

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1873

To strengthen accountability for deployment of border security technology at the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 28, 2015

Mr. MCCAIN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To strengthen accountability for deployment of border security technology at the Department of 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 “Border Security Tech-
5 nology Accountability Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. BORDER SECURITY TECHNOLOGY ACCOUNT-**
7 **ABILITY.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle C of title IV of the
9 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 231 et seq.)
10 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

1 **“SEC. 434. BORDER SECURITY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM**
2 **MANAGEMENT.**

3 “(a) **PLANNING DOCUMENTATION.**—Each border se-
4 curity technology acquisition program of the Department
5 with a significant lifecycle cost estimate shall—

6 “(1) have written documentation demonstrating
7 that each such program has an acquisition program
8 baseline approved by the relevant acquisition deci-
9 sion authority; and

10 “(2) demonstrate that each such program is
11 meeting agreed-upon cost, schedule, and perform-
12 ance thresholds, in compliance with the Federal Ac-
13 quisition Regulation.

14 “(b) **ADHERENCE TO STANDARDS.**—The Under Sec-
15 retary for Management, in coordination with the Commis-
16 sioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, shall en-
17 sure border security technology acquisition program man-
18 agers who are responsible for carrying out this section ad-
19 here to relevant internal control standards identified by
20 the Comptroller General of the United States. The Com-
21 missioner shall provide information, as needed, to assist
22 the Under Secretary in monitoring proper program man-
23 agement of border security technology acquisition pro-
24 grams under this section.

25 “(c) **PLAN.**—The Under Secretary for Management,
26 in coordination with the Commissioner of U.S. Customs

1 and Border Protection, shall submit to the appropriate
2 congressional committees a plan for testing and evalua-
3 tion, as well as the use of independent verification and
4 validation resources, for border security technology so that
5 new border security technologies are evaluated through a
6 series of assessments, processes, and audits to ensure the
7 effectiveness of taxpayer dollars.”.

8 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
9 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by in-
10 serting after the item relating to section 433 the following
11 new item:

“Sec. 434. Border security technology program management.”.

12 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION OF**
13 **APPROPRIATIONS.**

14 No additional funds are authorized to be appro-
15 priated to carry out this Act and the amendments made
16 by this Act. This Act and such amendments shall be car-
17 ried out using amounts otherwise available for such pur-
18 poses.

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