

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1625

To establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 6, 2025

Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. GALLEG0) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, 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 “Strategic Homeland
5 Intelligence and Enforcement Legislation to Defend
6 Against the CCP Act” or the “SHIELD Against CCP
7 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. WORKING GROUP TO COUNTER CERTAIN THREATS**
2 **POSED TO THE UNITED STATES BY THE CHI-**
3 **NESE COMMUNIST PARTY.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
7 retary of Homeland Security shall establish in the
8 Department of Homeland Security a working group
9 (in this section referred to as the “Working
10 Group”), which shall carry out the duties specified
11 in subsection (b) relating to countering terrorist, cy-
12 bersecurity, border and port security, and transpor-
13 tation security threats posed to the United States by
14 the Chinese Communist Party.

15 (2) DIRECTOR.—

16 (A) APPOINTMENT.—The head of the
17 Working Group shall be a Director (in this sec-
18 tion referred to as the “Director”), who shall be
19 appointed by the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
20 rity.

21 (B) REPORTING.—The Director shall re-
22 port to the Secretary of Homeland Security re-
23 garding all administrative, operational, and se-
24 curity matters of the Working Group.

1 (3) STAFFING.—The Secretary of Homeland
2 Security shall ensure the Working Group is provided
3 with the following:

4 (A) A sufficient number of employees to
5 perform required duties.

6 (B) Not fewer than one employee dedicated
7 to ensuring compliance with privacy laws and
8 regulations.

9 (4) DETAILEES.—The Working Group may ac-
10 cept and employ detailees with expertise in coun-
11 tering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port secu-
12 rity, and transportation security threats posed by
13 the Chinese Communist Party to the United States,
14 or in related fields, from any element of the intel-
15 ligence community or any other Federal agency the
16 Director determines appropriate, with or without re-
17 imbursement, consistent with applicable laws and
18 regulations regarding such employees.

19 (b) DUTIES.—The Working Group shall carry out the
20 following:

21 (1) Examine, assess, and report upon efforts by
22 the Department of Homeland Security to counter
23 terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security,
24 and transportation security threats posed to the
25 United States by the Chinese Communist Party, in-

cluding efforts to counter the Chinese Communist
Party's—

(A) nontraditional tactics and exploitation
of the United States immigration system
through—

(i) identity theft;

(ii) the immigrant and nonimmigrant
visa processes;

(iii) unlawful border crossings;

(iv) human smuggling; and

(v) human trafficking;

(B) predatory economic and trade prac-
tices, including the trafficking of counterfeit
and pirated goods, the use of forced labor, labor
exploitation for financial gain, customs fraud,
and theft of intellectual property and tech-
nology;

(C) direct or indirect support for
transnational criminal organizations trafficking
in fentanyl, illicit drug precursors, or other con-
trolled substances through—

(i) the United States border;

(ii) international mail shipments; or

(iii) express consignment operations;

and

1 (D) support for illicit financial activity by
2 Chinese Money Laundering Organizations, in-
3 cluding any repatriation to China or any other
4 country of the proceeds derived from the activi-
5 ties described in subparagraphs (A) through
6 (C).

7 (2) Account for the resources of the Depart-
8 ment that are dedicated to programs aimed at coun-
9 tering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port secu-
10 rity, and transportation security threats posed to the
11 United States by the Chinese Communist Party, and
12 any supporting information as to the efficacy of each
13 such program.

14 (3) Build upon existing or ongoing evaluations
15 and avoid unnecessary duplication by reviewing the
16 findings, conclusions, and recommendations of other
17 appropriate working groups, committees, commis-
18 sions, or entities established by the Department re-
19 lated to efforts to counter terrorist, cybersecurity,
20 border and port security, and transportation security
21 threats posed to the United States by the Chinese
22 Communist Party.

23 (4) Identify gaps in policies, processes, and ac-
24 tivities of the Department to respond to terrorist,
25 cybersecurity, border and port security, and trans-

1 portation security threats posed to the United States
2 by the Chinese Communist Party.

3 (5) Facilitate cooperation and coordination
4 among offices and components of the Department on
5 a holistic response to countering terrorist, cybersecu-
6 rity, border and port security, and transportation se-
7 curity threats posed to the United States by the Chi-
8 nese Communist Party.

9 (c) ADDITIONAL DUTY RELATING TO INFORMATION
10 SHARING.—The Working Group shall review, in coordina-
11 tion with the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the De-
12 partment of Homeland Security, information relating to
13 terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and
14 transportation security threats posed to the United States
15 by the Chinese Communist Party that is gathered by Fed-
16 eral, State, local, Tribal, and territorial partners, and the
17 National Network of Fusion Centers, and incorporate such
18 information, as appropriate, into the Working Group’s
19 own information relating to such threats. The Working
20 Group, in coordination with the Office of Intelligence and
21 Analysis, shall also ensure the dissemination to Federal,
22 State, local, Tribal, and territorial partners, and the Na-
23 tional Network of Fusion Centers, of information related
24 to such threats.

25 (d) ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
2 after the date of the enactment of this section and
3 annually thereafter for five years, the Secretary of
4 Homeland Security, in coordination with the Under
5 Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis of the De-
6 partment of Homeland Security, the Director of the
7 Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Director of
8 National Intelligence, shall submit to the appro-
9 priate congressional committees a report that as-
10 sesses terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port secu-
11 rity, and transportation security threats posed to the
12 United States by the Chinese Communist Party dur-
13 ing the immediately preceding 12 months.

14 (2) CONTENTS.—Each assessment under para-
15 graph (1) shall also include the following:

16 (A) A description of the activities and op-
17 erations of the Working Group undertaken pur-
18 suant to subsection (b).

19 (B) Any other matters the Secretary of
20 Homeland Security determines relevant.

21 (3) FORM.—Each assessment under paragraph
22 (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may
23 include a classified annex. The Secretary of Home-
24 land Security shall post on a publicly available

1 website of the Department of Homeland Security the
2 unclassified portion of each assessment.

3 (4) BRIEFING.—Not later than 30 days after
4 the submission of each assessment under paragraph
5 (1), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall pro-
6 vide to the appropriate congressional committees a
7 briefing on such assessment and the progress and
8 challenges of the Working Group.

9 (e) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW.—Not later
10 than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act,
11 the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit
12 to the appropriate congressional committees a report on
13 the implementation of this section.

14 (f) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than
15 one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
16 Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the
17 Director and the Under Secretary for Science and Tech-
18 nology of the Department of Homeland Security, shall, to
19 the extent practicable, carry out research and develop-
20 ment, including operational testing, of technologies and
21 techniques for enhancing the Department's security and
22 situational awareness relating to countering terrorist, cy-
23 bersecurity, border and port security, and transportation
24 security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese
25 Communist Party.

1 (g) IMPLEMENTATION.—All activities carried out
 2 pursuant to this section—

3 (1) shall be carried out in accordance with ap-
 4 plicable constitutional, privacy, civil rights, and civil
 5 liberties protections; and

6 (2) may not infringe upon the lawful exercise of
 7 free speech by United States persons.

8 (h) SUNSET.—The Working Group shall terminate on
 9 the date that is seven years after the establishment of the
 10 Working Group under subsection (a)(1).

11 (i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

12 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
 13 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
 14 mittees” means—

15 (A) in the House of Representatives—

16 (i) the Committee on Homeland Secu-
 17 rity;

18 (ii) the Committee on Ways and
 19 Means;

20 (iii) the Committee on Financial Serv-
 21 ices;

22 (iv) the Committee on the Judiciary;
 23 and

24 (v) the Committee on Foreign Affairs;
 25 and

- 1 (B) in the Senate—
2 (i) the Committee on Homeland Secu-
3 rity and Governmental Affairs;
4 (ii) the Committee on Banking, Hous-
5 ing, and Urban Affairs;
6 (iii) the Committee on Finance;
7 (iv) the Committee on the Judiciary;
8 and
9 (v) the Committee on Foreign Rela-
10 tions.

11 (2) FUSION CENTER.—The term “fusion cen-
12 ter” has the meaning given such term in subsection
13 (k) of section 210A of the Homeland Security Act
14 of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124h).

15 (3) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term
16 “intelligence community” has the meaning given
17 such term in section 3(4) of the National Security
18 Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

19 (4) NATIONAL NETWORK OF FUSION CEN-
20 TERS.—The term “National Network of Fusion Cen-
21 ters” means a decentralized arrangement of fusion
22 centers intended to enhance individual State and
23 urban area fusion centers’ ability to leverage the ca-
24 pabilities and expertise of all such fusion centers for

1 the purpose of enhancing analysis and homeland se-
2 curity information sharing nationally.

3 (5) UNITED STATES PERSONS.—The term
4 “United States person” has the meaning given such
5 term in section 1637(d)(10) of the Carl Levin and
6 Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Au-
7 thorization Act for Fiscal year 2015 (50 U.S.C.
8 1708(d)(10)).

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