

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1998

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 29, 2012

Referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, 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

AN ACT

To obtain an unqualified audit opinion, and improve financial accountability and management at the Department of Homeland Security.

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 “DHS Audit Require-
3 ment Target Act of 2012” or the “DART Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. IMPROVING FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND**
5 **MANAGEMENT.**

6 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

7 (1) the term “Department” means the Depart-
8 ment of Homeland Security;

9 (2) the term “financial management systems”
10 has the meaning given that term under section 806
11 of the Federal Financial Management Improvement
12 Act of 1996 (31 U.S.C. 3512 note);

13 (3) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary
14 of Homeland Security; and

15 (4) the term “unqualified opinion” mean an un-
16 qualified opinion within the meaning given that term
17 under generally accepted auditing standards.

18 (b) REACHING AN UNQUALIFIED AUDIT OPINION.—

19 In order to ensure compliance with the Department of
20 Homeland Security Financial Accountability Act (Public
21 Law 108–330; 118 Stat. 1275) and the amendments made
22 by that Act, the Secretary shall take the necessary steps
23 to ensure that the full set of consolidated financial state-
24 ments of the Department for the fiscal year ending Sep-
25 tember 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, are
26 ready in a timely manner and in preparation for an audit

1 as part of preparing the performance and accountability
2 reports required under section 3516(f) of title 31, United
3 States Code, (including submitting the reports not later
4 than November 15, 2013, and each year thereafter) in
5 order to obtain an unqualified opinion on the full set of
6 financial statements for the fiscal year.

7 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS ON PROGRESS OF MEET-
8 ING AUDIT REQUIREMENTS.—In order to ensure progress
9 in implementing the Department of Homeland Security
10 Financial Accountability Act (Public Law 108–330; 118
11 Stat. 1275), and the amendments made by that Act, dur-
12 ing the period beginning on the date of enactment of this
13 Act and ending on the date on which an unqualified opin-
14 ion described in subsection (b) is submitted, each report
15 submitted by the Chief Financial Officer of the Depart-
16 ment under section 902(a)(6) of title 31, United States
17 Code, shall include a plan—

18 (1) to obtain an unqualified opinion on the full
19 set of financial statements, which shall discuss plans
20 and resources needed to meet the deadlines under
21 subsection (b);

22 (2) that addresses how the Department will
23 eliminate material weaknesses and significant defi-
24 ciencies in internal controls over financial reporting

1 and provides deadlines for the elimination of such
2 weaknesses and deficiencies; and

3 (3) to modernize the financial management sys-
4 tems of the Department, including timelines, goals,
5 alternatives, and costs of the plan, which shall in-
6 clude consideration of alternative approaches, includ-
7 ing modernizing the existing financial management
8 systems and associated financial controls of the De-
9 partment and establishing new financial manage-
10 ment systems and associated financial controls.

Passed the Senate November 28, 2012.

Attest:

NANCY ERICKSON,

Secretary.