

Calendar No. 351

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**H. R. 4426****[Report No. 117–100]**

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

Received, read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs

APRIL 27, 2022

Reported by Mr. PETERS, without amendment

AN ACT

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to ensure
that the needs of children are considered in homeland
security planning, 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 for Children Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF SECRETARY OF HOMELAND**
2 **SECURITY.**

3 Section 102 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002
4 (6 U.S.C. 112) is amended by adding at the end of the
5 following new subsection:

6 “(h) PLANNING REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary
7 shall ensure the head of each office and component of the
8 Department takes into account the needs of children, in-
9 cluding children within under-served communities, in mis-
10 sion planning and mission execution. In furtherance of
11 this subsection, the Secretary shall require each such head
12 to seek, to the extent practicable, advice and feedback
13 from organizations representing the needs of children. The
14 Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not
15 apply whenever such advice or feedback is sought in ac-
16 cordance with this subsection.”.

17 **SEC. 3. TECHNICAL EXPERT AUTHORIZED.**

18 Paragraph (2) of section 503(b) of the Homeland Se-
19 curity Act (6 U.S.C. 313(b)) is amended—

20 (1) in subparagraph (G), by striking “and” at
21 the end;

22 (2) in subparagraph (H), by striking the period
23 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

24 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
25 paragraph:

1 “(I) identify, integrate, and implement the
2 needs of children, including children within
3 under-served communities, into activities to pre-
4 pare for, protect against, respond to, recover
5 from, and mitigate against the risk of natural
6 disasters, acts of terrorism, and other disasters,
7 including catastrophic incidents, including by
8 appointing a technical expert, who may consult
9 with relevant outside organizations and experts,
10 as necessary, to coordinate such integration, as
11 necessary.”.

12 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

13 Not later than one year after the date of the enact-
14 ment of this Act and annually thereafter for five years,
15 the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the
16 Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on
17 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
18 resentatives and the Committee on Homeland Security
19 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report describ-
20 ing the efforts the Department has undertaken to review
21 and incorporate feedback from organizations representing
22 the needs of children, including children within under-
23 served communities, into Department policy in accordance
24 with subsection (h) of section 102 of the Homeland Secu-

1 rity Act of 2002 (as amended by section 2 of this Act),
2 including information on the following:

3 (1) The designation of any individual respon-
4 sible for carrying out such subsection (h).

5 (2) Any review, formal or informal, of Depart-
6 ment policies, programs, or activities to assess the
7 suitability of such policies, programs, or activities
8 for children and where feedback from organizations
9 representing the needs of children should be re-
10 viewed and incorporated.

11 (3) Any review, change, modification, or pro-
12 mulgation of Department policies, programs, or ac-
13 tivities to ensure that such policies, programs, or ac-
14 tivities are appropriate for children.

15 (4) Coordination with organizations or experts
16 outside the Department pursuant to such subsection
17 (h) conducted to inform any such review, change,
18 modification, or promulgation of such policies, pro-
19 grams, or activities.

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