

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 3376

To require the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration to establish a pilot project to evaluate the effectiveness of technologies to combat cargo theft, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 4, 2025

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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## A BILL

To require the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration to establish a pilot project to evaluate the effectiveness of technologies to combat cargo theft, 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 “Cargo Security Innova-  
5 tion Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PILOT PROJECT.**

7 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

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

4           (2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-  
5           GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-  
6           gress” means—

7                   (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,  
8                   and Transportation of the Senate; and

9                   (B) the Committee on Transportation and  
10           Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

11          (3) ELIGIBLE CONSORTIUM.—The term “eligi-  
12          ble consortium” means a consortium—

13                   (A) consisting of—

14                           (i) one or more private entities en-  
15                           gaged in transportation (as that term is  
16                           defined in section 13102 of title 49, United  
17                           States Code), such as—

18                                   (I) owners or operators of an  
19                                   intermodal transportation hub or rail  
20                                   yard;

21                                   (II) motor carriers (as that term  
22                                   is defined in section 13102 of title 49,  
23                                   United States Code);

1 (III) rail carriers (as that term is  
2 defined in section 10102 of title 49,  
3 United States Code);

4 (IV) water carriers (as that term  
5 is defined in section 13102 of title 49,  
6 United States Code); and

7 (V) air carriers (as that term is  
8 defined in section 40102 of title 49,  
9 United States Code);

10 (ii) rail police officers (within the  
11 meaning of section 28101 of title 49,  
12 United States Code), if applicable; and

13 (iii) at least 1 State or local law en-  
14 forcement entity; and

15 (B) that, in the determination of the Ad-  
16 ministrator—

17 (i) has the resources and expertise  
18 necessary—

19 (I) to deploy advanced law en-  
20 forcement or cargo security tech-  
21 nologies at a pilot site; and

22 (II) to evaluate the effectiveness  
23 of such a technology at combatting  
24 cargo theft; and

1 (ii) demonstrates capacity for inter-  
2 agency coordination and technology inte-  
3 gration.

4 (4) FOREIGN ENTITY OF CONCERN.—The term  
5 “foreign entity of concern” has the meaning given  
6 that term in section 40207 of the Infrastructure In-  
7 vestment and Jobs Act (42 U.S.C. 18741).

8 (5) INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION HUB.—The  
9 term “intermodal transportation hub” means an air-  
10 port, land port, or seaport at which cargo can be  
11 transferred between different modes of transpor-  
12 tation, including rail.

13 (6) PILOT PROJECT.—The term “pilot project”  
14 means the pilot project established under subsection  
15 (b).

16 (7) PILOT SITE.—The term “pilot site” means  
17 an intermodal transportation hub or rail yard des-  
18 ignated as a pilot site under subsection (c).

19 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator, in con-  
20 sultation with the Secretary of Transportation, shall es-  
21 tablish a pilot project to evaluate the effectiveness of ad-  
22 vanced law enforcement and cargo security technologies  
23 at combatting cargo theft in transit and at and around  
24 intermodal transportation hubs and rail yards with ele-  
25 vated levels of cargo theft, including by providing grants

1 to eligible consortia for the deployment and evaluation of  
2 those technologies.

3 (c) PILOT SITES.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after  
5 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Adminis-  
6 trator shall designate up to 6 intermodal transpor-  
7 tation hubs or rail yards as pilot sites for the deploy-  
8 ment and evaluation of technologies under the pilot  
9 project.

10 (2) PILOT SITE DIVERSITY.—

11 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator  
12 shall ensure geographic and operational diver-  
13 sity of pilot sites.

14 (B) REQUIREMENT.—The Administrator  
15 may designate not more than 1 pilot site in any  
16 State.

17 (3) PROHIBITION ON FOREIGN TECH-  
18 NOLOGIES.—In carrying out the pilot project, the  
19 Administrator may not deploy at any pilot site tech-  
20 nology produced by a foreign entity of concern.

21 (d) GRANTS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Individuals and entities as-  
23 sociated with a pilot site may form an eligible con-  
24 sortium for purposes of pursuing a grant under the  
25 pilot project for such pilot site.

1           (2) GRANT APPLICATIONS.—An eligible consor-  
2       tium desiring a grant under the pilot project shall  
3       submit to the Administrator an application at such  
4       time, in such manner, and containing such informa-  
5       tion as the Administrator may require.

6           (3) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible consortium  
7       may use a grant provided under the pilot project  
8       for—

9                   (A) technology acquisition and deployment;

10                  (B) personnel training and capacity build-  
11       ing;

12                  (C) interoperability with Federal data;

13                  (D) oversight and technical evaluation; and

14                  (E) such other activities as the Adminis-  
15       trator determines necessary.

16       (e) ACCOUNTABILITY.—An eligible consortium that  
17       receives a grant under the pilot project shall maintain  
18       such records as the Administrator may require to facilitate  
19       an effective audit relating to the receipt of the grant, the  
20       use of grant amounts, or outsourcing activities.

21       (f) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date  
22       on which technology is first deployed at a pilot site under  
23       the pilot project, the Administrator shall submit to the ap-  
24       propriate committees of Congress a report that includes—

1           (1) a description of the technologies deployed at  
2           each pilot site as of the date of submission of the  
3           report;

4           (2) an evaluation of the effectiveness of those  
5           technologies in reducing cargo theft;

6           (3) a description of any outcomes or lessons  
7           learned from the deployment and evaluation of those  
8           technologies;

9           (4) a cost-benefit analysis for each of those  
10          technologies;

11          (5) technology-related data generated under the  
12          pilot project in a machine-readable format; and

13          (6) recommendations for scaling or modifying  
14          the pilot project.

15          (g) SUNSET.—For each pilot site, the pilot project  
16          shall terminate on the date that is 3 years after the initial  
17          deployment of technology at that pilot site under the pilot  
18          project.

19          (h) GAO EVALUATION.—Not later than 1 year after  
20          the pilot project is terminated at all pilot sites pursuant  
21          to subsection (g), the Comptroller General of the United  
22          States shall submit to the appropriate committees of Con-  
23          gress a report evaluating the effectiveness of the pilot  
24          project.

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