

## Union Calendar No. 123

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2390

**[Report No. 114–168, Part I]**

To require a review of university-based centers for homeland security, and for other purposes.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 18, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi (for himself and Mr. RICHMOND) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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

JUNE 18, 2015

Reported from the Committee on Homeland Security

JUNE 18, 2015

The Committee on Science, Space, and Technology discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

# **A BILL**

To require a review of university-based centers for homeland security, 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 “Homeland Security  
5 University-based Centers Review Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REVIEW OF UNIVERSITY-BASED CENTERS.**

7       (a) GAO STUDY OF UNIVERSITY-BASED CENTERS.—  
8 Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of  
9 this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States  
10 shall initiate a study to assess the university-based centers  
11 for homeland security program authorized by section  
12 308(b)(2) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6  
13 U.S.C. 188(b)(2)), and provide recommendations to the  
14 Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Rep-  
15 resentatives and the Committee on Homeland Security  
16 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate for appropriate  
17 improvements.

18       (b) SUBJECT MATTERS.—The study under sub-  
19 section (a) shall include the following:

20               (1) A review of the Department of Homeland  
21 Security’s efforts to identify key areas of study need-  
22 ed to support the homeland security mission, and  
23 criteria that the Department utilized to determine  
24 those key areas for which the Department should

1 maintain, establish, or eliminate university-based  
2 centers.

3 (2) A review of the method by which university-  
4 based centers, federally funded research and develop-  
5 ment centers, and Department of Energy national  
6 laboratories receive tasking from the Department of  
7 Homeland Security, including a review of how uni-  
8 versity-based research is identified, prioritized, and  
9 funded.

10 (3) A review of selection criteria for designating  
11 university-based centers and a weighting of such cri-  
12 teria.

13 (4) An examination of best practices from other  
14 agencies' efforts to organize and use university-  
15 based research to support their missions.

16 (5) A review of the Department of Homeland  
17 Security's criteria and metrics to measure demon-  
18 strable progress achieved by university-based centers  
19 in fulfilling Department taskings, and mechanisms  
20 for delivering and disseminating the research results  
21 of designated university-based centers within the De-  
22 partment and to other Federal, State, and local  
23 agencies.

24 (6) An examination of the means by which aca-  
25 demic institutions that are not designated or associ-

1       ated with the designated university-based centers  
2       can optimally contribute to the research mission of  
3       the Directorate of Science and Technology of the  
4       Department of Homeland Security.

5           (7) An assessment of the interrelationship be-  
6       tween the different university-based centers and the  
7       degree to which outreach and collaboration among a  
8       diverse array of academic institutions is encouraged  
9       by the Department of Homeland Security, particu-  
10      larly with historically Black colleges and universities  
11      and minority serving institutions.

12          (8) A review of any other essential elements of  
13      the programs determined in the conduct of the  
14      study.

15      (c) INFORMATION RELATING TO UNIVERSITY-BASED  
16      CENTERS.—Subparagraph (D) of section 308(b)(2) of the  
17      Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 188(b)(2)) is  
18      amended to read as follows:

19           “(D) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—  
20           Not later than one year after the date of the  
21           enactment of this subparagraph and annually  
22           thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the  
23           Committee on Homeland Security of the House  
24           of Representatives and the Committee on  
25           Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

1 of the Senate a report on the implementation of  
2 this section. Each such report shall—

3 “(i) indicate which center or centers  
4 have been designated pursuant to this sec-  
5 tion;

6 “(ii) describe how such designation or  
7 designations enhance homeland security;

8 “(iii) provide information on any deci-  
9 sions to revoke or modify such designation  
10 or designations;

11 “(iv) describe research that has been  
12 tasked and completed by each center that  
13 has been designated during the preceding  
14 year;

15 “(v) describe funding provided by the  
16 Secretary for each center under clause (iv)  
17 for that year; and

18 “(vi) describe plans for utilization of  
19 each center or centers in the forthcoming  
20 year.”.



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114<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> Session

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