H. R. 5752

To provide for the security of United States passports, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 9, 2008

Mr. Sali (for himself, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Whitfield of Kentucky, Mr. McCotter, Mr. Jones of North Carolina, Mr. Renzi, Mr. Poe, Mr. Deal of Georgia, Mr. Gary G. Miller of California, Mr. Terry, and Ms. Fallin) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To provide for the security of United States passports, 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. FINDINGS.
- 4 Congress finds the following:
- 5 (1) A United States passport is the primary
- 6 document used to denote identity and citizenship for
- 7 United States citizens for international travel.

- 1 (2) United States citizens have an expectation 2 that United States passports will be manufactured 3 and assembled in a secure manner.
 - (3) All United States passports currently incorporate several components manufactured outside the United States.
 - (4) All United States passports manufactured and assembled for United States citizens are currently sent to Thailand for the inlaying of the Radio Frequency Identification Device (RFID) antennae.
 - (5) According to the Government Printing Office (GPO), the "GPO contracts with two suppliers (Gemalto and Infineon), who produce the chip in the e-passport and who subcontract with another vendor to do the inlaying. That subcontractor is an overseas company, who does inlaying and is the only company in the world who met standards required under the RFP.".
 - (6) National security is best served when the manufacture and assembly of United States passports occurs within the borders of the United States.
- 22 SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.
- 23 It is the sense of Congress that—

1	(1) the United States Government must set the
2	highest standards needed to protect the privacy and
3	security of United States passports; and
4	(2) the Department of State must safeguard
5	the security of the United States passport.
6	SEC. 3. DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
7	The Secretary of State shall—
8	(1) when establishing the requirements for
9	physical and security components of United States
10	passports and passport cards, include only such elec-
11	tronic components as are currently manufactured in
12	the United States, or can be manufactured in the
13	United States; and
14	(2) ensure that—
15	(A) all assembly of United States pass-
16	ports occurs only within the borders of the
17	United States; and
18	(B) personalization of permanent United
19	States passports occurs only under the direct
20	supervision of United States Government em-
21	ployees.