

legislation includes matters that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

In order to expedite Floor consideration of H.R. 1302, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will forgo action on this bill. However, this is conditional on our mutual understanding that forgoing consideration of the bill does not prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill or similar legislation that fall within the Committee's Rule X jurisdiction. I appreciate you working with us on the base text of the bill and request you urge the Speaker to name members of the Committee to any conference committee named to consider such provisions.

Please place a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging our jurisdictional interest in the Congressional Record during House Floor consideration of the bill. I look forward to working with the Committee on Homeland Security as the bill moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, March 15, 2017.

Hon. BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SHUSTER: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 1302, the "Terrorist and Foreign Fighter Travel Exercise Act of 2017". I appreciate your support in bringing this legislation before the House of Representatives, and accordingly, understand that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will not seek a sequential referral on the bill.

The Committee on Homeland Security concurs with the mutual understanding that by foregoing a sequential referral of this bill at this time, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure does not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this bill or similar legislation in the future. In addition, should a conference on this bill be necessary, I would support your request to have the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure represented on the conference committee.

I will insert copies of this exchange in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor. I thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 1302, the Terrorist and Foreign Fighter Travel Exercise Act of 2017.

Every day, communities across this country are confronted by evolving threats. Since the beginning of the year, we have seen a number of bomb threats against Jewish Community Centers. A year and a half ago, a 21-year-old White gunman hoping to start a race war opened fire at the Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina, killing nine of its parishioners. The year 2015 went on record as the year with most threats, reports of harassments, and vandalism against mosques in the United States.

In light of the emboldened White nationalist, anti-Semitic, and

antigovernment movements, as well as ongoing threats from abroad, we must ensure that our first responders are prepared to respond to the evolving threats to our great country.

This bill will direct FEMA's national exercise program to design scenarios that include emerging terrorist threats. To be clear, the legislation does not require FEMA's national exercise program to focus exclusively on terrorist threats, but, rather, seeks to ensure that FEMA continues to develop exercises that are responsive to threats as they may emerge.

The bill also requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to carry out exercises related to terrorist threats domestically and abroad.

H.R. 1302 was passed unanimously and approved by the Committee on Homeland Security earlier this month and the full House in the last Congress, in July 2016.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1302 is common-sense legislation that will prepare first responders, as well as State and local government partners, for the challenges that lie ahead.

At this time, when first responder programs are slated for the chopping block under the administration's budget blueprint, it is more important than ever that Congress stand together to support them. Exercises like the ones authorized under this legislation contribute to our preparedness.

As such, I urge Members to support this bill once again.

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

MS. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) on the Committee on Homeland Security for supporting this bill, and I urge the rest of my colleagues to support H.R. 1302.

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

MS. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the House Committee on Homeland Security I rise in support of H.R. 1302, Terrorist and Foreign Fighter Travel Exercise Act of 2017 to require an exercise to terrorist and foreign fighter travel.

This bipartisan bill would expand the scope of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Exercise Program by requiring additional scenarios to address emerging terrorist threats.

Among the scenarios to be included are those involving U.S. citizens enlisting with or providing support to terrorists organizations abroad, as well as terrorist infiltration in the United States.

A nationwide exercise would be held within a year of enactment to evaluate the threat of individuals traveling from the United States to join a terrorist organization.

The exercise would also test scenarios involving terrorist infiltration into the U.S. by United States citizens and foreign nationals.

DHS would coordinate with other federal departments, foreign governments, state and local governments, and the private sector to conduct the exercise.

The growing complexity of the threat may be creating unseen gaps in our defenses, yet

it has been years since any large-scale "stress test" has been conducted against terrorist travel.

Federal officials suspect that Todd Wolfe, an American citizen from Texas, planned to fly his family to Europe where he would meet up with an ISIS handler and take them all to Syria.

In March of 2014, Hanad Abdullahi Mohallim, an American from Minnesota, entered Syria at Tel Abyad and recruited other fellow Somali-Americans in Minnesota to leave the United States and join ISIS.

Also in 2014, Abdi Nur left the U.S. for Syria to join ISIS. He was later reported to have attempted to recruit other men here in the U.S. to join the terrorist organization.

We need to be gravely concerned about Americans leaving the country to train overseas with terrorist organizations who then return to the United States as foreign fighters.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1302.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1302.

The question was taken.

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

MS. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

SECURING OUR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD ACT

MR. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1238) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Health Affairs responsible for coordinating the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security related to food, agriculture, and veterinary defense against terrorism, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1238

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 "Securing our Agriculture and Food Act".

SEC. 2. COORDINATION OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, AND VETERINARY DEFENSE AGAINST TERRORISM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title V of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 311 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 528. COORDINATION OF DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY EFFORTS RELATED TO FOOD, AGRICULTURE, AND VETERINARY DEFENSE AGAINST TERRORISM.

"(a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—The Secretary, acting through the Assistant Secretary for

Health Affairs, shall carry out a program to coordinate the Department's efforts related to defending the food, agriculture, and veterinary systems of the United States against terrorism and other high-consequence events that pose a high risk to homeland security.

“(b) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—The coordination program required by subsection (a) shall include, at a minimum, the following:

“(1) Providing oversight and management of the Department's responsibilities pursuant to Homeland Security Presidential Directive 9-Defense of United States Agriculture and Food.

“(2) Providing oversight and integration of the Department's activities related to veterinary public health, food defense, and agricultural security.

“(3) Leading the Department's policy initiatives relating to food, animal, and agricultural incidents, and the impact of such incidents on animal and public health.

“(4) Leading the Department's policy initiatives relating to overall domestic preparedness for and collective response to agricultural terrorism.

“(5) Coordinating with other Department components, including U.S. Customs and Border Protection, as appropriate, on activities related to food and agriculture security and screening procedures for domestic and imported products.

“(6) Coordinating with appropriate Federal departments and agencies.

“(7) Other activities as determined necessary by the Secretary.

“(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed as altering or superseding the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture relating to food and agriculture.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 527 the following new item:

“Sec. 528. Coordination of Department of Homeland Security efforts related to food, agriculture, and veterinary defense against terrorism.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DONOVAN. 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 New York?

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 1238, the Securing our Agriculture and Food Act, introduced by Congressman DAVID YOUNG of Iowa. This bill seeks to authorize the Department of Homeland Security's food, agriculture, and veterinary defense program within the Office of Health Affairs.

Last year, the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications held a hearing to examine the potential devastating im-

pacts of an intentional attack on, or a natural disruption of, U.S. agricultural or food production systems.

The food and agriculture sector is critically important to our Nation's economy. U.S. food and agriculture accounts for roughly one-fifth of the Nation's economic activity, and contributed \$835 billion to the U.S. gross domestic product in 2014, and is responsible for 1 out of every 12 U.S. jobs.

Coming from Iowa and as a member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Congressman YOUNG of Iowa knows all too well the importance of protecting this sector, which is vital to the economy and our way of life. I appreciate him introducing this bill of which I am pleased to be an original cosponsor.

I thank Chairman WALDEN of the Energy and Commerce Committee and Chairman CONAWAY of the Agriculture Committee for working with us to advance this bill.

Mr. Speaker, we also look forward to working with our Senate colleagues, who recently approved companion legislation without amendment in the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee.

This bipartisan legislation passed the House last September by voice vote, and I urge all Members to join me once again in supporting this bill.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,
Washington, DC, March 16, 2017.

Hon. MICHAEL T. McCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN McCAUL: I write in regard to H.R. 1238, Securing our Agriculture and Food Act, which was referred in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. I wanted to notify you that the Committee will forgo action on the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor for consideration.

The Committee on Energy and Commerce takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 1238, the Committee does not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation and will be appropriately consulted and involved as this or similar legislation moves forward to address any remaining issues within the Committee's jurisdiction. The Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation and asks that you support any such request.

I would appreciate your response confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 1238 and ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in your committee's report on the legislation or the Congressional Record during its consideration on the House floor.

Sincerely,

GREG WALDEN,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, March 16, 2017.

Hon. GREG WALDEN,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN WALDEN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 1238, the “Securing our Agriculture and Food Act.” I appreciate your support in bringing this legislation before the House of Representatives, and accordingly, understand that the Committee on Energy and Commerce will forego consideration of the bill.

The Committee on Homeland Security concurs with the mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration on this bill at this time, the Committee on Energy and Commerce does not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this bill or similar legislation in the future. In addition, should a conference on this bill be necessary, I would support a request by the Committee on Energy and Commerce for conferees on those provisions within your jurisdiction.

I will insert copies of this exchange in the report or in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor. I thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. McCAUL.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, DC, March 10, 2017.

Hon. MICHAEL McCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN McCAUL: Thank you for the opportunity to review H.R. 1238, “Securing our Agriculture and Food Act.” As you are aware, the bill was primarily referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, while the Agriculture Committee received an additional referral.

I recognize and appreciate your desire to bring this legislation before the House in an expeditious manner and, accordingly, I agree to discharge H.R. 1238 from further consideration by the Committee on Agriculture. I do so with the understanding that by discharging the bill, the Committee on Agriculture does not waive any future jurisdictional claim on this or similar matters. Further, the Committee on Agriculture reserves the right to seek the appointment of conferees, if it should become necessary.

I ask that you insert a copy of our exchange of letters into the Congressional Record during consideration of this measure on the House floor.

Thank you for your courtesy in this matter and I look forward to continued cooperation between our respective committees.

Sincerely,

K. MICHAEL CONAWAY,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, March 10, 2017.

Hon. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY,
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CONAWAY: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 1238, the “Securing our Agriculture and Food Act.” I appreciate your support in bringing this legislation before the House of Representatives, and accordingly, understand that the Committee on Agriculture will forego consideration of the bill.

The Committee on Homeland Security concurs with the mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration on this bill at this time, the Committee on Agriculture does not

waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this bill or similar legislation in the future. In addition, should a conference on this bill be necessary, I would support a request by the Committee on Agriculture for conferees on those provisions within your jurisdiction.

I will insert copies of this exchange in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor. I thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 1238, the Securing our Agriculture and Food Act.

Mr. Speaker, U.S. agriculture and agriculture-related business represents about 6 percent of our gross domestic product as of 2014. Protecting this industry, which contributes \$985 billion to our economy, from international and naturally occurring biological events is critical not only to the stability of our national economy, but also to the security of our national food supply and our human health.

This bill would clarify the responsibilities of the Department of Homeland Security's Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs as they relate to the DHS' responsibilities under the Homeland Security Presidential Directive 9, entitled: "The Defense of U.S. Agriculture and Food."

The bill includes language offered by Representative DONALD PAYNE, Jr., my colleague on the committee, directing the Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs to coordinate with all departmental components with responsibilities related to food and agriculture security and screening procedures. Such coordination will include Customs and Border Protection, which has historically struggled to maintain agriculture inspection staffing levels at ports of entry.

Mr. Speaker, agriculture and agriculture-related businesses constitute a major portion of California's economy. Agriculture plays an integral role in industries ranging from transportation and warehousing to finance and insurance, to accommodation and food services.

□ 1245

The cascading effects of national and international outbreaks compromise agriculture, food, and could have devastating effects on the State's economy.

I encourage my colleagues to support this bill to ensure the integrity of our agriculture industry and food supply.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman of the subcommittee for shepherding this through the committee as well as being a cosponsor. I appreciate that.

Mr. Speaker, in 2015, our Nation experienced the worst animal disease outbreak in our history, as highly patho-

genic avian influenza wreaked havoc on turkey farmers and egg producers in the Midwest.

This naturally occurring outbreak revealed significant vulnerabilities and coordination challenges between Federal, State, and local stakeholders in responding quickly to prevent the spread of avian influenza.

It also demonstrated the importance of having mitigation and response strategies and processes in place to ensure any naturally occurring outbreak or coordinated attack against our Nation's agricultural sector can be prevented quickly and be contained.

Maintaining the integrity of our agricultural and food supply system is imperative. The folks I talked to have great concerns about the safety and security of our homeland and our people, and their concerns are warranted.

The reality of living in this day and age is that it is just not the big cities that have to be prepared for a terror attack. All counterterrorism measures must reflect a universal understanding of potential vulnerabilities, which includes our agriculture and rural communities.

Farming and agriculture are not only the backbone of the Iowa economy, but of the entire Nation. Any attack on our food supply could have devastating consequences on our economy and our communities. It is essential that we take the proper steps against potential threats.

Now, the reality is agroterrorism and other high-risk events pose serious threats to our food, agriculture, and livestock industries across the United States. For that reason, I introduced, in a bipartisan fashion, the Securing Our Agriculture and Food Act together with Congressman DAN DONOVAN and Congressman DONALD PAYNE, Jr., the chairman and ranking member of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, to ensure our Nation has a plan and strategy to prepare for and respond to any high-risk event threatening our agricultural sector, our food supply, and, ultimately, our people.

The Securing Our Agriculture and Food Act requires the Secretary of Homeland Security, through the Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, to lead the government's efforts to secure our Nation's food, agriculture, and our veterinary systems against terrorism and high-risk events.

This bipartisan bill also authorizes the Secretary to collaborate with other agencies to ensure food, agriculture, and animal and human health sectors receive the attention and are integrated into the DHS' domestic preparedness policy initiatives.

I appreciate the support of Subcommittee Chairman Donovan—thank you—and Ranking Member PAYNE as we work to better secure our agriculture and food sectors. I thank you both for elevating the importance of this issue.

I also want to thank the chairman and ranking members of the full committee and all their staff for their assistance in bringing this bill to the floor today in the House.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of this bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, Securing Our Agriculture and Food Act passed the House in September of 2016, and the Senate companion bill was reported out of committee last week.

Passage of this measure will send a strong message about our commitment to protecting our Nation's food and agricultural sectors. As such, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1238.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume, and I once again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1238.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1238, "Securing Our Agriculture and Food Act."

This bipartisan bill amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Health Affairs responsible for coordinating the efforts for the DHS related to food, agriculture, and veterinary defense against terrorism.

The coordination program under the measure would include:

1. Overseeing and managing DHS's responsibilities under the presidential directive;
2. Integrating activities related to veterinary public health, food and agriculture security;
3. Leading the department's policy initiatives relating to food, animal, and agriculture incidents, as well as domestic preparedness for and collective response to agricultural terrorism; and
4. Coordinating with other parts of the federal government.

Agro-terrorism is defined as the deliberate introduction of an animal or plant disease for the purpose of generating fear, causing economic losses, or undermining social stability.

Killing livestock and plants or contaminating food can help terrorists cause economic crises in the agriculture and food industries.

Agriculture comprises the largest single sector in U.S. economy, making agro-terrorism an attractive opportunity for many terrorist organizations.

Attacks directed against the cattle, pork, or poultry industries or via the food chain pose the most serious danger for latent, ongoing effects and general socioeconomic and political disruption.

Food availability becomes a matter of immediate life and death in such circumstances, and significant national and global resources need to be dedicated to emergency relief efforts.

Any attacks of agro-terrorism would be particularly devastating for the citizens of Texas.

In Texas, the largest source of agricultural revenue comes from the sale of beef cattle.

Texas produces roughly 20 percent of the nation's cattle and ranks first in the country in the value of cattle raised.

It is crucial that we have preparedness policies in place to quickly respond to events

threatening U.S. agriculture or food production systems.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1238.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I stand in strong support to H.R. 1238, the Securing Our Agriculture and Food Act of 2017.

Our nation's agricultural sector comprises a substantial portion of our economy. In my home state of Georgia, eggs, beef, poultry, peanuts, onions, and many other agricultural commodities allow for agriculture to be an almost \$14 billion industry. Furthermore, the food and fiber industry directly and indirectly results in a total economic impact of tens of billions of dollars annually and the creation of hundreds of thousands of jobs in Georgia. Moreover, agricultural industries serve as a vital backbone to the nutrition and nourishment of both America's citizens and consumers abroad.

Naturally, an industry as critical to the United States' stability as the country's food production must not be compromised by threats of sabotage or acts of terrorism.

Passing this bill will amend portions of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (HSA) to allow the Department of Homeland Security to better protect America's agricultural sector. The reorganization of DHS resources outlined in this bill ensure that proper oversight and management of our nation's agriculture necessary to prevent a devastating attack on our agricultural sector.

The level of bipartisan cooperation and support for the Securing our Agricultural and Food Act reflects the importance of this bill to security and economic interests of American's citizens. The security of our nation's food supplies is not an issue defined by political party, nor is the concern only relevant to rural populations. All American's will suffer if we are unable to ensure the safety of the country's agricultural sector.

This bill provides security to a fundamental and often overlooked area of our economy and existence. We as lawmakers must ensure the preparedness of our Federal government to react to events of ecological sabotage and terrorism.

I strongly urge my colleagues to vote YES on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1238.

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. DONOVAN. 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.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY ACQUISITION INNOVATION ACT

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1365) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require certain acquisition innovation, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1365

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 "Department of Homeland Security Acquisition Innovation Act".

SEC. 2. ACQUISITION INNOVATION.

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

"SEC. 710. ACQUISITION INNOVATION.

"The Under Secretary for Management may—

"(1) designate an individual within the Department to manage acquisition innovation efforts of the Department;

"(2) test emerging acquisition best practices to carrying out acquisitions, consistent with the Federal Acquisition Regulation and Department acquisition management directives, as appropriate;

"(3) develop and distribute best practices and lessons learned regarding acquisition innovation throughout the Department;

"(4) establish metrics to measure the effectiveness of acquisition innovation efforts with respect to cost, operational efficiency of the acquisition program (including time-frame for executing contracts), and collaboration with the private sector, including small businesses; and

"(5) determine impacts of acquisition innovation efforts on the private sector by—

"(A) engaging with the private sector, including small businesses, to provide information and obtain feedback on procurement practices and acquisition innovation efforts of the Department;

"(B) obtaining feedback from the private sector on the impact of acquisition innovation efforts of the Department; and

"(C) incorporating such feedback, as appropriate, into future acquisition innovation efforts of the Department."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 709 the following new item:

"Sec. 710. Acquisition innovation."

(c) INFORMATION.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Secretary of Homeland Security submits the annual budget justification for the Department of Homeland Security for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2022, the Secretary shall, if appropriate, provide information to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate on the activities undertaken in the previous fiscal year in furtherance of section 710 of the Homeland Security Act, as added by subsection (a) of this Act, on the following:

(1) Emerging acquisition best practices that were tested within the Department during such year.

(2) Efforts to distribute best practices and lessons learned within the Department, including through web-based seminars, training, and forums, during such year.

(3) Utilization by components throughout the Department of best practices distributed by the Under Secretary of Management pursuant to paragraph (3) of such section 710.

(4) Performance as measured by the metrics established under paragraph (4) of such section 710.

(5) Outcomes of efforts to distribute best practices and lessons learned within the De-

partment, including through web-based seminars, training, and forums.

(6) Any impacts of the utilization of innovative acquisition mechanisms by the Department on the private sector, including small businesses.

(7) The criteria used to identify specific acquisition programs or activities to be included in acquisition innovation efforts and the outcomes of such programs or activities.

(8) Recommendations, as necessary, to enhance acquisition innovation in the Department.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DONOVAN. 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 materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1365, the Department of Homeland Security Acquisition Innovation Act.

The bill allows DHS to designate a senior official to manage acquisition innovation efforts; test, develop, and distribute acquisition best practices throughout the Department; and establish performance metrics to evaluate the effectiveness of these efforts. Republican amendments at the committee markup strengthened the underlying bill by encouraging DHS to obtain feedback from the private sector and incorporate this feedback into future efforts.

As we have seen from numerous watchdog reports, the Federal Government's acquisition and contracting process is broken, cumbersome, and bureaucratic. DHS must continue to innovate to ensure the private sector can best support our critical homeland security needs. The Department has recently taken positive steps in using new contracting tools and collaborating with industry. This legislation supports those efforts and encourages their continued use.

I commend Oversight and Management Efficiency Subcommittee Ranking Member CORREA for all of his hard work on this legislation.

I urge all Members to join me in supporting this bill.

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

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

I rise in support of H.R. 1365, the Department of Homeland Security Acquisition Innovation Act.

When the Department of Homeland Security was established in 2002, it was understood that the mission of safeguarding the American people would be