

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 655

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Securing the Cities program to enhance the ability of the United States to detect and prevent terrorist attacks and other high consequence events utilizing nuclear or other radiological materials that pose a high risk to homeland security in high-risk urban areas, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 24, 2017

Mr. DONOVAN (for himself, Mr. McCAUL, and Mr. KING of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Securing the Cities program to enhance the ability of the United States to detect and prevent terrorist attacks and other high consequence events utilizing nuclear or other radiological materials that pose a high risk to homeland security in high-risk urban areas, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Securing the Cities
3 Act of 2017”.

4 **SEC. 2. SECURING THE CITIES PROGRAM.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title XIX of the Homeland Secu-
6 rity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 591 et seq.) is amended by
7 adding at the end the following new section:

8 **“SEC. 1908. SECURING THE CITIES PROGRAM.**

9 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director for Domestic
10 Nuclear Detection shall establish the ‘Securing the Cities’
11 (‘STC’) program to enhance the ability of the United
12 States to detect and prevent terrorist attacks and other
13 high consequence events utilizing nuclear or other radio-
14 logical materials that pose a high risk to homeland secu-
15 rity in high-risk urban areas. Through the STC program
16 the Director shall—

17 “(1) assist State, local, tribal, and territorial
18 governments in designing and implementing, or en-
19 hancing existing, architectures for coordinated and
20 integrated detection and interdiction of nuclear or
21 other radiological materials that are out of regu-
22 latory control;

23 “(2) support the development of a region-wide
24 operating capability to detect and report on nuclear
25 and other radioactive materials out of regulatory
26 control;

1 “(3) provide resources to enhance detection,
2 analysis, communication, and coordination to better
3 integrate State, local, tribal, and territorial assets
4 into Federal operations;

5 “(4) facilitate alarm adjudication and provide
6 subject matter expertise and technical assistance on
7 concepts of operations, training, exercises, and alarm
8 response protocols;

9 “(5) communicate with, and promote sharing of
10 information about the presence or detection of nu-
11 clear or other radiological materials among appro-
12 priate Federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial
13 governments, in a manner that ensures transparency
14 with the jurisdictions served by such program;

15 “(6) provide augmenting resources, as appro-
16 priate, enabling State, local, tribal, and territorial
17 governments to sustain and refresh their capabilities
18 developed under the STC program; and

19 “(7) provide any other assistance the Director
20 determines appropriate.

21 “(b) DESIGNATION OF JURISDICTIONS.—In carrying
22 out the program under subsection (a), the Director shall
23 designate jurisdictions from among high-risk urban areas
24 under section 2003, and other cities and regions, as appro-
25 priate.

1 “(c) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—The Director
2 shall notify the Committee on Homeland Security and the
3 Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representa-
4 tives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-
5 ernmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations
6 of the Senate not later than three days before the designa-
7 tion of new jurisdictions under subsection (b) or other
8 changes to participating jurisdictions.”.

9 (b) GAO REPORT.—Not later than one year after the
10 date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
11 of the United States shall submit to the Committee on
12 Homeland Security and the Committee on Appropriations
13 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on
14 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the
15 Committee on Appropriations of the Senate an assess-
16 ment, including an evaluation of the effectiveness, of the
17 Securing the Cities program under section 1908 of the
18 Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by subsection
19 (a) of this section.

20 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
21 in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is
22 amended by inserting after the item relating to section
23 1907 the following new item:

“Sec. 1908. Securing the Cities program.”.

1 **SEC. 3. MODEL EXERCISES.**

2 Not later than 120 days after the date of the enact-
3 ment of this Act, the Director for Domestic Nuclear De-
4 tection of the Department of Homeland Security shall re-
5 port to the Committee on Homeland Security and the
6 Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representa-
7 tives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-
8 ernmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations
9 of the Senate on the feasibility of the Director developing
10 model exercises to test the preparedness of jurisdictions
11 participating in the Securing the Cities program under
12 section 1908 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (as
13 added by section 2 of this Act) in meeting the challenges
14 that may be posed by a range of nuclear and radiological
15 threats.

16 **SEC. 4. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.**

17 No additional funds are authorized to carry out the
18 requirements of this Act and the amendments made by
19 this Act. Such requirements shall be carried out using
20 amounts otherwise authorized.

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