the traveling public.

H.R. 4559 will give this body a strong sense of direction for global aviation security improvements. As threats to aviation security grow more sophisticated, this bill seeks to ensure that the TSA is keeping pace with the threat landscape.

□ 1330

Since I have no further speakers, I am closing by saying, with that, I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 4559.

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

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill. One of the things that we are seeing today, in an increasingly dangerous world, is how do we face these threats and work together. This bill is intended to help work to be more efficient across not just America but with our allies in making our aviation travel more safe and secure.

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

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of bill, H.R. 4559: The Global Aviation System Security Reform Act of 2017. This legislation will help raise the global baseline of aviation security and protect the traveling public from a litany of terror threats.

After recently participating in a bipartisan Congressional delegation to the Middle East

and Europe to observe international aviation security efforts firsthand, my colleagues and I returned home determined to bolster the Department of Homeland Security's efforts to build capacity among foreign partners.

When it comes to aviation security, we are only as secure as our weakest link. Unfortunately, through our oversight on the Homeland Security Committee's Subcommittee on Transportation and Protective Security, we have grown increasingly concerned that existing standards are simply not sufficient to keep up with the changing threats to aviation.

This legislation will ensure that DHS and TSA are aggressively committed to eliminating security vulnerabilities and inconsistencies at overseas airports with direct flights to the United States.

I wish to thank Congressman ESTES for participating in the important delegation we undertook which led to this legislation, as well as his commitment and leadership to security America's transportation systems on my Subcommittee.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the cost estimate from the Congressional Budget Office regarding H.R. 4559. The cost estimate was not available at the time of the filing of the Committee report.

U.S. CONGRESS,  
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,  
Washington, DC, January 9, 2018.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,  
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 4559, the Global Aviation System Security Reform Act of 2017.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Megan Carroll.

Sincerely,

KEITH HALL.

Enclosure.

H.R. 4559—GLOBAL AVIATION SYSTEM  
SECURITY REFORM ACT OF 2017

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Homeland Security on December 13, 2017

H.R. 4559 would direct the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), in consultation with other federal agencies, to review security-related standards across the global aviation system. The bill would require TSA to identify best practices for:

Enhancing security by collaborating with foreign partners involved in aviation security,

Identifying foreign entities that have not yet implemented international standards,

Improving processes for issuing security-related directives to air carriers, and

Assessing cyber-related threats to screening equipment.

Using information from TSA, CBO estimates that meeting the bill's requirements would increase the agency's costs by less than \$500,000 in 2018; such spending would be subject to appropriation. Enacting H.R. 4559 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 4559 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

H.R. 4559 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Megan Carroll. The estimate was approved

by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. ESTES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4559, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CYBER VULNERABILITY  
DISCLOSURE REPORTING ACT

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3202) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a report on cyber vulnerability disclosures, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3202

*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 "Cyber Vulnerability Disclosure Reporting Act".

**SEC. 2. REPORT ON CYBER VULNERABILITIES.**

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 240 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report that contains a description of the policies and procedures developed for coordinating cyber vulnerability disclosures, in accordance with section 227(m) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 148(m)). To the extent possible, such report shall include an annex with information on instances in which such policies and procedures were used to disclose cyber vulnerabilities in the year prior to the date such report is required and, where available, information on the degree to which such information was acted upon by industry and other stakeholders. Such report may also contain a description of how the Secretary is working with other Federal entities and critical infrastructure owners and operators to prevent, detect, and mitigate cyber vulnerabilities.

(b) FORM.—The report required under subsection (b) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. ESTES) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. 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 Kansas?

There was no objection.

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3202, the Cyber Vulnerability Disclosure Reporting Act.

It is hard to find an electronic device today that doesn't connect to the internet. From smartphones to alarm clocks, everything is part of the Internet of Things. Americans can do everything, from personal banking to unlocking the front door, with the palm of their hands.

As the world has become increasingly interconnected, vulnerabilities in computer code underlying these devices and the applications they run can often expose the average American to exploitation by hackers, criminals, and even bad actors from nation states.

As more and more critical and personal information is being stored on the internet and more industrial systems are being operated autonomously, it is vital that we are able to plug the holes in vulnerable technology.

It seems like every day we read about another data breach that could have been prevented if only the company had known about a vulnerability in the product or network, occurrences such as the WannCry ransomware that affected hundreds of thousands of computers in more than 150 countries, and the recently reported meltdown that could affect millions of personal computers throughout the world. That is why, in this world of ever-increasing intrusions, we must do our best to make sure our computer systems are as invulnerable to attack as possible.

The Department of Homeland Security was given the authority by the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 to improve cybersecurity in the United States through enhanced sharing of information about cybersecurity threats.

The Homeland Security Act of 2002 allows the Secretary to coordinate with industry to develop departmental policies and procedures for coordinating the disclosure of cyber vulnerabilities as described in the Vulnerabilities Equities Policy and Process published by the White House on November 15, 2016. This disclosure is important, as it highlights vulnerabilities and allows the public and private sector to work to prevent and mitigate cyber threats.

H.R. 3202, the Cyber Vulnerability Disclosure Reporting Act, is an important tool, in that it requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a report to Congress on their policies and procedures for disclosing vulnerabilities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I thank the manager for his kind words.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3202, the Cyber Vulnerability Disclosure Reporting Act. I very much want