

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4283

To require the Comptroller General to conduct a review of the basic training provided by United States Customs and Border Protection to Border Patrol agents to ensure that this training is being conducted as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 9, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama (for himself, Mr. MEEK of Florida, and Mr. McCAUL of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To require the Comptroller General to conduct a review of the basic training provided by United States Customs and Border Protection to Border Patrol agents to ensure that this training is being conducted as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible.

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 “Review to Ensure High
5 Quality Cost-Effective Training for Border Patrol Agents
6 Act of 2005”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) United States Customs and Border Protec-
4 tion within the Department of Homeland Security is
5 authorized to hire and train 2,000 new Border Pa-
6 trol agents for each of the next five years in order
7 to strengthen security along United States borders.

8 (2) Congress has requested United States Cus-
9 toms and Border Protection to provide information
10 regarding the funding and resource needs of the De-
11 partment to meet this goal. To date, Congress has
12 not received a satisfactory explanation of the costs
13 to train new Border Patrol agents.

14 (3) It is critical to United States security that
15 the Border Patrol has a sufficient number of trained
16 agents on active duty to secure United States bor-
17 ders.

18 (4) It is also critical to the national economy
19 that Border Patrol training and other Federal train-
20 ing programs be as cost-effective as possible.

21 **SEC. 3. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REVIEW.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
23 date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
24 of the United States shall conduct a review of the basic
25 training provided by United States Customs and Border
26 Protection to Border Patrol agents to ensure that this

1 training is being conducted as efficiently and cost-effec-
2 tively as possible.

3 (b) CONTENTS OF REVIEW.—The review shall include
4 the following:

5 (1) An evaluation of the appropriateness of the
6 length and content of the basic training curriculum
7 provided by the Federal Law Enforcement Training
8 Center to new Border Patrol agents.

9 (2) An evaluation of the appropriateness and a
10 detailed breakdown of the costs incurred by United
11 States Customs and Border Protection and the Fed-
12 eral Law Enforcement Training Center to train one
13 new Border Patrol agent.

14 (3) A cost and effectiveness of training com-
15 parison with other similar law enforcement training
16 programs provided by State and local agencies, non-
17 profit organizations, universities, and the private
18 sector.

19 (4) Recommendations to increase the number of
20 Border Patrol agents trained per year, and to reduce
21 the per-agent costs of basic training—

22 (A) through utilization of comparable
23 training programs sponsored by State and local
24 agencies, non-profit organizations, universities,
25 and the private sector;

1 (B) by allowing Border Patrol agents to
2 take proficiency tests, enroll in long distance
3 learning programs, and waive such courses as
4 Spanish language instruction or physical fit-
5 ness; or

6 (C) by any other means the Comptroller
7 General considers appropriate.

8 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the com-
9 pletion of the review required under subsection (a), the
10 Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report
11 containing the findings and recommendations of the re-
12 view.

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