

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3503

To require an assessment of fusion center personnel needs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 11, 2015

Ms. MCSALLY (for herself, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. LOUDERMILK, and Mr. BARLETTA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To require an assessment of fusion center personnel needs,
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 “Department of Home-
5 land Security Support to Fusion Centers Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. FUSION CENTER PERSONNEL NEEDS ASSESSMENT.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the
8 date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary
9 of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Home-
10 land Security, in coordination with the appropriate compo-

1 nents and offices of the Department and the Homeland
2 Security Advisors of the States, shall, in consultation with
3 the principal officials of the fusion centers in the National
4 Network of Fusion Centers, conduct a needs assessment
5 of Department personnel assigned to fusion centers pursu-
6 ant to subsection (c) of section 210A of the Homeland
7 Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124h), including an assess-
8 ment of whether deploying additional Department per-
9 sonnel to such fusion centers would enhance the Depart-
10 ment's mission under section 101(b) of such Act and the
11 National Network of Fusion Centers. The assessment re-
12 quired under this subsection shall include the following:

13 (1) Information on the current deployment of
14 the Department's personnel to each fusion center.

15 (2) Information on the roles and responsibilities
16 of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis' intel-
17 ligence officers, intelligence analysts, senior reports
18 officers, reports officers, and regional directors de-
19 ployed to fusion centers.

20 (3) Information on Federal resources, in addi-
21 tion to personnel, provided to each fusion center.

22 (4) An assessment of whether deploying addi-
23 tional personnel, as described in paragraph (2),
24 would enhance intelligence and information sharing

1 between the Department and Federal, State, local,
2 tribal, and territorial partners.

3 (5) An assessment of fusion centers located in
4 jurisdictions along land and maritime borders of the
5 United States, and the degree to which deploying
6 personnel, as appropriate, from the U.S. Customs
7 and Border Protection, U.S. Immigration and Cus-
8 toms Enforcement, and the Coast Guard to such fu-
9 sion centers would enhance the integrity and secu-
10 rity at such borders by helping Federal, State, local,
11 and tribal law enforcement authorities to identify,
12 investigate, and interdict persons, weapons, and re-
13 lated contraband that pose a threat to homeland se-
14 curity.

15 (6) An assessment of fusion centers located in
16 jurisdictions with large and medium hub airports,
17 and the degree to which deploying, as appropriate,
18 personnel from the Transportation Security Admin-
19 istration to such fusion centers would enhance the
20 integrity and security of aviation security.

21 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the com-
22 pletion of the assessment required under subsection (a),
23 the Under Secretary of Intelligence and Analysis of the
24 Department of Homeland Security, in coordination with
25 the appropriate components and offices of the Department

1 of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on
2 Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and
3 the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental
4 Affairs of the Senate such assessment, together with a re-
5 port on the following:

6 (1) The number of personnel assigned to fusion
7 centers from the Office of Intelligence and Analysis
8 of the Department of Homeland Security, including
9 a breakdown of the types of positions assigned and
10 the methodology for determining the fusion centers
11 to which such personnel are assigned.

12 (2) The number of personnel assigned to the
13 National Network of Fusion Centers from compo-
14 nents and offices of the Department of Homeland
15 Security and the methodology for determining the
16 fusion centers to which such personnel are assigned.

17 (3) An implementation plan for determining
18 how the Department's personnel resources will be al-
19 located to fusion centers in the future.

20 **SEC. 3. PROGRAM FOR STATE AND LOCAL ANALYST CLEAR-**
21 **ANCES.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary of Intel-
23 ligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Se-
24 curity, in collaboration with the Chief Security Officer of
25 the Department, shall establish a program to provide eligi-

1 bility for access to information classified as Top Secret
2 pursuant to Executive Order 13526 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note)
3 for State and local analysts located in fusion centers.

4 (b) REPORT.—Not later than two years after the es-
5 tablishment of the program required under subsection (a),
6 the Under Secretary of Intelligence and Analysis of the
7 Department of Homeland Security shall submit to the
8 Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Rep-
9 resentatives and the Committee on Homeland Security
10 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the
11 following:

12 (1) The effects of such program on the Depart-
13 ment’s ability to sponsor such Top Secret clearances
14 for State and local analysts located in designated fu-
15 sion centers.

16 (2) The effects of such program on enhancing
17 information sharing with State, local, tribal, and ter-
18 ritorial partners.

19 (3) The cost for providing additional training
20 and providing such Top Secret clearances for State
21 and local analysts.

22 (4) The effect of such program on increasing
23 the situational awareness of key stakeholders of the
24 fusion centers, including Federal, State, local, tribal,

1 and territorial law enforcement and emergency re-
2 sponse providers.

3 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) FUSION CENTER.—The term “fusion cen-
6 ter” has the meaning given such term in subsection
7 (j) of section 210A of the Homeland Security Act of
8 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124h).

9 (2) NATIONAL NETWORK OF FUSION CEN-
10 TERS.—The term “National Network of Fusion Cen-
11 ters” means a decentralized arrangement of fusion
12 centers intended to enhance individual State and
13 urban area fusion centers’ ability to leverage the ca-
14 pabilities and expertise of all such fusion centers for
15 the purpose of enhancing analysis and homeland se-
16 curity information sharing nationally.

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