

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3598

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 3, 2015

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs

AN ACT

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance the partnership between the Department of Homeland Security and the National Network of Fusion Centers, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Fusion Center En-
3 hancement Act of 2015”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FUSION**
5 **CENTER PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 210A of the Homeland
7 Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124h) is amended—

8 (1) by amending the section heading to read as
9 follows:

10 **“SEC. 210A. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FU-**
11 **SION CENTER PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE.”;**

12 (2) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the
13 following new sentence: “Beginning on the date of
14 the enactment of the Fusion Center Enhancement
15 Act of 2015, such Initiative shall be known as the
16 ‘Department of Homeland Security Fusion Center
17 Partnership Initiative.’”;

18 (3) by amending subsection (b) to read as fol-
19 lows:

20 **“(b) INTERAGENCY SUPPORT AND COORDINATION.—**
21 Through the Department of Homeland Security Fusion
22 Center Partnership Initiative, in coordination with prin-
23 cipal officials of fusion centers in the National Network
24 of Fusion Centers and the officers designated as the
25 Homeland Security Advisors of the States, the Secretary
26 shall—

1 “(1) coordinate with the heads of other Federal
2 departments and agencies to provide operational and
3 intelligence advice and assistance to the National
4 Network of Fusion Centers;

5 “(2) support the integration of fusion centers
6 into the information sharing environment;

7 “(3) support the maturation and sustainment
8 of the National Network of Fusion Centers;

9 “(4) reduce inefficiencies and maximize the ef-
10 fectiveness of Federal resource support to the Na-
11 tional Network of Fusion Centers;

12 “(5) provide analytic and reporting advice and
13 assistance to the National Network of Fusion Cen-
14 ters;

15 “(6) review information within the scope of the
16 information sharing environment, including home-
17 land security information, terrorism information,
18 and weapons of mass destruction information, that
19 is gathered by the National Network of Fusion Cen-
20 ters and incorporate such information, as appro-
21 priate, into the Department’s own such information;

22 “(7) provide for the effective dissemination of
23 information within the scope of the information
24 sharing environment to the National Network of Fu-
25 sion Centers;

1 “(8) facilitate close communication and coordi-
2 nation between the National Network of Fusion
3 Centers and the Department and other Federal de-
4 partments and agencies;

5 “(9) provide the National Network of Fusion
6 Centers with expertise on Department resources and
7 operations;

8 “(10) coordinate the provision of training and
9 technical assistance to the National Network of Fu-
10 sion Centers and encourage such fusion centers to
11 participate in terrorism threat-related exercises con-
12 ducted by the Department;

13 “(11) ensure, to the greatest extent practicable,
14 that support for the National Network of Fusion
15 Centers is included as a national priority in applica-
16 ble homeland security grant guidance;

17 “(12) ensure that each fusion center in the Na-
18 tional Network of Fusion Centers has a privacy poli-
19 cy approved by the Chief Privacy Officer of the De-
20 partment and a civil rights and civil liberties policy
21 approved by the Officer for Civil Rights and Civil
22 Liberties of the Department;

23 “(13) coordinate the nationwide suspicious ac-
24 tivity report initiative to ensure information gath-

1 ered by the National Network of Fusion Centers is
2 incorporated as appropriate;

3 “(14) lead Department efforts to ensure fusion
4 centers in the National Network of Fusion Centers
5 are the primary focal points for the sharing of home-
6 land security information, terrorism information,
7 and weapons of mass destruction information with
8 State and local entities to the greatest extent prac-
9 ticable;

10 “(15) develop and disseminate best practices on
11 the appropriate levels for staffing at fusion centers
12 in the National Network of Fusion Centers of quali-
13 fied representatives from State, local, tribal, and ter-
14 ritorial law enforcement, fire, emergency medical,
15 and emergency management services, and public
16 health disciplines, as well as the private sector; and

17 “(16) carry out such other duties as the Sec-
18 retary determines appropriate.”;

19 (4) in subsection (c)—

20 (A) by striking so much as precedes para-
21 graph (3)(B) and inserting the following:

22 “(c) RESOURCE ALLOCATION.—

23 “(1) INFORMATION SHARING AND PERSONNEL
24 ASSIGNMENT.—

1 “(A) INFORMATION SHARING.—The Under
2 Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis shall en-
3 sure that, as appropriate—

4 “(i) fusion centers in the National
5 Network of Fusion Centers have access to
6 homeland security information sharing sys-
7 tems; and

8 “(ii) Department personnel are de-
9 ployed to support fusion centers in the Na-
10 tional Network of Fusion Centers in a
11 manner consistent with the Department’s
12 mission and existing statutory limits.

13 “(B) PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENT.—Depart-
14 ment personnel referred to in subparagraph
15 (A)(ii) may include the following:

16 “(i) Intelligence officers.

17 “(ii) Intelligence analysts.

18 “(iii) Other liaisons from components
19 and offices of the Department, as appro-
20 priate.

21 “(C) MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING.—
22 The Under Secretary for Intelligence and Anal-
23 ysis shall negotiate memoranda of under-
24 standing between the Department and a State
25 or local government, in coordination with the

1 appropriate representatives from fusion centers
2 in the National Network of Fusion Centers, re-
3 garding the exchange of information between
4 the Department and such fusion centers. Such
5 memoranda shall include the following:

6 “(i) The categories of information to
7 be provided by each entity to the other en-
8 tity that are parties to any such memo-
9 randa.

10 “(ii) The contemplated uses of the ex-
11 changed information that is the subject of
12 any such memoranda.

13 “(iii) The procedures for developing
14 joint products.

15 “(iv) The information sharing dispute
16 resolution processes.

17 “(v) Any protections necessary to en-
18 sure the exchange of information accords
19 with applicable law and policies.

20 “(2) SOURCES OF SUPPORT.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Information shared
22 and personnel assigned pursuant to paragraph
23 (1) may be shared or provided, as the case may
24 be, by the following Department components
25 and offices, in coordination with the respective

1 component or office head and in consultation
2 with the principal officials of fusion centers in
3 the National Network of Fusion Centers:

4 “(i) The Office of Intelligence and
5 Analysis.

6 “(ii) The Office of Infrastructure Pro-
7 tection.

8 “(iii) The Transportation Security
9 Administration.

10 “(iv) U.S. Customs and Border Pro-
11 tection.

12 “(v) U.S. Immigration and Customs
13 Enforcement.

14 “(vi) The Coast Guard.

15 “(vii) Other components or offices of
16 the Department, as determined by the Sec-
17 retary.

18 “(B) COORDINATION WITH OTHER FED-
19 ERAL AGENCIES.—The Under Secretary for In-
20 telligence and Analysis shall coordinate with ap-
21 propriate officials throughout the Federal Gov-
22 ernment to ensure the deployment to fusion
23 centers in the National Network of Fusion Cen-
24 ters of representatives with relevant expertise of
25 other Federal departments and agencies.

1 “(3) RESOURCE ALLOCATION CRITERIA.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
3 make available criteria for sharing information
4 and deploying personnel to support a fusion
5 center in the National Network of Fusion Cen-
6 ters in a manner consistent with the Depart-
7 ment’s mission and existing statutory limits.”;
8 and

9 (B) in paragraph (4)(B), in the matter
10 preceding clause (i), by inserting “in which
11 such fusion center is located” after “region”;
12 (5) in subsection (d)—

13 (A) in paragraph (3), by striking “and” at
14 the end;

15 (B) in paragraph (4)—

16 (i) by striking “government” and in-
17 serting “governments”; and

18 (ii) by striking the period at the end
19 and inserting “; and”; and

20 (C) by adding at the end the following new
21 paragraph:

22 “(5) utilize Department information, including
23 information held by components and offices, to de-
24 velop analysis focused on the mission of the Depart-
25 ment under section 101(b).”;

1 (6) in subsection (e)—

2 (A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as
3 follows:

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To the greatest extent
5 practicable, the Secretary shall make it a priority to
6 allocate resources, including deployed personnel,
7 under this section from U.S. Customs and Border
8 Protection, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforce-
9 ment, and the Coast Guard to support fusion centers
10 in the National Network of Fusion Centers located
11 in jurisdictions along land or maritime borders of
12 the United States in order to enhance the integrity
13 of and security at such borders by helping Federal,
14 State, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement
15 authorities to identify, investigate, and otherwise
16 interdict persons, weapons, and related contraband
17 that pose a threat to homeland security.”; and

18 (B) in paragraph (2), in the matter pre-
19 ceding subparagraph (A), by striking “partici-
20 pating State, local, and regional”;

21 (7) in subsection (j)—

22 (A) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” at
23 the end;

24 (B) by redesignating paragraph (5) as
25 paragraph (6); and

1 (C) by inserting after paragraph (4) the
2 following new paragraph:

3 “(5) the term ‘National Network of Fusion
4 Centers’ means a decentralized arrangement of fu-
5 sion centers intended to enhance individual State
6 and urban area fusion centers’ ability to leverage the
7 capabilities and expertise of all fusion centers for the
8 purpose of enhancing analysis and homeland secu-
9 rity information sharing nationally; and”;

10 (8) by striking subsection (k).

11 (b) ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT.—Not later than 1
12 year after the date of the enactment of this Act and annu-
13 ally thereafter through 2022, the Under Secretary for In-
14 telligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland
15 Security shall report to the Committee on Homeland Secu-
16 rity and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
17 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on
18 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Se-
19 lect Committee on Intelligence of the Senate on the efforts
20 of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Depart-
21 ment and other relevant components and offices of the De-
22 partment to enhance support provided to fusion centers
23 in the National Network of Fusion Centers, including
24 meeting the requirements specified in section 210A of the

1 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124h), as
2 amended by subsection (a) of this section.

3 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
4 in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by striking the
5 item relating to section 210A and inserting the following
6 new item:

“Sec. 210A. Department of Homeland Security Fusion Centers Initiative.”.

7 (d) REFERENCE.—Any reference in any law, rule, or
8 regulation to the “Department of Homeland Security
9 State, Local, and Regional Fusion Center Initiative” shall
10 be deemed to be a reference to the “Department of Home-
11 land Security Fusion Center Initiative”.

Passed the House of Representatives November 2,
2015.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,

Clerk.