

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5822

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 1, 2020

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 establish
an acquisition professional career program, 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 “Homeland Security
3 Acquisition Professional Career Program Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF THE ACQUISITION PROFES-**
5 **SIONAL CAREER PROGRAM.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title VII of the Homeland Secu-
7 rity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341 et seq.) is amended by
8 adding at the end the following new section:

9 **“SEC. 711. ACQUISITION PROFESSIONAL CAREER PRO-**
10 **GRAM.**

11 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
12 Department an acquisition professional career program to
13 develop a cadre of acquisition professionals within the De-
14 partment.

15 “(b) ADMINISTRATION.—The Under Secretary for
16 Management shall administer the acquisition professional
17 career program established pursuant to subsection (a).

18 “(c) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—The Under Sec-
19 retary for Management shall carry out the following with
20 respect to the acquisition professional career program.

21 “(1) Designate the occupational series, grades,
22 and number of acquisition positions throughout the
23 Department to be included in the program and man-
24 age centrally such positions.

1 “(2) Establish and publish on the Department’s
2 website eligibility criteria for candidates to partici-
3 pate in the program.

4 “(3) Carry out recruitment efforts to attract
5 candidates—

6 “(A) from institutions of higher education,
7 including such institutions with established ac-
8 quisition specialties and courses of study, his-
9 torically Black colleges and universities, and
10 Hispanic-serving institutions;

11 “(B) with diverse work experience outside
12 of the Federal Government; or

13 “(C) with military service.

14 “(4) Hire eligible candidates for designated po-
15 sitions under the program.

16 “(5) Develop a structured program comprised
17 of acquisition training, on-the-job experience, De-
18 partment-wide rotations, mentorship, shadowing,
19 and other career development opportunities for pro-
20 gram participants.

21 “(6) Provide, beyond required training estab-
22 lished for program participants, additional special-
23 ized acquisition training, including small business
24 contracting and innovative acquisition techniques
25 training.

1 “(d) REPORTS.—Not later than December 31, 2020,
2 and annually thereafter through 2026, the Secretary shall
3 submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the
4 House of Representatives and the Committee on Home-
5 land Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a
6 report on the acquisition professional career program.
7 Each such report shall include the following information:

8 “(1) The number of candidates approved for
9 the program.

10 “(2) The number of candidates who commenced
11 participation in the program, including generalized
12 information on such candidates’ backgrounds with
13 respect to education and prior work experience, but
14 not including personally identifiable information.

15 “(3) A breakdown of the number of partici-
16 pants hired under the program by type of acquisition
17 position.

18 “(4) A list of Department components and of-
19 fices that participated in the program and informa-
20 tion regarding length of time of each program par-
21 ticipant in each rotation at such components or of-
22 fices.

23 “(5) Program attrition rates and post-program
24 graduation retention data, including information on

1 how such data compare to the prior year’s data, as
2 available.

3 “(6) The Department’s recruiting efforts for
4 the program.

5 “(7) The Department’s efforts to promote re-
6 tention of program participants.

7 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 “(1) HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The
9 term ‘Hispanic-serving institution’ has the meaning
10 given such term in section 502 of the Higher Edu-
11 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101a).

12 “(2) HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND
13 UNIVERSITIES.—The term ‘historically Black col-
14 leges and universities’ has the meaning given the
15 term ‘part B institution’ in section 322(2) of Higher
16 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061(2)).

17 “(3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—
18 The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the
19 meaning given such term in section 101 of the High-
20 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).”.

21 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
22 in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is

- 1 amended by inserting after the item relating to section
- 2 710 the following new item:

“Sec. 711. Acquisition professional career program.”.

Passed the House of Representatives September 30,
2020.

Attest: CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.