

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4577

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 10, 2018

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation

AN ACT

To establish a working group to determine ways to develop
a domestic canine breeding network to produce high
quality explosives detection canines, and for other pur-
poses.

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 “Domestic Explosives
3 Detection Canine Capacity Building Act of 2017”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) **BEHAVIORAL STANDARDS.**—The term “be-
7 havioral standards” means standards for the evalua-
8 tion of explosives detection working canines for cer-
9 tain factors, including canine temperament, work
10 drive, suitability for training, environmental factors
11 used in evaluations, and canine familiarity with nat-
12 ural or man-made surfaces or working conditions
13 relevant to the canine’s expected work area.

14 (2) **MEDICAL STANDARDS.**—The term “medical
15 standards” means standards for the evaluation of
16 explosives detection working canines for certain fac-
17 tors, including canine health, management of hered-
18 ity health conditions, breeding practices, genetics,
19 pedigree, and long-term health tracking.

20 (3) **TECHNICAL STANDARDS.**—The term “tech-
21 nical standards” means standards for the evaluation
22 of explosives detection working canines for certain
23 factors, including canine search techniques, handler-
24 canine communication, detection testing conditions
25 and logistics, and learned explosive odor libraries.

1 **SEC. 3. DOMESTIC CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
3 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Home-
4 land Security, acting through the Administrator of the
5 Transportation Security Administration, shall establish a
6 working group to determine ways to develop a decentral-
7 ized domestic canine breeding network to produce high
8 quality explosives detection canines and modernize canine
9 training standards.

10 (b) WORKING GROUP COMPOSITION.—The working
11 group established under subsection (a) shall be comprised
12 of representatives from the following:

13 (1) The Transportation Security Administra-
14 tion.

15 (2) The Science and Technology Directorate of
16 the Department of Homeland Security.

17 (3) National domestic canine associations with
18 expertise in breeding and pedigree.

19 (4) Universities with expertise related to explo-
20 sives detection canines and canine breeding.

21 (5) Domestic canine breeders and vendors.

22 (c) CHAIRPERSONS.—The Administrator for the
23 Transportation Security Administration shall approve of
24 two individuals from among the representatives of the
25 working group specified in subsection (b) to serve as the
26 Chairpersons of the working group. One such Chairperson

1 shall be from the entities specified in paragraphs (1) and
2 (2) of such subsection, and the other such Chairperson
3 shall be from the entities specified in paragraphs (3), (4),
4 and (5) of such subsection.

5 (d) PRELIMINARY STANDARDS AND RECOMMENDA-
6 TIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the establishment
7 of the working group under subsection (a), such working
8 group shall submit to the Administrator of the Transpor-
9 tation Security Administration preliminary behavioral
10 standards, medical standards, and technical standards for
11 the domestic canine breeding network and canine training
12 described in such subsection, including recommendations
13 on how the Transportation Security Administration can
14 engage stakeholders to further the development of such
15 network and training.

16 (e) STRATEGY.—Not later than 180 days after sub-
17 mission of recommendations to the Administrator of the
18 Transportation Security Administration under subsection
19 (c), the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on
20 Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and
21 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
22 of the Senate a strategy for expanding the domestic canine
23 breeding network described in subsection (a), based on
24 such recommendations.

1 (f) CONSULTATION.—In developing the strategy re-
2 quired under subsection (e), the Administrator of the
3 Transportation Security Administration shall consult with
4 the Under Secretary for Science and Technology of the
5 Department of Homeland Security, the Commissioner for
6 U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the Director of the
7 United States Secret Service, and the heads of other De-
8 partment of Homeland Security components determined
9 appropriate by the Administrator to incorporate, to the ex-
10 tent practicable, mission needs across the Department for
11 an expanded domestic explosives detection canine breeding
12 network that can be leveraged to help meet the Depart-
13 ment’s operational needs.

14 (g) SUNSET.—The working group established under
15 subsection (a) shall terminate on the date that is 2 years
16 after the submission of the strategy required under sub-
17 section (e).

18 **SEC. 4. ACQUIRING BASELINE CAPACITY.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the
20 submission of recommendations to the Administrator of
21 the Transportation Security Administration under section
22 3, the Administrator shall issue baseline behavioral stand-
23 ards, medical standards, and technical standards for ex-
24 plosives detection canines.

1 (b) STANDARDS.—The baseline behavioral standards,
2 medical standards, and technical standards referred to in
3 subsection (a) shall be incorporated, as appropriate, into
4 all statements of work for the Transportation Security Ad-
5 ministration explosives detection canine contracts and re-
6 flect the detection capabilities required to effectively miti-
7 gate terrorist threats. Such standards may be revised by
8 the Administrator of the Transportation Security Admin-
9 istration, as necessary.

10 **SEC. 5. NONAPPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COM-**
11 **MITTEE ACT.**

12 The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)
13 shall not apply to the working group established under this
14 Act.

Passed the House of Representatives January 9,
2018.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk.