

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3456

To establish the Office for Partnerships Against Violent Extremism of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2016

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. SCHATZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To establish the Office for Partnerships Against Violent Extremism of the Department of Homeland Security, 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 “Empowering Partners
5 to Counter Violent Extremism Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 Except as otherwise provided in section 8, in this Act:

1 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
2 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
3 mittees” means—

4 (A) the Committee on Homeland Security
5 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

6 (B) the Committee on Homeland Security
7 of the House of Representatives.

8 (2) CENTER FOR HOMELAND SECURITY.—The
9 term “center for homeland security” means a uni-
10 versity-based center the Secretary of Homeland Se-
11 curity designates under section 308(b)(2) of the
12 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C.
13 188(b)(2)).

14 (3) COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM.—The
15 terms “countering violent extremism” and “CVE”
16 mean proactive and relevant actions to—

17 (A) counter recruitment, radicalization,
18 and mobilization to violence; and

19 (B) address the immediate factors that
20 lead to violent extremism and radicalization.

21 (4) COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM LAB.—
22 The terms “Countering Violent Extremism Lab”
23 and “CVE Lab” mean a physical space and aca-
24 demic program at a center for homeland security

1 designated for participating students to develop and
 2 test technology-based or data-driven CVE solutions.

3 (5) DOMESTIC TERRORISM; INTERNATIONAL
 4 TERRORISM.—The terms “domestic terrorism” and
 5 “international terrorism” have the meanings given
 6 those terms in section 2331 of title 18, United
 7 States Code.

8 (6) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
 9 term “institution of higher education” has the
 10 meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher
 11 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

12 (7) OFFICE FOR PARTNERSHIPS AGAINST VIO-
 13 LENT EXTREMISM.—The term “Office for Partner-
 14 ships Against Violent Extremism” means the Office
 15 established under section 104 of the Homeland Se-
 16 curity Act of 2002, as added by section 4(a).

17 (8) PARTICIPATING STUDENT.—The term “par-
 18 ticipating student” means a student participating in
 19 a CVE Lab.

20 (9) RADICALIZATION.—The term “radicaliza-
 21 tion” means the process by which an individual
 22 chooses to facilitate or commit domestic terrorism or
 23 international terrorism.

24 (10) TECHNOLOGY-BASED OR DATA-DRIVEN
 25 CVE SOLUTION.—The term “technology-based or

1 data-driven CVE solution” means an instrument de-
2 veloped by a participating student under section
3 5(b)(1) that—

4 (A) appeals to young consumers of online
5 and social media;

6 (B) counters online recruitment of violent
7 extremists or builds resilience against online ex-
8 tremist recruitment amongst participating stu-
9 dents’ peers; and

10 (C) operates on a technological platform or
11 is technological in nature, including social
12 media campaigns and mobile software applica-
13 tions.

14 (11) VIOLENT EXTREMISM.—The term “violent
15 extremism” means domestic terrorism or inter-
16 national terrorism.

17 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

18 Congress finds and declares the following:

19 (1) Countering violent extremism is not the
20 work of government alone, and countering radicali-
21 zation to violence is frequently best achieved by en-
22 gaging and empowering individuals and groups at
23 the local level to build resilience against violent ex-
24 tremism.

1 (2) The Federal Government must strengthen
2 partnerships and networks among local stakeholders
3 in order to develop tailored programs to counter vio-
4 lent extremists that incorporate local conditions,
5 challenges, and opportunities.

6 (3) The multipronged effort to degrade and de-
7 stroy violent extremist groups must include efforts
8 to counter messaging that can recruit or inspire fol-
9 lowers around the world to join such groups.

10 (4) The ability to rapidly disseminate images
11 and ideas to shape the public narrative makes social
12 media a strategic messaging and recruitment mecha-
13 nism for a variety of different groups, including—

14 (A) human rights and political organiza-
15 tions;

16 (B) governments; and

17 (C) terrorists and insurgent groups.

18 (5) Due to the strategic role the Internet plays
19 in recruitment to terrorist violence, online counter-
20 narratives promoted by nongovernmental peers are
21 most likely to directly reach and resonate with indi-
22 viduals who aspire to become foreign fighters or
23 carry out terrorist attacks.

24 (6) Acts of violent extremism committed in the
25 United States include—

1 (A) the homegrown violent extremist at-
2 tack on June 12, 2016, in Orlando, which killed
3 49 people;

4 (B) the April 19, 1995, anti-government
5 violent extremist bombing of the Federal build-
6 ing in Oklahoma City, which killed 168 people,
7 including 19 children;

8 (C) the November 5, 2009, attack at Fort
9 Hood, inspired by al Qaeda in the Arabian Pe-
10 ninsula, which killed 13 soldiers;

11 (D) the August 5, 2012, White suprema-
12 cist attack on a Sikh place of worship in Oak
13 Creek, Wisconsin, which killed 6 people;

14 (E) the anti-Semitic shootings by a mem-
15 ber of the Ku Klux Klan on April 13, 2014, at
16 a Jewish community center and retirement
17 community in Overland Park, Kansas, which
18 killed 3 people;

19 (F) the November 15, 2015, shooting at
20 an abortion clinic in Colorado Springs, which
21 killed 3 people; and

22 (G) the February 10, 2015, execution of 3
23 American Muslims in Chapel Hill.

24 (7) Former violent extremists can be powerful
25 messengers in debunking terrorist ideologies because

1 they have credibility, and the Department of State
 2 has successfully used defectors in counter-messaging
 3 against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant
 4 (commonly known as “ISIL”).

5 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF THE OFFICE FOR PARTNER-**
 6 **SHIPS AGAINST VIOLENT EXTREMISM OF THE**
 7 **DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title I of the Homeland Security
 9 Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is amended by adding
 10 at the end the following:

11 **“SEC. 104. OFFICE FOR PARTNERSHIPS AGAINST VIOLENT**
 12 **EXTREMISM.**

13 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

14 “(1) the term ‘Assistant Secretary’ means the
 15 Assistant Secretary for Partnerships Against Violent
 16 Extremism designated under subsection (c);

17 “(2) the term ‘communities at risk’ does not in-
 18 clude a community that is determined to be at risk
 19 solely on the basis of race, religious affiliation, or
 20 ethnicity;

21 “(3) the term ‘countering violent extremism’—

22 “(A) means proactive and relevant actions
 23 to—

1 “(i) counter efforts by violent extrem-
 2 ists to radicalize, recruit, and mobilize fol-
 3 lowers to violence; and

4 “(ii) address the conditions that allow
 5 for violent extremist recruitment and
 6 radicalization; and

7 “(B) does not include disruptive actions
 8 that focus on stopping acts of terrorism by indi-
 9 viduals who have already subscribed to violence;

10 “(4) the term ‘covered congressional committee’
 11 means—

12 “(A) the Committee on Homeland Security
 13 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

14 “(B) the Committee on the Judiciary of
 15 the Senate;

16 “(C) the Committee on Homeland Security
 17 of the House of Representatives; and

18 “(D) the Committee on the Judiciary of
 19 the House of Representatives; and

20 “(5) the term ‘violent extremism’ means politi-
 21 cally, racially, or ideologically motivated inter-
 22 national terrorism or domestic terrorism, as those
 23 terms are defined in section 2331 of title 18, United
 24 States Code.

1 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is in the Department
2 an Office for Partnerships Against Violent Extremism.

3 “(c) HEAD OF OFFICE.—The Office shall be headed
4 by an Assistant Secretary for Partnerships Against Vio-
5 lent Extremism, who shall be designated by the Secretary
6 and report directly to the Secretary.

7 “(d) DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY; ASSIGNMENT
8 OF PERSONNEL.—The Secretary shall—

9 “(1) designate a career Deputy Assistant Sec-
10 retary for Partnerships Against Violent Extremism;
11 and

12 “(2) assign permanent staff to, or hire perma-
13 nent staff for, as appropriate, the Office for Part-
14 nerships Against Violent Extremism.

15 “(e) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Assistant Secretary
16 shall be responsible for the following:

17 “(1) Leading the efforts of the Department to
18 counter violent extremism across all the components
19 and offices of the Department that conduct strategic
20 and supportive efforts to counter violent extremism.
21 Such efforts shall include the following:

22 “(A) Partnering with communities to pre-
23 vent violent extremists from targeting members
24 of those communities in the United States for
25 radicalization and recruitment and explore po-

1 tential remedies for Government and non-
2 governmental institutions.

3 “(B) Working with civil society groups and
4 communities to counter violent extremist com-
5 munications, messaging, or recruitment.

6 “(C) In coordination with the Office for
7 Civil Rights and Civil Liberties of the Depart-
8 ment, managing the outreach and engagement
9 efforts of the Department directed toward
10 working with communities to mitigate the risk
11 of radicalization and recruitment for violent ex-
12 tremist activities.

13 “(D) Ensuring that relevant information,
14 research, and products inform efforts to counter
15 violent extremism.

16 “(E) Developing and maintaining Depart-
17 ment-wide strategy, plans, policies, and pro-
18 grams to counter violent extremism. Such plans
19 shall, at a minimum, address each of the fol-
20 lowing:

21 “(i) The Department’s plan to lever-
22 age—

23 “(I) new and existing Internet
24 and other technologies and social
25 media platforms to improve non-

1 governmental efforts to counter vio-
2 lent extremism; and

3 “(II) the best practices and les-
4 sons learned from other Federal,
5 State, local, tribal, territorial, and for-
6 eign partners engaged in similar
7 counter-messaging efforts.

8 “(ii) The Department’s countering
9 violent extremism-related engagement ef-
10 forts.

11 “(iii) The use of cooperative agree-
12 ments with State, local, tribal, territorial,
13 and other Federal departments and agen-
14 cies responsible for efforts relating to
15 countering violent extremism.

16 “(F) Coordinating with the Office for Civil
17 Rights and Civil Liberties of the Department to
18 ensure the activities of the Department related
19 to countering violent extremism fully respect
20 the privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties of all
21 persons.

22 “(G) In coordination with the Under Sec-
23 retary for Science and Technology and in con-
24 sultation with the Under Secretary for Intel-
25 ligence and Analysis, identifying and recom-

1 mending new empirical research and analysis
2 requirements to ensure the dissemination of in-
3 formation and methods for Federal, State,
4 local, tribal, and territorial countering violent
5 extremism practitioners, officials, law enforce-
6 ment officers, and nongovernmental partners to
7 utilize such research and analysis.

8 “(H) Assessing the methods used by vio-
9 lent extremists to disseminate communications
10 and messaging to communities at risk for re-
11 cruitment by violent extremists.

12 “(2) Developing a digital engagement strategy
13 that expands the outreach efforts of the Department
14 to counter violent extremist messaging by—

15 “(A) exploring ways to utilize relevant
16 Internet and other technologies and social
17 media platforms; and

18 “(B) maximizing other resources available
19 to the Department.

20 “(3) Serving as the primary representative of
21 the Department in coordinating countering violent
22 extremism efforts with the CVE Task Force hosted
23 by the Department and with other Federal depart-
24 ments and agencies and nongovernmental organiza-
25 tions.

1 “(4) Serving as the primary Department-level
2 representative in coordinating with the Department
3 of State on international countering violent extre-
4 mism issues.

5 “(5) Providing guidance to the Administrator of
6 the Federal Emergency Management Agency regard-
7 ing the use of grants made to State, local, and tribal
8 governments under sections 2003 and 2004 under
9 the allowable uses guidelines related to countering
10 violent extremism.

11 “(6) Developing a plan to expand philanthropic
12 support for domestic efforts related to countering
13 violent extremism, including by identifying viable
14 community projects and needs for possible philan-
15 thropic support.

16 “(7) Administering the assistance under sub-
17 section (f).

18 “(f) GRANTS TO COUNTER VIOLENT EXTREMISM.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with this
20 subsection, the Assistant Secretary may award
21 grants directly to, or enter into cooperative agree-
22 ments directly with, eligible recipients identified
23 under paragraph (2) to support the efforts of local
24 communities in the United States to counter violent
25 extremism.

1 “(2) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—The Assistant
2 Secretary may, based on need, directly award com-
3 petitive grants to or enter into cooperative agree-
4 ments with—

5 “(A) States;

6 “(B) local governments;

7 “(C) tribal governments;

8 “(D) nonprofit organizations; or

9 “(E) institutions of higher education (as
10 defined in section 101 of the Higher Education
11 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)).

12 “(3) USE OF FUNDS.—Each entity receiving a
13 grant or entering into a cooperative agreement
14 under this subsection shall use the amounts made
15 available under the grant or cooperative agreement
16 for one or more of the following purposes:

17 “(A) To train or exercise for countering
18 violent extremism, including building training
19 or exercise programs designed to improve cul-
20 tural competency and to ensure that commu-
21 nities, government, and law enforcement receive
22 accurate, intelligence-based information about
23 the dynamics of radicalization to violence.

24 “(B) To develop, implement, or expand
25 programs or projects with communities to dis-

1 cuss violent extremism or to engage commu-
2 nities that may be targeted by violent extremist
3 radicalization.

4 “(C) To develop and implement projects
5 that partner with local communities to prevent
6 radicalization to violence.

7 “(D) To develop and implement a com-
8 prehensive model for preventing violent extre-
9 mism in local communities, including existing
10 initiatives of State or local law enforcement
11 agencies and existing mechanisms for engaging
12 the resources and expertise available from a
13 range of social service providers, such as edu-
14 cation administrators, mental health profes-
15 sionals, and religious leaders.

16 “(E) To educate the community about
17 countering violent extremism, including the pro-
18 motion of community-based activities to in-
19 crease the measures taken by the community to
20 counter violent extremism.

21 “(F) To develop or assist social service
22 programs that address root causes of violent ex-
23 tremism and develop, build, or enhance alter-
24 natives for members of local communities that
25 may be targeted by violent extremism.

1 “(G) To develop or enhance State or local
2 government initiatives that facilitate and build
3 overall capacity to address the threats posed by
4 violent extremism.

5 “(H) To leverage emerging and existing
6 social media and Internet platforms to directly
7 and indirectly counter violent extremist commu-
8 nications.

9 “(I) To support such other activities, con-
10 sistent with the purposes of this subsection, as
11 the Assistant Secretary determines appropriate.

12 “(4) GRANT GUIDELINES.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year,
14 before awarding a grant or cooperative agree-
15 ment under this subsection, the Assistant Sec-
16 retary shall develop guidelines published in a
17 notice of funding opportunity that describe—

18 “(i) the process for applying for
19 grants and cooperative agreements under
20 this subsection;

21 “(ii) the criteria that the Secretary
22 will use for selecting recipients based on
23 the need demonstrated by the applicant;
24 and

1 “(iii) the requirements that recipients
2 must follow when utilizing funds under
3 this subsection to conduct training and ex-
4 ercises and otherwise engage local commu-
5 nities regarding countering violent extre-
6 mism.

7 “(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the
8 requirements under subparagraph (A)(iii), the
9 Assistant Secretary shall consider the following:

10 “(i) Training objectives should be
11 clearly defined to meet specific countering
12 violent extremism goals, such as commu-
13 nity engagement, cultural awareness, or
14 community-based policing.

15 “(ii) Engaging diverse communities in
16 the United States to counter violent extre-
17 mism may require working with local
18 grassroots community organizations to de-
19 velop engagement and outreach initiatives.

20 “(iii) Training programs should—

21 “(I) be sensitive to constitutional
22 values, such as protecting funda-
23 mental civil rights and civil liberties,
24 and eschew notions of racial and eth-
25 nic profiling; and

1 “(II) adhere to the standards
2 and ethics of the Department, ensur-
3 ing that the clearly defined objectives
4 are in line with the strategies of the
5 Department to counter violent extre-
6 mism.

7 “(iv) Establishing vetting procedures
8 for self-selected countering violent extre-
9 mism training experts who offer programs
10 that may claim to counter violent extre-
11 mism, but serve to demonize certain indi-
12 viduals or whole cross sections of a com-
13 munity.

14 “(v) Providing a review process to de-
15 termine whether countering violent extre-
16 mism training focuses on community en-
17 gagement and outreach.

18 “(vi) Providing support to law en-
19 forcement agencies to enhance knowledge,
20 skills, and abilities to increase engagement
21 techniques with diverse communities in the
22 United States.

23 “(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
24 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Assist-

1 ant Secretary \$90,000,000 for each fiscal year to
2 carry out this subsection.

3 “(g) ANNUAL REPORT.—During the first fiscal year
4 beginning after the date of enactment of this section, and
5 during each of the next 5 fiscal years, the Assistant Sec-
6 retary shall submit to Congress an annual report on the
7 Office for Partnerships Against Violent Extremism that
8 includes the following:

9 “(1) A description of the status of the pro-
10 grams and policies of the Department for countering
11 violent extremism in the United States, including—

12 “(A) the budget of the Department for
13 countering violent extremism, which shall in-
14 clude an accounting of all funding amounts for
15 all programs, initiatives, and personnel of the
16 Department related to countering violent extre-
17 mism;

18 “(B) the number of full-time employees
19 dedicated to countering violent extremism pro-
20 grams; and

21 “(C) the number of part-time employees
22 supporting countering violent extremism pro-
23 grams.

24 “(2) A description of the efforts of the Office
25 for Partnerships Against Violent Extremism to co-

1 operate with and provide assistance to other Federal
2 departments and agencies.

3 “(3) Qualitative and quantitative metrics for
4 evaluating the success of the programs and policies
5 described in paragraph (1) and the steps taken to
6 evaluate the success of those programs and policies.

7 “(4) An accounting of—

8 “(A) grants awarded by the Department to
9 counter violent extremism; and

10 “(B) all training specifically aimed at
11 countering violent extremism sponsored by the
12 Department.

13 “(5) Details of the optimal level of personnel
14 and funding for the Office for Partnerships Against
15 Violent Extremism.

16 “(6) An analysis of how the Department’s ac-
17 tivities to counter violent extremism correspond and
18 adapt to the threat environment.

19 “(7) A summary of how civil rights and civil
20 liberties are protected in the Department’s activities
21 to counter violent extremism.

22 “(8) An evaluation of the grant program estab-
23 lished under subsection (f), including information on
24 the effectiveness of such grants in countering violent
25 extremism.

1 “(9) A description of how the Office for Part-
 2 nerships Against Violent Extremism has incor-
 3 porated lessons learned from the countering violent
 4 extremism programs and policies of foreign, State,
 5 local, tribal, and territorial governments and stake-
 6 holder communities.

7 “(h) ANNUAL REVIEW.—Not later than 1 year after
 8 the date of enactment of this section, and each year there-
 9 after, the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties of the
 10 Department shall—

11 “(1) conduct a review of the activities of the
 12 Office for Partnerships Against Violent Extremism
 13 to ensure that the activities that relate to countering
 14 violent extremism respect the privacy, civil rights,
 15 and civil liberties of all persons; and

16 “(2) make publicly available on the website of
 17 the Department a report containing the results of
 18 the review conducted under paragraph (1).”.

19 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—
 20 The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Se-
 21 curity Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 116 Stat. 2135)
 22 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section
 23 103 the following:

“Sec. 104. Office for Partnerships Against Violent Extremism.”.

24 (c) SUNSET.—Effective on the date that is 7 years
 25 after the date of enactment of this Act—

1 (1) section 104 of the Homeland Security Act
2 of 2002, as added by subsection (a), is repealed; and

3 (2) the table of contents in section 1(b) of the
4 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–
5 296; 116 Stat. 2135) is amended by striking the
6 item relating to section 104.

7 **SEC. 5. STRATEGY TO COUNTER VIOLENT EXTREMISM IN**
8 **THE UNITED STATES.**

9 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

10 (1) the term “covered congressional committee”
11 means—

12 (A) the Committee on Homeland Security
13 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

14 (B) the Committee on the Judiciary of the
15 Senate;

16 (C) the Committee on Homeland Security
17 of the House of Representatives; and

18 (D) the Committee on the Judiciary of the
19 House of Representatives; and

20 (2) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary
21 of Homeland Security.

22 (b) STRATEGY.—Not later than 90 days after the
23 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit
24 to each covered congressional committee a comprehensive

1 Department of Homeland Security strategy to counter vio-
2 lent extremism in the United States.

3 (c) CONTENTS OF STRATEGY.—The strategy re-
4 quired under subsection (b) shall, at a minimum, address
5 each of the following:

6 (1) The digital engagement effort of the De-
7 partment of Homeland Security, including a plan to
8 leverage new and existing Internet, digital, and other
9 technologies and social media platforms to counter
10 violent extremism, as well as the best practices and
11 lessons learned from other Federal, State, local, trib-
12 al, territorial, nongovernmental, and foreign partners
13 engaged in similar counter-messaging activities.

14 (2) The countering violent extremism-related
15 engagement and outreach activities of the Depart-
16 ment of Homeland Security.

17 (3) The use of cooperative agreements with
18 State, local, tribal, territorial, and other Federal de-
19 partments and agencies responsible for activities re-
20 lating to countering violent extremism.

21 (4) Ensuring all activities related to countering
22 violent extremism adhere to applicable guidance of
23 the Department of Homeland Security and the De-
24 partment of Justice regarding privacy, civil rights,

1 and civil liberties, including safeguards against dis-
2 crimination.

3 (5) The development of qualitative and quan-
4 titative outcome-based metrics to evaluate the pro-
5 grams and policies of the Department of Homeland
6 Security to counter violent extremism.

7 (6) An analysis of the homeland security risk
8 posed by violent extremism based on the threat envi-
9 ronment and empirical data assessing—

10 (A) terrorist activities and incidents; and

11 (B) violent extremist communications, mes-
12 saging, or recruitment.

13 (7) Information on the near-term, mid-term,
14 and long-term risk-based goals of the Department of
15 Homeland Security for countering violent extremism,
16 reflecting the risk analysis conducted under para-
17 graph (6).

18 (d) STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS.—In drafting the
19 strategy required under subsection (b), the Secretary shall
20 consider including the following:

21 (1) Efforts of the Department of Homeland Se-
22 curity to undertake research to improve the under-
23 standing of the Department of Homeland Security
24 of the risk of violent extremism and to identify ways
25 to improve countering violent extremism activities

1 and programs, including outreach, training, and in-
2 formation sharing programs.

3 (2) The opportunities and challenges associated
4 with the establishment of the grant program under
5 section 104(f) of the Homeland Security Act of
6 2002, as added by section 4.

7 (3) The nondiscrimination policies of the De-
8 partment of Homeland Security that relate to coun-
9 tering violent extremism.

10 (4) Efforts of the Department of Homeland Se-
11 curity to help promote community engagement and
12 partnerships to counter violent extremism in further-
13 ance of the strategy.

14 (5) Efforts of the Department of Homeland Se-
15 curity to help increase support for programs and ini-
16 tiatives to counter violent extremism of other Fed-
17 eral, State, local, tribal, territorial, nongovernmental,
18 and foreign partners that are in furtherance of the
19 strategy, and that adhere to all relevant constitu-
20 tional, legal, and privacy protections.

21 (6) Efforts of the Department of Homeland Se-
22 curity to use cooperative agreements with State,
23 local, tribal, territorial, and other Federal depart-
24 ments and agencies responsible for efforts relating to

1 countering violent extremism, and information re-
2 garding the effectiveness of those efforts.

3 (7) Information on oversight mechanisms and
4 protections to ensure that activities and programs
5 carried out under the strategy adhere to all relevant
6 constitutional, legal, and privacy protections.

7 (8) Efforts of the Department of Homeland Se-
8 curity to conduct oversight of all countering violent
9 extremism training and training materials and other
10 resources developed or funded by the Department.

11 (9) Efforts of the Department of Homeland Se-
12 curity to foster transparency by making, to the ex-
13 tent practicable, all regulations, guidance, docu-
14 ments, policies, and training materials publicly avail-
15 able.

16 (e) STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
18 the date on which the Secretary submits the strategy
19 required under subsection (b), the Secretary shall
20 submit to each covered congressional committee an
21 implementation plan for each of the components and
22 offices of the Department of Homeland Security
23 with responsibilities under the strategy.

24 (2) CONTENTS.—The implementation plan re-
25 quired under paragraph (1) shall include an inte-

1 grated master schedule and cost estimate for activi-
 2 ties and programs contained in the implementation
 3 plan, with specificity on how each activity and pro-
 4 gram aligns with near-term, mid-term, and long-
 5 term goals specified in the strategy required under
 6 subsection (b).

7 **SEC. 6. COUNTERING ONLINE RECRUITMENT OF VIOLENT**
 8 **EXTREMISTS.**

9 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF COUNTERING VIOLENT EX-
 10 TREMISM LABS.—In carrying out clause (xv) of section
 11 308(b)(2)(B) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6
 12 U.S.C. 188(b)(2)(B)), as added by subsection (d), the Sec-
 13 retary of Homeland Security, acting through the Under
 14 Secretary for Science and Technology and in coordination
 15 with the Office for Partnerships Against Violent Extre-
 16 mism, may—

- 17 (1) establish one or more CVE Labs; and
- 18 (2) reprioritize grants to centers for homeland
- 19 security to fund each CVE Lab.

20 (b) FUNCTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF COUN-
 21 TERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM LABS.—

- 22 (1) REQUIREMENTS.—The head of an institu-
 23 tion of higher education at which a CVE Lab is es-
 24 tablished shall ensure that the faculty of the CVE
 25 Lab—

1 (A) create a curriculum for participating
2 students to develop and test technology-based
3 or data-driven CVE solutions that—

4 (i) may be drawn from pre-existing
5 curricula or courses at an institution of
6 higher education;

7 (ii) incorporates a CVE orientation
8 program for students participating in the
9 CVE Lab that is informed by cross-cultural
10 communication issues experienced by
11 CVE practitioners; and

12 (iii) incorporates technology-based or
13 data-driven business development curricula;
14

15 (B) invite Federal Government officials to
16 participate in the orientation required under
17 subparagraph (A)(ii);

18 (C) provide each participating student a
19 CVE safety briefing by Federal Government officials
20 during the orientation required under
21 subparagraph (A)(ii) that outlines precautions
22 participating students can take to protect themselves
23 from becoming a target of terrorists; and

1 (D) supervise any deployment of a tech-
2 nology-based or data-driven CVE solution by a
3 participating student.

4 (2) ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS OF COUNTERING
5 VIOLENT EXTREMISM LABS.—The head of an insti-
6 tution of higher education at which a CVE Lab is
7 established shall ensure that the faculty of the CVE
8 Lab, in coordination with the Department of Home-
9 land Security and other appropriate entities includ-
10 ing each CVE Lab—

11 (A) develop a framework for participation
12 and support of other programs that encourage
13 students to develop peer-to-peer solutions for
14 CVE;

15 (B) develop a common inventory of re-
16 search, in conjunction with other university-
17 based centers for homeland security that estab-
18 lish CVE Labs, on core CVE issues to inform
19 CVE Lab curricula in subsequent years; and

20 (C) identify experts in CVE who can apply
21 the technology-based or data-driven CVE solu-
22 tions to target individuals who are susceptible
23 to recruitment to violent extremism.

1 (3) ADMINISTRATION OF CVE LAB.—The head
2 of an institution of higher education at which a CVE
3 Lab is established—

4 (A) may—

5 (i) determine the department and fac-
6 ulty of the institution of higher education
7 that will be responsible for administering
8 the CVE Lab; and

9 (ii) have final approval of which stu-
10 dents will participate in the CVE Lab; and

11 (B) shall ensure that the faculty admin-
12 istering the CVE Lab, additional CVE Lab in-
13 structors and advisors, and participating stu-
14 dents represent an interdisciplinary cross-sec-
15 tion of the institution of higher education, in-
16 cluding disciplines not traditionally associated
17 with counterterrorism.

18 (c) ASSESSMENT AND REPORT.—

19 (1) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
20 date on which a CVE Lab is first established, the
21 head of the institution of higher education at which
22 the CVE Lab is established shall submit to the Sec-
23 retary of Homeland Security and the appropriate
24 congressional committees a report regarding the im-
25 pact of the CVE Lab.

1 (2) ASSESSMENT.—The Secretary of Homeland
 2 Security, acting through the Under Secretary for
 3 Science and Technology and in coordination with the
 4 Office for Partnerships Against Violent Extremism,
 5 shall—

6 (A) commission an independent third-party
 7 assessment of the impact of each CVE Lab;
 8 and

9 (B) not later than 180 days after the date
 10 on which the assessment required under sub-
 11 paragraph (A) is completed, provide the assess-
 12 ment to the appropriate congressional commit-
 13 tees.

14 (d) FUNCTIONS OF CENTERS FOR HOMELAND SECU-
 15 RITY.—Section 308(b)(2)(B) of the Homeland Security
 16 Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 188(b)(2)(B)) is amended by add-
 17 ing at the end the following:

18 “(xv) Countering violent extremism.”.

19 (e) SUNSET.—Effective on the date that is 7 years
 20 after the date of enactment of this Act, subsections (a)
 21 through (d) are repealed.

22 **SEC. 7. PUBLIC TESTIMONIALS FROM FORMER VIOLENT**
 23 **EXTREMISTS.**

24 (a) INCORPORATION OF TESTIMONIALS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland
2 Security and the Secretary of State shall incor-
3 porate, to the extent practicable, into efforts of the
4 Department of Homeland Security and the Depart-
5 ment of State to combat terrorist recruitment and
6 communications the public testimonials of former or
7 estranged violent extremists or their associates, in-
8 cluding friends and family.

9 (2) TYPES OF EFFORTS.—The efforts made
10 under paragraph (1) may include the following:

11 (A) Strategic communications efforts to
12 counter-message the communications and nar-
13 ratives of violent extremists.

14 (B) Related community engagement and
15 public education efforts that have the goal of
16 decreasing recruitment into violent extremist
17 organizations.

18 (b) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of Homeland Se-
19 curity and the Secretary of State shall—

20 (1) where appropriate, coordinate the actions
21 described in subsection (a) with the heads of other
22 Federal departments and agencies; and

23 (2) as appropriate and to the extent practicable,
24 engage nongovernmental and international partners

1 in the identification and use of testimonials de-
2 scribed in subsection (a).

3 (c) REPORTS.—

4 (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 90 days
5 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
6 retary of Homeland Security, in concert with the
7 Secretary of State, shall submit to Congress a report
8 detailing any ways in which existing laws may con-
9 strain or complicate the ability of the Department of
10 Homeland Security or the Department of State to
11 collect testimonials of former or estranged violent
12 extremists or incorporate those testimonials into ef-
13 forts of the applicable Department to combat ter-
14 rorist recruitment and communications, as required
15 under subsection (a).

16 (2) ANNUAL HOMELAND SECURITY REPORT.—
17 The Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to
18 Congress an annual report that includes—

19 (A) qualitative and quantitative metrics for
20 evaluating the success of the efforts of the Sec-
21 retary under subsection (a);

22 (B) a description of the steps taken by the
23 Secretary to evaluate the success of the efforts
24 of the Secretary under subsection (a); and

1 (C) a summary of how the Secretary en-
 2 sures the protection of civil rights and civil lib-
 3 erties in incorporating testimonials under sub-
 4 section (a).

5 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
 6 tion may be construed to require the Secretary of Home-
 7 land Security or the Secretary of State to collect
 8 testimonials directly from former violent extremists or
 9 their associates, including friends and family.

10 **SEC. 8. STUDENTS AGAINST VIOLENT EXTREMISM.**

11 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

12 (1) ISIS.—The term “ISIS” means the Islamic
 13 State of Iraq and Syria, also known as the Islamic
 14 State of Iraq and the Levant.

15 (2) PARTICIPATING STUDENT.—The term “par-
 16 ticipating student” means a student participating
 17 in—

18 (A) a course under the program imple-
 19 mented under subsection (b); or

20 (B) another similar course at an institu-
 21 tion of higher education.

22 (3) TARGET AUDIENCE.—The term “target au-
 23 dience” means an individual or group selected for in-
 24 fluence, whose selection is not made solely due to
 25 race, religion, or ethnic background.

1 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF STUDENTS AGAINST VIO-
2 LENT EXTREMISM PROGRAM.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland
4 Security, acting through the Office for Partnerships
5 Against Violent Extremism, may implement a pro-
6 gram that facilitates groups of students at institu-
7 tions of higher education throughout the world in
8 designing, piloting, implementing, and measuring the
9 success of a social or digital initiative, product, or
10 tool that counters the messaging of international or
11 domestic terrorist organizations communications and
12 narratives as part of, or in addition to, existing
13 countering violent extremism efforts.

14 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The program imple-
15 mented under paragraph (1) shall—

16 (A) be administered by a professor, part
17 time, full time, or adjunct, or other instructor
18 at a participating institution of higher edu-
19 cation who is selected by the institution of high-
20 er education;

21 (B) include the production of peer-appro-
22 priate social and digital media campaigns;

23 (C) be renewed on an annual basis at each
24 participating institution of higher education;
25 and

1 (D) require that each participating institu-
2 tion of higher education adhere to all policies of
3 the program, as determined by the Office for
4 Partnerships Against Violent Extremism, in-
5 cluding—

6 (i) the provision of a faculty mentor
7 for the program; and

8 (ii) the reporting of program metrics
9 to the Office for Partnerships Against Vio-
10 lent Extremism, as requested.

11 (3) TRAINING.—The Office for Partnerships
12 Against Violent Extremism shall coordinate with the
13 Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties of the
14 Department of Homeland Security to ensure that
15 participants in the program implemented under
16 paragraph (1) receive training in order to respect
17 the privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties of all indi-
18 viduals in the program’s target audiences and es-
19 chew notions of racial and ethnic profiling.

20 (c) ASSESSMENT AND REPORT.—

21 (1) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION.—Beginning
22 in the first fiscal year beginning after the date of en-
23 actment of this Act and each fiscal year thereafter
24 until the program described in subsection (b) is im-
25 plemented, the Office for Partnerships Against Vio-

1 lent Extremism shall submit to the appropriate con-
2 gressional committees a report on the status of the
3 implementation of the program.

4 (2) ASSESSMENTS.—Beginning in the first fis-
5 cal year beginning after the date on which the pro-
6 gram described in subsection (b) is implemented and
7 in each of the 4 fiscal years thereafter, the Office for
8 Partnerships Against Violent Extremism shall sub-
9 mit to the appropriate congressional committees a
10 report evaluating the program, which shall include—

11 (A) the number of students participating
12 in the program;

13 (B) the number and names of institutions
14 of higher education that are hosting the pro-
15 gram in the United States and internationally;

16 (C) an evaluation, using empirical evi-
17 dence, of the effectiveness of the program in
18 empowering university students to develop dig-
19 ital content that counters violent extremist mes-
20 saging;

21 (D) the metrics used to evaluate the effec-
22 tiveness of the program in reducing violent ex-
23 tremism;

1 (E) recommendations for improving or ex-
2 panding existing training opportunities and
3 training participation;

4 (F) the criteria used by participating stu-
5 dents to select target audiences; and

6 (G) the raw data reported by the institu-
7 tions of higher education to the Office for Part-
8 nerships Against Violent Extremism under sub-
9 section (b)(2)(D)(ii).

10 (d) SUNSET.—This section shall expire on the date
11 that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

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