

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 136

To expand the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium to include the  
Transportation Technology Center.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 4, 2007

Mr. ALLARD introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred  
to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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## A BILL

To expand the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium  
to include the Transportation Technology Center.

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 “National Domestic  
5       Preparedness Consortium Expansion Act of 2007”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds that—

8               (1) the Transportation Technology Center is a  
9       federally-owned multi-modal testing and training fa-  
10      cility in Pueblo, Colorado;

1           (2) this unique facility offers a significant op-  
2           portunity to enhance technology and training that  
3           will improve the ability of the Nation to prevent,  
4           minimize, and respond to potential terrorist attacks  
5           similar to those which recently occurred in London  
6           and Madrid;

7           (3) the distinctive environment of the Transpor-  
8           tation Technology Center allows testing and training  
9           activities to be carried out at a remote Colorado lo-  
10          cation without disruption to the flow of passenger  
11          and rail traffic in and around urban areas;

12          (4) the Emergency Response Training Center  
13          was established in 1985 at the Transportation Tech-  
14          nology Center to instruct the transportation indus-  
15          try, chemical shippers, fire departments, emergency  
16          responders, and police services how to respond to  
17          hazardous materials incidents safely and effectively;

18          (5) the Emergency Response Training Center is  
19          regarded as the unofficial “graduate school” of haz-  
20          ardous materials training because of the focus on  
21          hands-on, true to life, training exercises on actual  
22          rail vehicles, including tank cars and passenger rail  
23          cars;

24          (6) the Emergency Response Training Center is  
25          uniquely positioned to teach emergency response for

1 railway-related emergencies with 69 railway freight  
2 cars, 15 railroad passenger cars, 25 highway cargo  
3 tanks, van trailers, and intermodal containers, and  
4 computer work stations equipped with the latest  
5 emergency response software;

6 (7) the Passenger Railcar Security and Integ-  
7 rity Training Facility is currently being developed at  
8 Transportation Technology Center to test various in-  
9 spection, response, and remediation techniques effec-  
10 tiveness for mitigation to incidents involving pas-  
11 senger railcars;

12 (8) this facility focuses on chemical, biological,  
13 radiological, nuclear, or explosive incidents and other  
14 activities associated with potential terrorist events;

15 (9) this public private partnership facility offers  
16 a well-established infrastructure, a host of emer-  
17 gency preparedness training experts, and the sup-  
18 port of the American Public Transit Association, the  
19 Association of American Railroads, the Federal Rail-  
20 road Administration, the Federal Transit Authority,  
21 and the Colorado Senate;

22 (10) railroad tunnels and underground stations  
23 have been identified as particularly high-risk targets  
24 for terrorists because of the potential for large pas-  
25 senger volumes, confined spaces, relatively unre-

1       stricted access, and the possibility for network dis-  
 2       ruptions with significant economic, political and so-  
 3       cial impact;

4           (11) security experts have identified a number  
 5       of technology and training needs to prevent attacks  
 6       on tunnels and to mitigate and remediate the con-  
 7       sequences of such attacks, including detection sys-  
 8       tems, dispersal control, and decontamination tech-  
 9       niques; and

10          (12) the National Domestic Preparedness Con-  
 11       sortium does not currently include a facility that is  
 12       uniquely focused on emergency preparedness within  
 13       the railroad and mass transit environment.

14   **SEC. 3. EXPANSION OF THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC PRE-**  
 15       **PAREDNESS CONSORTIUM.**

16       The National Domestic Preparedness Consortium  
 17       shall include the Transportation Technology Center lo-  
 18       cated in Pueblo, Colorado.

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