

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5620

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to make anthrax vaccines and antimicrobials available to emergency response providers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

Mr. KING of New York (for himself and Mr. PASCRELL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to make anthrax vaccines and antimicrobials available to emergency response providers, 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 “First Responder An-
5 thrax Preparedness Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ANTHRAX VACCINATION PROGRAM FOR FIRST RE-**
2 **SPONDERS.**

3 (a) ANTHRAX PREPAREDNESS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Title V of the Homeland Se-
5 curity Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 6 U.S.C.
6 311 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the
7 following new section:

8 **“§ 526. Anthrax preparedness**

9 “(a) VACCINATION PROGRAM FOR FIRST EMER-
10 GENCY RESPONSE PROVIDERS.—For the purpose of do-
11 mestic preparedness for and collective response to ter-
12 rorism, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consulta-
13 tion with the Secretary of Health and Human Services,
14 shall make available surplus vaccines and antimicrobials
15 and vaccines and antimicrobials with short shelf lives,
16 from the strategic national stockpile under section 319F–
17 2(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d–
18 6b(a)) to emergency response providers for administration
19 to such providers who voluntarily consent to such adminis-
20 tration, and shall—

21 “(1) establish any necessary logistical and
22 tracking systems to facilitate making such vaccines
23 and antimicrobials so available; and

24 “(2) distribute disclosures regarding associated
25 risks to end users.

1 “(b) THREAT ASSESSMENT.—The Under Secretary
2 for Intelligence and Analysis shall—

3 “(1) support homeland security-focused risk
4 analysis and risk assessments of the threats posed
5 by anthrax from an act of terror;

6 “(2) leverage existing and emerging homeland
7 security intelligence capabilities and structures to
8 enhance prevention, protection, response, and recovery
9 efforts with respect to an anthrax terror attack;
10 and

11 “(3) share information and provide tailored analytical support on threats posed by anthrax to
12 State, local, and tribal authorities, as well as other
13 national biosecurity and biodefense stakeholders.”.

14 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by inserting at the end of the items relating to title V the
15 following new item:

“Sec. 526. Anthrax preparedness.”.

16 (b) PILOT PROGRAM.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the vaccination program authorized in section 526(a) of the
18 Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by subsection (a), the Secretary shall conduct an 18-month
19 pilot program to administer vaccines and

1 antimicrobials to emergency response providers as so
2 authorized.

3 (2) LOCATION.—In carrying out the pilot pro-
4 gram under this subsection, the Secretary shall se-
5 lect emergency response providers based in at least
6 two States for participation in the pilot program.

7 (3) DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION.—The
8 Secretary shall provide to each emergency response
9 provider who participates in the pilot program under
10 this subsection disclosures and educational materials
11 regarding the associated risks of any vaccine or anti-
12 microbial administered under the pilot program and
13 of exposure to anthrax.

14 (4) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the
15 completion of the pilot program under this sub-
16 section, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee
17 on Homeland Security of the House of Representa-
18 tives and the Committee on Homeland Security and
19 Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the
20 results of the pilot program. The report shall include
21 a plan under which the Secretary plans to continue
22 to make vaccines and antimicrobials available to
23 emergency response providers under section 526(a)
24 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002.

1 (5) DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—The
2 Secretary shall begin implementing the pilot pro-
3 gram under this subsection by not later than the
4 date that is 180 days after the date of the enact-
5 ment of this Act.

○