

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# **S. 3959**

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## **AN ACT**

To require the Transportation Security Administration to streamline the enrollment processes for individuals applying for a Transportation Security Administration security threat assessment for certain programs, including the Transportation Worker Identification Credential and Hazardous Materials Endorsement Threat Assessment programs of the Administration, 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 “Transportation Secu-  
 5       rity Screening Modernization Act of 2024”.

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       In this Act:

8               (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-  
 9       trator” means the Administrator of the Transpor-  
 10      tation Security Administration.

11              (2) HAZMAT ENDORSEMENT.—The term  
 12      “HAZMAT Endorsement” means the Hazardous  
 13      Materials Endorsement Threat Assessment program  
 14      authorized under section 5103a of title 49, United  
 15      States Code.

16              (3) STATE.—The term “State” means each of  
 17      the several States, the District of Columbia, and the  
 18      territories and possessions of the United States.

19              (4) TSA.—The term “TSA” means the Trans-  
 20      portation Security Administration.

21              (5) TWIC.—The term “TWIC” means the  
 22      Transportation Worker Identification Credential au-  
 23      thorized under section 70105 of title 46, United  
 24      States Code.

1 **SEC. 3. STREAMLINING OF APPLICATIONS FOR CERTAIN**  
2 **SECURITY THREAT ASSESSMENT PROGRAMS**  
3 **OF THE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMIN-**  
4 **ISTRATION.**

5 (a) STREAMLINING.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after  
7 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Adminis-  
8 trator shall take such actions as are necessary, in-  
9 cluding issuance of an interim final rule if needed,  
10 to streamline the procedures for individuals applying  
11 for or renewing enrollment in more than one TSA  
12 security threat assessment program, in particular,  
13 the TWIC and HAZMAT Endorsement programs,  
14 and any other credentialing programs as determined  
15 by the Administrator, by—

16 (A) permitting an individual to enroll at  
17 any TSA authorized enrollment center once for  
18 a threat assessment program endorsement and  
19 use the application, including associated biomet-  
20 ric and biographic data, as well as information  
21 generated by TSA's vetting, for one of such  
22 programs to enroll in any other of such pro-  
23 grams;

24 (B) permitting an individual to visit any  
25 TSA authorized enrollment center and enroll in  
26 more than one TSA security threat assessment

1 program at the same time for a fee that is less  
2 than the cumulative fee that would otherwise be  
3 incurred for each such program separately;

4 (C) permitting an individual to undergo a  
5 streamlined and expeditious renewal process;

6 (D) aligning the expiration of an individ-  
7 ual's successful, valid eligibility determination  
8 with the expiration of that individual's eligi-  
9 bility to participate in subsequent TSA security  
10 threat assessment programs to which the indi-  
11 vidual applies;

12 (E) providing to States the expiration  
13 dates for each individual's TSA security threat  
14 assessment to ensure a commercial driver's li-  
15 cense of an individual who holds a HAZMAT  
16 Endorsement does not indicate the individual is  
17 authorized to transport hazardous materials  
18 after the expiration date of the enrollment of  
19 the individual in the HAZMAT Endorsement  
20 security threat assessment program if such  
21 commercial driver's license has an expiration  
22 date that is different from the expiration date  
23 of such enrollment; and

24 (F) enrolling an individual in a subsequent  
25 TSA security threat assessment program at the

1 minimum cost necessary for the TSA to cover  
2 printing, issuance, and case management costs,  
3 costs associated with the collection of any addi-  
4 tional biometric and biographic data in accord-  
5 ance with paragraph (3), and other costs that  
6 are not duplicative.

7 (2) STATE REQUIREMENTS FOR STREAM-  
8 LINING.—Not later than 6 months after the date of  
9 the enactment of this Act, the States shall carry out  
10 the responsibilities of the States pursuant to section  
11 5103a of title 49, United States Code.

12 (3) SPECIAL RULE.—If an individual under this  
13 subsection is at different times applying for or re-  
14 newing enrollment in more than one TSA security  
15 threat assessment program, such individual may be  
16 required to revisit a TSA authorized enrollment cen-  
17 ter for the collection of additional data, such as bio-  
18 metrics, necessary for any such program that were  
19 not so collected in connection with any other such  
20 program.

21 (b) PUBLICATION.—The Administrator shall post on  
22 a publicly available website of the TSA information relat-  
23 ing to the streamlining of the enrollment processes for in-  
24 dividuals applying for more than one TSA security threat  
25 assessment program described in subsection (a).

1       (c) EXPEDITED RULEMAKING.—Notwithstanding  
 2 sections 551 through 559 of title 5, United States Code,  
 3 nothing in this section shall require notice and comment  
 4 rulemaking, and to the extent it is necessary to add addi-  
 5 tional requirements for which limited rulemaking may be  
 6 advisable, the Administrator shall implement such require-  
 7 ments through publication of an interim final rule.

8       (d) BRIEFING.—Not later than 180 days after the  
 9 date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall  
 10 brief Congress on progress made toward the implementa-  
 11 tion of this section.

12 **SEC. 4. ELIMINATING DUPLICATIVE COSTS.**

13       (a) AUDIT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of  
 14 the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the  
 15 United States shall audit the administration of the secu-  
 16 rity threat assessment programs by the TSA and the  
 17 States, including the TWIC and HAZMAT Endorsement  
 18 programs.

19       (b) ELEMENTS.—

20               (1) TSA AUDIT.—In conducting the audit of  
 21 the TSA required by subsection (a), the Comptroller  
 22 General shall—

23                       (A) identify any redundancies and duplica-  
 24 tions in costs and administration of security  
 25 threat assessment programs that if eliminated

1 would not impact national security and any  
2 benefits of eliminating such redundancies and  
3 duplications and improving the experiences for  
4 individuals applying for or renewing enrollment  
5 in more than one TSA security threat assess-  
6 ment program;

7 (B) review the impacts of the implementa-  
8 tion by the TSA of recommendations from pre-  
9 vious studies conducted by the Comptroller  
10 General, including GAO-07-756 and GAO-17-  
11 182, on increasing the efficiency and effective-  
12 ness, and reducing costs, of processing applica-  
13 tions for enrollment and renewal in TSA secu-  
14 rity threat assessment programs;

15 (C) review the findings of the assessment  
16 required by section 1(b) of the Act entitled “An  
17 Act to require the Secretary of Homeland Secu-  
18 rity to prepare a comprehensive security assess-  
19 ment of the transportation security card pro-  
20 gram, and for other purposes”, approved De-  
21 cember 16, 2016 (46 U.S.C. 70105 note; Public  
22 Law 114-278) and determine whether the TSA  
23 has implemented any remedies to redundancies  
24 and duplication identified by that assessment

1 and whether such implementation impacted na-  
2 tional security;

3 (D) determine whether there are unique  
4 challenges rural applicants have with accessing  
5 TSA security threat assessment programs;

6 (E) assess the numbers and locations of  
7 enrollment centers for meeting the needs of  
8 such programs, including determining the ac-  
9 cess provided to rural applicants;

10 (F) identify potential opportunities that  
11 exist to improve the enrollment center oper-  
12 ations of and customer experience with such  
13 programs;

14 (G) identify potential opportunities to har-  
15 monize the enrollment, vetting, and renewal  
16 processes of such programs in which similar in-  
17 formation is collected for similar security threat  
18 assessment processes for different vetted cre-  
19 dentials while not impacting national security;

20 (H) identify other ways the TSA can re-  
21 duce the costs of the TSA security threat as-  
22 sessment programs while not impacting national  
23 security; and



1 (I) review the vetting, application, and en-  
2 rollment processes of each TSA security threat  
3 assessment program.

4 (2) STATE AUDIT.—In conducting the audit of  
5 the States required by subsection (a), the Comp-  
6 troller General shall review—

7 (A) the administration of the HAZMAT  
8 Endorsement program by the States;

9 (B) methods by which the States could  
10 streamline the HAZMAT Endorsement pro-  
11 gram; and

12 (C) any potential barriers States face ad-  
13 ministering TSA security threat assessment  
14 programs for individuals applying to TWIC and  
15 the HAZMAT Endorsement program or individ-  
16 uals that already have a TWIC credential.

17 (c) REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later  
18 than 180 days after the date of the completion of the audit  
19 required by subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the  
20 United States shall submit to the Administrator, the Com-  
21 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the  
22 Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the  
23 House of Representatives a report that includes—

1           (1) a summary and analysis of the costs associ-  
2       ated with the operation and administration of each  
3       individual TSA security threat assessment program;

4           (2) a summary and analysis of the application  
5       and enrollment costs associated with providing an  
6       individual multiple credentials under TSA security  
7       threat assessment programs;

8           (3) an identification of any potential duplicative  
9       processes associated with an applicant applying for,  
10      or the vetting or enrollment by the TSA of an indi-  
11      vidual in, a subsequent or multiple TSA security  
12      threat assessment programs;

13          (4) a breakdown of costs borne by applicants  
14      for current enrollment and renewal processes of such  
15      programs;

16          (5) ways to improve access to such programs,  
17      including for rural applicants;

18          (6) any potential recommendations to the TSA  
19      for reducing costs and streamlining the administra-  
20      tion and operation of each TSA security threat as-  
21      sessment program while not impacting national secu-  
22      rity;

23          (7) any potential recommendations for the TSA  
24      to administer such programs in a way that would  
25      improve national security; and

1           (8) any potential recommendations for ways  
2       States can improve their role in administering the  
3       HAZMAT Endorsement program and streamline the  
4       application process or reduce costs for individuals  
5       seeking multiple transportation security credentials.

6       (d) IMPLEMENTATION.—

7           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after  
8       the date of the receipt of the report required by sub-  
9       section (c), the Administrator shall—

10           (A) implement the recommendations from  
11       such report;

12           (B) provide to the Committee on Com-  
13       merce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-  
14       ate and the Committee on Homeland Security  
15       of the House of Representatives a written noti-  
16       fication detailing—

17           (i) the timeline for implementation of  
18       each recommendation from the report;

19           (ii) justifications for any implementa-  
20       tion timeline lasting longer than 2 years;  
21       and

22           (iii) justifications for recommenda-  
23       tions that the Administrator has declined  
24       to pursue or implement.

1           (2) BRIEFINGS.—Not later than 60 days after  
2           the date of the receipt of the report required by sub-  
3           section (c), and annually thereafter until the date  
4           that the TSA has implemented each recommendation  
5           made in such report, the Administrator shall brief  
6           the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-  
7           portation of the Senate and the Committee on  
8           Homeland Security of the House of Representatives  
9           on the implementation of recommendations from the  
10          report.

        Passed the Senate November 21 (legislative day, No-  
vember 20), 2024.

Attest:

*Secretary.*



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To require the Transportation Security Administration to streamline the enrollment processes for individuals applying for a Transportation Security Administration security threat assessment for certain programs, including the Transportation Worker Identification Credential and Hazardous Materials Endorsement Threat Assessment programs of the Administration, and for other purposes.