

the rubber meets the road and the source of many of the critical services our constituents rely on, which includes schools, law enforcement, parks, fire, and libraries.

Yet, according to the National Association of State Chief Information Officers, nearly half of all States do not have a dedicated cybersecurity line item in their budget. In fact, most State cybersecurity budgets are between 0 and 3 percent of their overall information technology budget.

While some support from the Federal Government does exist already, less than 4 percent of current Homeland Security Grant Program funding has been allocated to cybersecurity needs at the State and local level. As we have seen from recent cyberattacks on many American cities and States, this is simply not enough.

Last year, there were at least 24 public-sector ransomware attacks, including a ransomware attack in Baltimore, my hometown, that is expected to cost more than \$18 million in remediation. A separate attack in 2018 temporarily disabled Baltimore's 911 dispatch system.

This is part of a growing nationwide trend. The COVID-19 pandemic has only exacerbated the threat to local governments as hackers exploit overwhelmed organizations that are increasingly dependent on digital tools. We cannot simply stand by and watch this happen. We can and must do more.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman from Maryland an additional 2 minutes.

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, the bill before us today establishes a program making grants available to State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments to address cybersecurity risks and threats to their information systems.

This is not a silver bullet, but it allows us to leverage Federal expertise in cyber, like that of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, or CISA, to help State and local governments get their information security programs off the ground.

This bill will further empower State and local governments around the country to begin assuming the funding burden in their normal budget cycles in the future by reducing the Federal share over time.

I thank Chairman THOMPSON, Chairman RICHMOND, and all those involved for this bipartisan coalition.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. KILMER).

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend for yielding and echo the gratitude for her leadership and the bipartisan leadership of the subcommittee.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the State and Local Cybersecurity Improvement Act, a bipartisan bill that I was proud to help introduce, to

deliver urgently needed investments to address the vulnerabilities that persist in State, local, Tribal, and territorial cyber infrastructures.

These cyber threats are real, and our communities need help.

I have spoken with a county auditor just recently who said she is conscious that her systems are constantly targeted.

I have spoken with public power providers who understand that, in the absence of sufficient cybersecurity, we could see an attack that would wipe out our critical utilities for citizens and could undermine our economy.

I have recently spoken with a Tribal leader who said that they have enough technology challenges without seeing the threat of cyberattack compound things.

I have spoken with a county hospital in my district that was hit by a ransomware attack.

This bill is about letting those folks know and the people whom they serve know that they are not on their own, that the Federal Government understands that cybersecurity vulnerabilities don't only exist in marble buildings in Washington, D.C., but that they exist in communities in every State in our Nation, and with this bill the Federal Government says: We are going to have your back. That is why I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bipartisan plan. There is no time to waste.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers, and I am prepared to close after the gentleman from Pennsylvania closes. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, over the past decade and a half, Congress has redoubled efforts to secure Federal networks. This legislation will continue that work by supporting State and local cybersecurity improvements. It was approved on a bipartisan basis in committee and has broad and deep support within stakeholder communities.

I would like to congratulate Congressman CEDRIC RICHMOND, the former chairman of the Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Innovation Subcommittee, on this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. UNDERWOOD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5823, 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.

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HOMELAND SECURITY ACQUISITION PROFESSIONAL CAREER PROGRAM ACT

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5822) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an acquisition professional career program, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5822

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 "Homeland Security Acquisition Professional Career Program Act".

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF THE ACQUISITION PROFESSIONAL CAREER PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title VII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 711. ACQUISITION PROFESSIONAL CAREER PROGRAM.

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Department an acquisition professional career program to develop a cadre of acquisition professionals within the Department.

"(b) ADMINISTRATION.—The Under Secretary for Management shall administer the acquisition professional career program established pursuant to subsection (a).

"(c) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—The Under Secretary for Management shall carry out the following with respect to the acquisition professional career program.

"(1) Designate the occupational series, grades, and number of acquisition positions throughout the Department to be included in the program and manage centrally such positions.

"(2) Establish and publish on the Department's website eligibility criteria for candidates to participate in the program.

"(3) Carry out recruitment efforts to attract candidates—

"(A) from institutions of higher education, including such institutions with established acquisition specialties and courses of study, historically Black colleges and universities, and Hispanic-serving institutions;

"(B) with diverse work experience outside of the Federal Government; or

"(C) with military service.

"(4) Hire eligible candidates for designated positions under the program.

"(5) Develop a structured program comprised of acquisition training, on-the-job experience, Department-wide rotations, mentorship, shadowing, and other career development opportunities for program participants.

"(6) Provide, beyond required training established for program participants, additional specialized acquisition training, including small business contracting and innovative acquisition techniques training.

"(d) REPORTS.—Not later than December 31, 2020, and annually thereafter through 2026, the Secretary 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 on the acquisition professional career program. Each such report shall include the following information:

"(1) The number of candidates approved for the program.

“(2) The number of candidates who commenced participation in the program, including generalized information on such candidates’ backgrounds with respect to education and prior work experience, but not including personally identifiable information.

“(3) A breakdown of the number of participants hired under the program by type of acquisition position.

“(4) A list of Department components and offices that participated in the program and information regarding length of time of each program participant in each rotation at such components or offices.

“(5) Program attrition rates and post-program graduation retention data, including information on how such data compare to the prior year’s data, as available.

“(6) The Department’s recruiting efforts for the program.

“(7) The Department’s efforts to promote retention of program participants.

“(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The term ‘Hispanic-serving institution’ has the meaning given such term in section 502 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101a).

“(2) HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.—The term ‘historically Black colleges and universities’ has the meaning given the term ‘part B institution’ in section 322(2) of Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061(2)).

“(3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the meaning given such term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).”.

(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 710 the following new item:

“Sec. 711. Acquisition professional career program.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ESPAILLAT). Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. UNDERWOOD) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5822, the Homeland Security Acquisition Professional Career Program Act.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5822 authorizes an existing program within the Department of Homeland Security focused on strengthening its acquisition workforce. DHS established the Acquisition Professional Career Program in 2008 to create a pipeline for hard-to-fill acquisition workforce positions, such as contract specialists.

Since its inception, the program has had over 300 program graduates join the ranks of DHS’ acquisition work-

force, which oversees billions of dollars of transactions to procure what DHS needs to carry out its diverse missions.

They are charged with purchasing everything from cybersecurity software for protecting Federal networks, to disaster response supplies, to sophisticated security screening equipment. And when it comes to COVID-19, they have been responsible for spending over \$1.7 billion on a wide range of response activities.

Unfortunately, the Government Accountability Office has highlighted workforce shortages as a persistent challenge for DHS acquisition programs—one that can negatively affect their ability to deliver vital capabilities on time and on budget.

H.R. 5822 will help address this challenge by authorizing DHS’ rigorous development program, which provides participants with acquisition training, mentorship, department-wide rotations, and other career development opportunities.

H.R. 5822, if enacted, will help DHS maintain a pipeline for its acquisition workforce that directly supports the Department’s frontline officers with the tools that they need to perform their jobs.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentlewoman from Nevada, Representative TITUS, for introducing this measure, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5822. The Department of Homeland Security has an important mission to protect the homeland and secure our borders. To accomplish this mission, DHS must enter into contracts for equipment and services. To protect taxpayer dollars and ensure that DHS is getting the most bang for its buck, the Department must utilize experienced acquisition professionals.

In the past decade, GAO has consistently identified issues that must be addressed to improve acquisition operations at DHS, including shortages in the number of trained acquisition professionals. This bill addresses this specific issue by developing trained acquisition professionals within DHS.

H.R. 5822 provides the on-the-job acquisition training, rotations throughout the Department, mentoring, and other opportunities to enhance acquisition knowledge, and experience for the participants. I applaud my colleague, Representative TITUS, for her efforts to bring this bill forward.

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

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote on the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, enactment of H.R. 5822 would help ensure that DHS maintains a pipeline for hard-to-fill acquisition positions throughout the Department. Given the critical nature of DHS’ mission, it is essential that it have a robust acquisition workforce in place.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5822, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. UNDERWOOD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5822, 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.

TSA PERSONNEL WORKPLACE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2020

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5811) to require the Transportation Security Administration to provide nursing facilities and paid parental leave for Administration personnel, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5811

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 “TSA Personnel Workplace Improvement Act of 2020”.

SEC. 2. NURSING FACILITIES FOR TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION PERSONNEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall ensure that all Administration personnel have adequate access to facilities designated for use by nursing mothers in the workplace. Such facilities shall be—

(1) assessed for cleanliness, safety, and accessibility to personnel duty stations;

(2) free of charge;

(3) located in a place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public; and

(4) available for personnel to use with a reasonable break time to express breast milk for a child of such personnel each time such personnel has a need to express milk.

(b) DURATION.—The Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall ensure that the availability to Administration personnel described in subsection (a)(4) is for a period of time equal to at least one year from the birth of a child of an Administration employee.

(c) COORDINATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS.—In carrying out the requirements in subsection (a), the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall coordinate with the National Institutes for Health and the labor organization representing Administration screening personnel.

(d) NOTIFICATION.—The Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration