

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 44

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR DC SPECIAL OLYMPICS LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN.

On September 27, 2013, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate may jointly designate, the 28th Annual District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run (in this resolution referred to as the “event”) may be run through the Capitol Grounds to carry the Special Olympics torch to honor local Special Olympics athletes.

SEC. 2. RESPONSIBILITY OF CAPITOL POLICE BOARD.

The Capitol Police Board shall take such actions as may be necessary to carry out the event.

SEC. 3. CONDITIONS RELATING TO PHYSICAL PREPARATIONS.

The Architect of the Capitol may prescribe conditions for physical preparations for the event.

SEC. 4. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, in connection with the event.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RIBBLE) and the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RIBBLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on House Concurrent Resolution 44.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

Mr. RIBBLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H. Con. Res. 44 would authorize the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia's Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run that will be held on September 27, 2013.

I would first like to thank Ranking Member NORTON, of the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management, for introducing this resolution, as well as to thank Chairman BARLETTA of the subcommittee for co-sponsoring it.

As in years past, the torch run will be launched from the West Terrace of the U.S. Capitol and will continue through the Capitol Grounds as part of the journey to the annual D.C. Special Olympics Summer Games.

The Special Olympics is an international organization dedicated to enriching the lives of children and adults

with disabilities through athletics and competition. The Law Enforcement Torch Run began in 1981 when the police chief of Wichita, Kansas, saw an urgent need to raise funds for and to increase awareness of the Special Olympics. The Torch Run was then quickly adopted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Today, the Torch Run is the largest grassroots effort that raises funds and awareness for the Special Olympics program. The event in D.C. is one of many law enforcement torch runs throughout the country and across 40 nations.

I support the passage of this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 44, which authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for the 28th Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run, which benefits the District of Columbia Special Olympics.

The torch relay event has traditionally been associated with the summer D.C. Special Olympics, which took place this past May. Each year, approximately 2,500 Special Olympians compete in over a dozen events here in the Nation's Capital, and more than 1 million children and adults with special needs participate in Special Olympic programs worldwide. The Law Enforcement Torch Run has become a truly popular event on Capitol Hill and is an integral part of the fundraising efforts for the D.C. Special Olympics. Nearly 1,500 Law Enforcement Torch Run participants are expected to assemble at the West Terrace of the U.S. Capitol Building on September 27, 2013, for a 2.3-mile run to Fort McNair, which culminates in a picnic and a celebration for all participants.

The Special Olympics of D.C. provides year-round sports and fitness training, health screenings and athletic competition to all children and adults with intellectual disabilities, and it touches thousands of families in D.C. and the region. Participants are involved in basketball, bowling, golf, soccer, tennis, track and field, volleyball, and many other sports programs that address various levels of ability. Best of all, the different programs offered to Special Olympics athletes are always free of charge and are partially supported by the event that we would authorize today.

I am truly pleased to support such a meritorious organization and to support the passage of this resolution, and I ask my colleagues to do the same.

I thank the gentleman for his cooperation in bringing this bill.

As I have no further requests for time, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RIBBLE. This is a terrific event. It's one that every Member of Congress should support, and I encourage the adoption of it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RIBBLE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 44.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. RIBBLE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

WMD INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION SHARING ACT OF 2013

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1542) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish weapons of mass destruction intelligence and information sharing functions of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security and to require dissemination of information analyzed by the Department to entities with responsibilities relating to homeland security, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1542

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “WMD Intelligence and Information Sharing Act of 2013”.

SEC. 2. WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION SHARING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 121 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 210G. WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION SHARING.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security shall—

“(1) support homeland security-focused intelligence analysis of terrorist actors, their claims, and their plans to conduct attacks involving chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear materials against the Nation;

“(2) support homeland security-focused intelligence analysis of global infectious disease, public health, food, agricultural, and veterinary issues;

“(3) support homeland security-focused risk analysis and risk assessments of the homeland security hazards described in paragraphs (1) and (2) by providing relevant quantitative and nonquantitative threat information;

“(4) leverage existing and emerging homeland security intelligence capabilities and structures to enhance prevention, protection, response, and recovery efforts with respect to a chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear attack;

“(5) share information and provide tailored analytical support on these threats to State, local, and tribal authorities as well as other national biosecurity and biodefense stakeholders; and

“(6) perform other responsibilities, as assigned by the Secretary.

“(b) COORDINATION.—Where appropriate, the Office of Intelligence and Analysis shall coordinate with other relevant Department components, others in the Intelligence Community, including the National Counter Proliferation Center, and other Federal, State, local, and tribal authorities, including officials from high-threat areas, and enable such entities to provide recommendations on optimal information sharing mechanisms, including expeditious sharing of classified information, and on how they can provide information to the Department.

“(c) REPORT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall report to the appropriate congressional committees on—

“(A) the intelligence and information sharing activities under subsection (a) and of all relevant entities within the Department to counter the threat from weapons of mass destruction; and

“(B) the Department’s activities in accordance with relevant intelligence strategies.

“(2) ASSESSMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION.—The report shall include—

“(A) a description of methods established to assess progress of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis in implementing this section; and

“(B) such assessment.

“(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and any committee of the House of Representatives or the Senate having legislative jurisdiction under the rules of the House of Representatives or Senate, respectively, over the matter concerned.

“(2) The term ‘Intelligence Community’ has the meaning given that term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 401a(4)).

“(3) The term ‘national biosecurity and biodefense stakeholders’ means officials from the Federal, State, local, and tribal authorities and individuals from the private sector who are involved in efforts to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from a biological attack or other phenomena that may have serious health consequences for the United States, including wide-scale fatalities or infectious disease outbreaks.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by adding at the end of the items relating to such subtitle the following:

“Sec. 210G. Weapons of mass destruction intelligence and information sharing.”

SEC. 3. DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ANALYZED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO STATE, LOCAL, TRIBAL, AND PRIVATE ENTITIES WITH RESPONSIBILITIES RELATING TO HOMELAND SECURITY.

Section 201(d)(8) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 121(d)(8)) is amended by striking “and to agencies of State” and all that follows and inserting “to State, local, tribal, and private entities with such responsibilities, and, as appropriate, to the public, in order to assist in preventing, deterring, or responding to acts of terrorism against the United States.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEEHAN) and the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank Homeland Security Committee Chairman MICHAEL MCCAUL and former Chairman PETER KING, as well as Ranking Member HIGGINS and Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER, for joining me in introducing this bipartisan legislation.

I urge the support for H.R. 1542, the Weapons of Mass Destruction Intelligence and Information Sharing Act of 2013.

The legislation provides important guidance for disseminating WMD—that’s weapons of mass destruction—intelligence information at the Department of Homeland Security. Weapons of mass destruction are considered for the purposes of this act to be chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear weapons.

Mr. Speaker, in 2010, the Congress established the Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism. The Commission was chaired by former Senators Bob Graham and Jim Talent. A principal but, as of yet, unfilled recommendation from the Graham-Talent Commission was to assure that critical collaboration take place—collaboration among Homeland Security intelligence assets and other Federal, State and local partners—in protecting the homeland. It’s time for Congress to do its part right now to ensure that the Nation is meeting its WMD detection and prevention responsibilities in a meaningful way.

Mr. Speaker, when I stood before this body on this bill last year, I had recently returned from the Middle East, and one of the takeaways from the trip was the number of chemical weapons stockpiled in Syria.

□ 1715

I raised the concern that during this extraordinary time of insecurity in the region, these weapons could wind up in the hands of al Qaeda or other terrorists. Since that time, we’ve tragically learned that Bashar al-Assad has indeed used chemical weapons on his own people, and we have the fear and concern of the threat of those who have expressed a desire in Iran to use weapons of mass destruction to assure that Israel does not exist.

Chemical weapons have completely changed the way our military prepares for operations. Just last week, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Martin Dempsey told the Senate Armed Services Committee that the military is preparing for the possibility

of encountering chemical weapons in Syria. The risk of these weapons getting into the hands of terrorists continues to grow, and our military continues to become more vigilant. These risks and the current nature of the threat makes this legislation all the more relevant.

We must be doing more to assure that local and State law enforcement are privy to intelligence that could stop an attack. In fact, the potential for homegrown radicalization has increased, and therefore the need for law enforcement and Federal authorities to work together has increased all the more. I think we’re all aware of the tragic circumstances of the attack in Boston that occurred all too recently. Although the FBI closed its case on Tamerlan Tsarnaev, a Treasury Enforcement Communications System, or TECS, alert was placed on him. It should have immediately pinged Homeland Security and Customs and Border Patrol. Therefore, when Tamerlan traveled to Russia in 2012 and subsequently returned to the U.S. only to set up a jihadist YouTube account, a red flag should have been raised, and Federal, State, and local officials should have been notified.

One of the purposes of this bill is to enhance the communication and collaboration between our Federal intelligence assets, particularly those of Homeland Security, and our Federal, State, and local partners.

Chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear materials can be quite difficult to detect and to prevent. However, the danger they pose is unimaginable. My legislation is with recommendation from the Commission, and it will ensure sustained Department of Homeland Security commitment to facilitate the partnership across the intelligence community and the first responder community.

I urge support for this bill, and reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1542, the WMD Intelligence and Information Sharing Act of 2013.

This bill would strengthen information-sharing at all levels of government regarding chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear terrorist threats.

Since the attacks of September 11, 2001, concerns about an attack on U.S. soil with a weapon of mass destruction or dirty bomb has come into sharp focus. The Director of National Intelligence has stated that the intelligence community remains concerned about the prospect that a terrorist organization or non-state actor could exploit a weapon of mass destruction and, with little or no warning, inflict significant damage to our Nation’s citizens and economy.

The potentially devastating nature of WMD attacks has come into greater focus in recent months. In particular,

there's evidence that chemical weapons were used in the Syrian civil war. Worries persist that in the chaos of this war, dangerous chemical agents could fall into the hands of terrorists or other rogue operators. The prospect that biological and nuclear weapons could fall into the wrong hands is also very concerning.

Recognizing that effective information-sharing is essential to preventing a WMD attack, H.R. 1542 requires the Department of Homeland Security to support homeland security-focused analysis of terrorist actors and their plans to conduct attacks involving chemical, biological, and nuclear materials against the Nation.

This bill requires DHS to coordinate with other components and the intelligence community and other Federal, State, local, and tribal authorities to provide recommendations on information-sharing mechanisms.

Robust partnership between DHS and local law enforcement is critical to enhancing situational awareness with respect to terrorism prevention, including prevention of a WMD attack.

I'm pleased to support this bipartisan bill and would like to acknowledge that the language under consideration today originated in comprehensive WMD legislation authored by my former committee colleague, Representative BILL PASCRELL of New Jersey.

While I support this measure, I would hope that this Congress could move forward on more comprehensive WMD prevention legislation in the very near future.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank the gentleman from Mississippi for his comments, and I also want to recognize, as he does, the great work that was done by Congressman PASCRELL on this issue, as well, here in this House. And when I had the good fortune to begin to do work on the House Homeland Security Committee, it was Congressman PASCRELL who was among those who brought this issue to our attention and the failure or the lack of the ability to see the issues that the Commission put forward be put into place. So I want to thank him for his good work on this issue, as well.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers at this point. So if the gentleman from Mississippi has no further speakers, I'm certainly prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, as I have no further speakers and I am prepared to close, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 1542 today. Enactment of this measure will strengthen the partnership between the Department of Homeland Security and our Nation's first preventers against one of the most vexing homeland security threats, weapons of mass destruction.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank the gentleman from Mississippi, and I want to thank my colleagues for their support of H.R. 1542. This is a vitally important piece of legislation, as has been identified in the earlier comments of the gentleman from Mississippi, and I echo them myself, particularly this concern, as we engage in a world in which the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, particularly those which are chemical weapons, which we do not know whether they may have fallen into the hands of not only Syria, but Libya, as well, creates a heightened sense of need and awareness on the part of those in our intelligence committees to do all to assure there is collaboration on intelligence that they derive in these areas with the partners on the Federal, State, and local levels.

So I urge Members to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEEHAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1542.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 24 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1831

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HOLDING) at 6 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 1542, by the yeas and nays;

H. Con. Res. 44, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

WMD INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION SHARING ACT OF 2013

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1542) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish weapons of mass destruction intelligence and information sharing functions of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security and to require dissemination of information analyzed by the Department to entities with responsibilities relating to homeland security, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEEHAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 388, nays 3, not voting 42, as follows:

[Roll No. 375]

YEAS—388

Aderholt	Collins (NY)	Gibson
Amash	Conaway	Gingrey (GA)
Amodei	Connolly	Gohmert
Andrews	Conyers	Goodlatte
Bachmann	Cook	Gosar
Bachus	Cooper	Gowdy
Barletta	Costa	Granger
Barr	Cotton	Graves (GA)
Barrow (GA)	Courtney	Graves (MO)
Barton	Cramer	Grayson
Bass	Crawford	Green, Al
Beatty	Crenshaw	Green, Gene
Becerra	Crowley	Griffin (AR)
Benishek	Cuellar	Griffith (VA)
Bentivolio	Cummings	Guthrie
Bera (CA)	Daines	Hahn
Bilirakis	Davis, Danny	Hall
Bishop (GA)	Davis, Rodney	Hanabusa
Bishop (NY)	Delaney	Harper
Bishop (UT)	DeLauro	Harris
Black	DelBene	Hartzler
Blackburn	Denham	Hastings (FL)
Blumenauer	Dent	Hastings (WA)
Bonamici	DeSantis	Heck (NV)
Bonner	DesJarlais	Heck (WA)
Boustany	Deutch	Hensarling
Brady (PA)	Diaz-Balart	Himes
Brady (TX)	Dingell	Hinojosa
Bridenstine	Doggett	Holding
Brooks (AL)	Doyle	Honda
Brooks (IN)	Duckworth	Hoyer
Broun (GA)	Duffy	Hudson
Brown (FL)	Duncan (SC)	Huelskamp
Brownley (CA)	Duncan (TN)	Huffman
Buchanan	Edwards	Huizenga (MI)
Burgess	Ellison	Hultgren
Bustos	Enyart	Hurt
Butterfield	Eshoo	Israel
Calvert	Esty	Issa
Camp	Farenthold	Jackson Lee
Cantor	Farr	Jeffries
Capito	Fattah	Jenkins
Capuano	Fincher	Johnson (GA)
Carney	Fitzpatrick	Johnson (OH)
Carson (IN)	Fleischmann	Johnson, E. B.
Cartwright	Fleming	Johnson, Sam
Cassidy	Flores	Jordan
Castor (FL)	Forbes	Joyce
Castro (TX)	Fortenberry	Kaptur
Chabot	Foster	Keating
Chaffetz	Fox	Kelly (IL)
Chu	Frankel (FL)	Kelly (PA)
Cicilline	Franks (AZ)	Kennedy
Clarke	Frelinghuysen	Kildee
Clay	Fudge	Kilmer
Cleaver	Gabbard	Kind
Clyburn	Gallego	King (IA)
Coble	Garcia	King (NY)
Coffman	Gardner	Kinzing (IL)
Cohen	Garrett	Kirkpatrick
Cole	Gerlach	Kline
Collins (GA)	Gibbs	Labrador