

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2455

To improve air cargo security.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 12, 2003

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. ANDREWS, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. ETHERIDGE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To improve air cargo security.

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 “Universal Screening  
5 of Air Cargo Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. INSPECTION OF CARGO CARRIED ABOARD PAS-**  
7 **SENGER AIRCRAFT.**

8 Section 44901 of title 49, United States Code, is  
9 amended—

1           (1) by redesignating subsections “(g)” and  
2           “(h)” as subsections “(h)” and “(i)”, respectively;  
3           and

4           (2) by inserting after subsection (f) the fol-  
5           lowing:

6           “(g) AIR CARGO ON PASSENGER AIRCRAFT.—

7           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary of  
8           Border and Transportation Security of the Depart-  
9           ment of Homeland Security shall establish systems  
10          to screen or inspect to ensure the security of all  
11          cargo that is to be transported in passenger aircraft  
12          operated by an air carrier or foreign air carrier in  
13          air transportation or intrastate air transportation.  
14          Such systems shall use equipment, technology, and  
15          personnel to screen and inspect cargo that meet the  
16          same standards established to screen passenger bag-  
17          gage.

18          “(2) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—The Under Sec-  
19          retary shall—

20                 “(A) develop an implementation plan to  
21                 carry out paragraph (1); and

22                 “(B) establish a fee schedule for shippers  
23                 to cover costs associated with carrying out  
24                 paragraph (1) that is similar to the security

1 service fee imposed on passengers under section  
2 44940.

3 “(3) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW  
4 TECHNOLOGIES.—The Under Secretary shall mon-  
5 itor and evaluate the research and development of  
6 effective cargo screening technologies.”.

7 **SEC. 3. AIR CARGO SHIPPING.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 449 of  
9 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the  
10 end the following:

11 **“§ 44922. Regular inspections of air cargo shipping**  
12 **facilities**

13 “The Under Secretary of Border and Transportation  
14 Security of the Department of Homeland Security shall  
15 establish a system for the regular inspection of shipping  
16 facilities for shipments of cargo transported in air trans-  
17 portation or intrastate air transportation to ensure that  
18 appropriate security controls, systems, and protocols are  
19 observed, and shall enter into arrangements with the civil  
20 aviation authorities, or other appropriate officials, of for-  
21 eign countries to ensure that inspections are conducted on  
22 a regular basis at shipping facilities for cargo transported  
23 in air transportation to the United States.”.

24 (b) ADDITIONAL INSPECTORS.—The Under Secretary  
25 of Border and Transportation Security of the Department

1 of Homeland Security may increase the number of inspec-  
2 tors as necessary to implement the requirements of title  
3 49, United States Code, as amended by this Act.

4 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The chapter anal-  
5 ysis for chapter 449 of title 49, United States Code, is  
6 amended by adding at the end the following:

“44922. Regular inspections of air cargo shipping facilities.”.

7 **SEC. 4. TRAINING PROGRAM FOR CARGO HANDLERS.**

8 The Under Secretary of Border and Transportation  
9 Security of the Department of Homeland Security shall  
10 establish a training and evaluation program for any per-  
11 sons that handle air cargo to ensure that the cargo is  
12 properly handled and safeguarded from security breaches.

13 **SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

14 This Act and the amendments made this Act shall  
15 take effect on November 27, 2003 (Thanksgiving Day),  
16 or 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, which-  
17 ever is later.

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