

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1494

To strengthen partnerships between historically Black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions and the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 5, 2019

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi (for himself, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. COHEN, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. BEATTY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BASS, Mr. CLYBURN, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To strengthen partnerships between historically Black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions and the Department of Homeland Security, 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 “Historically Black Col-
3 leges and Universities (HBCUs) Homeland Security Part-
4 nerships Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT-WIDE STRATEGY FOR ENHANCED**
6 **PARTNERSHIPS WITH HISTORICALLY BLACK**
7 **COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND MINOR-**
8 **ITY-SERVING INSTITUTIONS.**

9 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-
10 ment of this Act, the Secretary, acting through the Under
11 Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans of the Depart-
12 ment, shall—

13 (1) issue a Department-wide strategy to en-
14 hance partnerships with historically Black colleges
15 and universities and minority-serving institutions
16 that includes yearly goals through fiscal year 2024;
17 and

18 (2) require the head of each component of the
19 Department to—

20 (A) not later than 150 days after the date
21 of the issuance under paragraph (1) of the De-
22 partment-wide strategy, develop a component-
23 specific action plan to implement such strategy;

24 (B) monitor progress on such implementa-
25 tion; and

1 (C) not later than one year after the date
2 of such issuance, report to the Secretary re-
3 garding progress on such implementation.

4 **SEC. 3. ENHANCEMENT OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**
5 **PARTNERSHIPS.**

6 The Under Secretary for Science and Technology of
7 the Department shall seek to enhance partnerships with
8 historically Black colleges and universities and minority-
9 serving institutions with respect to administering the pri-
10 mary research and development activities of the Depart-
11 ment by, among other things—

12 (1) encouraging the participation of such col-
13 leges, universities, and institutions in the research,
14 development, testing, and evaluation programs and
15 activities of the Department;

16 (2) facilitating partnerships between such col-
17 leges, universities, and institutions and private sec-
18 tor stakeholders, national laboratories, and other
19 academic institutions in areas important to home-
20 land security; and

21 (3) distributing funds through Science and
22 Technology Directorate grants, cooperative agree-
23 ments, and contracts to such colleges, universities,
24 and institutions for enhancements in areas impor-
25 tant to homeland security.

1 **SEC. 4. CAREER OPPORTUNITIES PARTNERSHIPS.**

2 Not later than 120 days after the date of the enact-
3 ment of this Act, the Secretary, acting through the Chief
4 Human Capitol Officer of the Department, shall make
5 available to historically Black colleges and universities and
6 minority-serving institutions a current list of internship,
7 fellowship, scholarship, and recruitment opportunities
8 within the Department for students and recent graduates
9 of such colleges, universities, and institutions.

10 **SEC. 5. OPPORTUNITIES FOR 8(a) PROGRAM PARTNER-**
11 **SHIPS.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
13 date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of
14 the Small Business Administration shall publish eligibility
15 criteria on how historically Black colleges and universities
16 and minority-serving institutions may qualify to partici-
17 pate in Federal acquisitions authorized pursuant to sec-
18 tion 8(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(a);
19 Public Law 85–536).

20 (b) DEPARTMENT ACTIONS.—Upon publication of
21 eligibility criteria in accordance with subsection (a), the
22 Secretary shall disseminate information to historically
23 Black colleges and universities and minority-serving insti-
24 tutions regarding—

25 (1) how to establish such eligibility; and

1 (2) current and future opportunities to partici-
2 pate in Federal acquisitions authorized pursuant to
3 section 8(a) of the Small Business Act.

4 **SEC. 6. ANNUAL REPORT.**

5 (a) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than December 31,
6 2020, and annually thereafter through 2026, the Sec-
7 retary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Secu-
8 rity of the House of Representatives and the Committee
9 on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the
10 Senate a report on the efforts of the Department to part-
11 ner with historically Black colleges and universities and
12 minority-serving institutions to carry out this Act.

13 (b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The annual re-
14 ports required under subsection (a) shall include the fol-
15 lowing:

16 (1) A list of awards, including the cor-
17 responding monetary value for each such award, to
18 historically Black colleges and universities and mi-
19 nority-serving institutions, disaggregated by grant,
20 contract, cooperative agreement, and other research
21 development test and evaluation activity, initiative,
22 and program.

23 (2) A description of how the Department is
24 partnering with historically Black colleges and uni-
25 versities and minority-serving institutions under the

1 programs referred to in sections 3 and 5, and how
2 such programs have helped such colleges, univer-
3 sities, and institutions participate in acquisitions
4 with the Department.

5 (3) A summary of outreach efforts to histori-
6 cally Black colleges and universities and minority-
7 serving institutions, and an identification of any De-
8 partment programs and initiatives in which such col-
9 leges, universities, and institutions are under-rep-
10 resented among institutions of higher education.

11 (4) A description of the status of efforts made
12 by the Department pursuant to sections 2 and 4, in-
13 cluding—

14 (A) for section 2, Department-wide goals
15 pursuant to the Department-wide strategy to
16 enhance partnerships with historically Black
17 colleges and universities and minority-serving
18 institutions under such section, and the status
19 of efforts to implement action plans throughout
20 the Department to carry out such strategy; and

21 (B) for section 4, participation rates in
22 each internship, fellowship, scholarship, and re-
23 cruitment opportunity referred to in such sec-
24 tion, listed by historically Black college and uni-

1 iversity and minority-serving institution so par-
2 ticipating.

3 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”
6 means the Department of Homeland Security.

7 (2) HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNI-
8 VERSITIES.—The term “historically Black colleges
9 and universities” means a part B institution de-
10 scribed in section 322(2) of the Higher Education
11 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061(2)).

12 (3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
13 term “institution of higher education” has the
14 meaning given such term in section 101 of the High-
15 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

16 (4) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTIONS.—The
17 term “minority-serving institutions” means an insti-
18 tution of higher education described in section
19 371(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
20 U.S.C. 1067q(a)).

21 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
22 Secretary of Homeland Security.

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