

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4683

To increase the number of U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers and support staff and to require reports that identify staffing, infrastructure, and equipment needed to enhance security at ports of entry.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 2025

Mr. KENNEDY of New York (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 increase the number of U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers and support staff and to require reports that identify staffing, infrastructure, and equipment needed to enhance security at ports of entry.

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 “Securing America’s
5 Ports of Entry Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTEC-**
2 **TION PERSONNEL.**

3 (a) OFFICERS.—Subject to appropriations, the Com-
4 missioner for U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall
5 hire, train, and assign not fewer than 1,000 new U.S. Cus-
6 toms and Border Protection officers above the current at-
7 trition level during every fiscal year until the total number
8 of U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers equals
9 and sustains the requirements identified each year in the
10 Workload Staffing Model.

11 (b) SUPPORT STAFF.—The Commissioner is author-
12 ized to hire, train, and assign support staff, including
13 technicians and Enterprise Services mission support, to
14 perform non-law enforcement administrative functions to
15 support the new U.S. Customs and Border Protection offi-
16 cers hired pursuant to subsection (a).

17 (c) TRAFFIC FORECASTS.—In calculating the number
18 of U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers needed
19 at each port of entry through the Workload Staffing
20 Model, the Commissioner shall—

21 (1) rely on data collected regarding the inspec-
22 tions and other activities conducted at each such
23 port of entry;

24 (2) consider volume from seasonal surges, other
25 projected changes in commercial and passenger vol-

1 umes, the most current commercial forecasts, and
2 other relevant information;

3 (3) consider historical volume and forecasts
4 prior to the COVID–19 pandemic and the impact on
5 international travel; and

6 (4) incorporate personnel requirements for in-
7 creasing the rate of outbound inspection operations
8 at land ports of entry.

9 (d) GAO REPORT.—If the Commissioner does not
10 hire not fewer than 1,000 additional U.S. Customs and
11 Border Protection officers authorized under subsection (a)
12 during fiscal year 2026, or during any subsequent fiscal
13 year in which the hiring requirements set forth in the
14 Workload Staffing Model have not been achieved, the
15 Comptroller General of the United States shall—

16 (1) conduct a review of U.S. Customs and Bor-
17 der Protection hiring practices to determine the rea-
18 sons that such requirements were not achieved and
19 other issues related to hiring by U.S. Customs and
20 Border Protection; and

21 (2) submit a report to the Committee on Home-
22 land Security and Governmental Affairs of the Sen-
23 ate, the Committee on Finance of the Senate, the
24 Committee on Homeland Security of the House of
25 Representatives, and the Committee on Ways and

1 Means of the House of Representatives that de-
2 scribes the results of the review conducted pursuant
3 to paragraph (1).

4 **SEC. 3. PORTS OF ENTRY INFRASTRUCTURE ENHANCE-**
5 **MENT REPORT.**

6 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-
7 ment of this Act, the Commissioner for U.S. Customs and
8 Border Protection shall submit a report to the Committee
9 on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the
10 Senate, the Committee on Finance of the Senate, the
11 Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Rep-
12 resentatives, and the Committee on Ways and Means of
13 the House of Representatives that identifies—

14 (1) infrastructure improvements at ports of
15 entry that would enhance the ability of U.S. Cus-
16 toms and Border Protection officers to interdict
17 opioids and other drugs that are being illegally
18 transported into the United States, including a de-
19 scription of circumstances at specific ports of entry
20 that prevent the deployment of technology used at
21 other ports of entry;

22 (2) detection equipment that would improve the
23 ability of such officers to identify opioids, including
24 precursors and derivatives, that are being illegally
25 transported into the United States; and

1 (3) safety equipment that would protect such
2 officers from accidental exposure to such drugs or
3 other dangers associated with the inspection of po-
4 tential drug traffickers.

5 **SEC. 4. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

6 (a) TEMPORARY DUTY ASSIGNMENTS.—

7 (1) DEFINED TERM.—In this subsection, the
8 term “appropriate congressional committees”
9 means—

10 (A) the Committee on Homeland Security
11 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

12 (B) the Committee on Appropriations of
13 the Senate;

14 (C) the Committee on Finance of the Sen-
15 ate;

16 (D) the Committee on Homeland Security
17 of the House of Representatives;

18 (E) the Committee on Appropriations of
19 the House of Representatives; and

20 (F) the Committee on Ways and Means of
21 the House of Representatives.

22 (2) QUARTERLY REPORT.—The Commissioner
23 for U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall sub-
24 mit a quarterly report to the appropriate congres-

1 sional committees that includes, with respect to the
2 reporting period—

3 (A) the number of temporary duty assign-
4 ments;

5 (B) the number of U.S. Customs and Bor-
6 der Protection officers required for each tem-
7 porary duty assignment;

8 (C) the ports of entry from which such of-
9 ficers were reassigned;

10 (D) the ports of entry to which such offi-
11 cers were reassigned;

12 (E) the ports of entry at which reimburs-
13 able service agreements have been entered into
14 that may be affected by temporary duty assign-
15 ments;

16 (F) the duration of each temporary duty
17 assignment;

18 (G) the cost of each temporary duty as-
19 signment; and

20 (H) the extent to which the temporary
21 duty assignments within the reporting period
22 were in support of the other U.S. Customs and
23 Border Protection activities or operations along
24 the southern border of the United States, in-

1 including the specific costs associated with such
2 temporary duty assignments.

3 (3) NOTICE.—Not later than 10 days before re-
4 deploying employees from 1 port of entry to another,
5 absent emergency circumstances—

6 (A) the Commissioner shall notify the di-
7 rector of the port of entry from which employ-
8 ees will be reassigned of the intended redeploy-
9 ments; and

10 (B) the port director shall notify impacted
11 facilities (including airports, seaports, and land
12 ports) of the intended redeployments.

13 (4) STAFF BRIEFING.—The Commissioner shall
14 brief all affected U.S. Customs and Border Protec-
15 tion employees regarding plans to mitigate
16 vulnerabilities created by any planned staffing re-
17 ductions at ports of entry.

18 (b) REPORTS ON U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PRO-
19 TECTION AGREEMENTS.—Section 907(a) of the Trade Fa-
20 cilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (19 U.S.C.
21 4451(a)) is amended—

22 (1) in paragraph (3), by striking “and an as-
23 sessment” and all that follows and inserting a pe-
24 riod;

1 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (4) through
2 (12) as paragraphs (5) through (13), respectively;

3 (3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(4) A description of the factors that were con-
6 sidered before entering into the agreement, including
7 an assessment of how the agreement provides eco-
8 nomic benefits and security benefits (if applicable)
9 at the port of entry to which the agreement re-
10 lates.”; and

11 (4) in paragraph (5), as redesignated, by insert-
12 ing “, including the locations of such services and
13 the total hours of reimbursable services under the
14 agreement, if any” after “the report”.

15 (c) ANNUAL WORKLOAD STAFFING MODEL RE-
16 PORT.—As part of the Annual Report on Staffing required
17 under section 411(g)(5)(A) of the Homeland Security Act
18 of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 211(g)(5)(A)), the Commissioner for
19 U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall include—

20 (1) information concerning the progress made
21 toward meeting the U.S. Customs and Border Pro-
22 tection officer and support staff hiring targets set
23 forth in section 2, while accounting for attrition;

24 (2) an update to the information provided in
25 the Resource Optimization at the Ports of Entry re-

1 port, which was submitted to Congress on Sep-
2 tember 12, 2017, pursuant to the Department of
3 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017 (divi-
4 sion F of Public Law 115–31); and

5 (3) a summary of the information included in
6 the reports required under subsection (a) and sec-
7 tion 907(a) of the Trade Facilitation and Trade En-
8 forcement Act of 2015, as amended by subsection
9 (b).

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