

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1535

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a study and report to Congress on gaps in port security in the United States and a plan to address them.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 12, 2013

Ms. HAHN (for herself and Mr. POE of Texas) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a study and report to Congress on gaps in port security in the United States and a plan to address them.

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 “Gauging American
5 Port Security Act” or the “GAPS Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. STUDY, REPORT, AND PLAN TO ADDRESS GAPS IN**
2 **PORT SECURITY.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
4 date of enactment of this Act the Inspector General of
5 the Department of Homeland Security shall—

6 (1) conduct a study of, and submit to the Con-
7 gress a report on, remaining gaps in port security in
8 the United States; and

9 (2) include in such report a prioritization of
10 such gaps and a plan for addressing them.

11 (b) FORM.—The report required under subsection (a)
12 shall be submitted in classified form but shall contain an
13 unclassified annex.

14 **SEC. 3. INFORMATION SHARING.**

15 The Secretary of Homeland Security shall, in accord-
16 ance with rules for the handling of classified information,
17 share, as appropriate, with designated points of contact
18 from Federal agencies and State, local, or tribal govern-
19 ments, and port system owners and operators, relevant in-
20 formation regarding remaining gaps in port security of the
21 United States, prioritization of such gaps, and a plan for
22 addressing such gaps. In the event that a designated point
23 of contact does not have the necessary security clearance
24 to receive such information, the Secretary shall help expe-
25 dite the clearance process, as appropriate.