

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 697, the Department of Homeland Security Clearance Management and Administration Act.

Mr. Speaker, I want to start off by thanking the chairman of the Counterterrorism and Intelligence Subcommittee, Mr. KING, as well as Chairman McCaul for their support for my bill. I reintroduced H.R. 697, the Department of Homeland Security Clearance Management and Administration Act, to reform how the Department manages its security clearance processes.

This measure, which the House approved by voice vote in November, 2015, specifically addresses how DHS carries out the complex and expensive tasks of, number one, identifying positions that warrant security clearances; number two, investigating candidates for clearances; and number three, administering its clearance adjudications, denials, suspensions, revocations, and appeals processes.

Since September 11, there has been a massive proliferation of classified material across the Federal Government. Along with the enormous growth in classified material holdings has come a sizeable growth in the number of Federal positions requiring security clearances.

H.R. 697 reflects regulations issued by the Office of Personnel Management and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence to help ensure that national security positions are properly designated by Federal agencies. By doing so, agencies can avoid the costly exercise of recruiting, investigating, and hiring individuals at clearance levels and salaries well above what is necessary.

Simply put, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 697 seeks to put DHS on a path to right-sizing the number of classified positions in its workforce. Specifically, my bill directs DHS to ensure that the sensitivity levels of national security positions are designated appropriately across the Department and its components. It also requires the Department's chief security officer to audit national security positions periodically to ensure that such security designations are still appropriate.

Additionally, the bill directs DHS to develop a plan to ensure that adjudications of eligibility for a security clearance are done accurately across the Department. Lastly, Mr. Speaker, in response to growing security threats from data breaches, my bill also provides safeguards for the protection of applicants' personal information.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned, passage of H.R. 697 will help ensure that the Department of Homeland Security takes targeted steps to improve critical aspects of its secured clearance program.

If enacted, H.R. 697 would make DHS a leader among Federal agencies with respect to security clearance and position designation practices.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues' support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I, once again, thank the gentleman and commend him for his leadership on this issue.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 697, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 697.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FUSION CENTER ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2017

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 642) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance the partnership between the Department of Homeland Security and the National Network of Fusion Centers, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 642

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 "Fusion Center Enhancement Act of 2017".

SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FUSION CENTER PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 210A of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124h) is amended—

(1) by amending the section heading to read as follows:

"SEC. 210A. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FUSION CENTER PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE.;"

(2) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following new sentence: "Beginning on the date of the enactment of the Fusion Center Enhancement Act of 2017, such Initiative shall be known as the 'Department of Homeland Security Fusion Center Partnership Initiative'.";

(3) by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) INTERAGENCY SUPPORT AND COORDINATION.—Through the Department of Homeland Security Fusion Center Partnership Initiative, in coordination with principal officials of fusion centers in the National Network of Fusion Centers and the officers designated as the Homeland Security Advisors of the States, the Secretary shall—

"(1) coordinate with the heads of other Federal departments and agencies to provide operational and intelligence advice and assistance to the National Network of Fusion Centers;

"(2) support the integration of fusion centers into the information sharing environment;

"(3) support the maturation and sustainment of the National Network of Fusion Centers;

"(4) reduce inefficiencies and maximize the effectiveness of Federal resource support to the National Network of Fusion Centers;

"(5) provide analytic and reporting advice and assistance to the National Network of Fusion Centers;

"(6) review information within the scope of the information sharing environment, including homeland security information, terrorism information, and weapons of mass destruction information, that is gathered by the National Network of Fusion Centers and incorporate such information, as appropriate, into the Department's own such information;

"(7) provide for the effective dissemination of information within the scope of the information sharing environment to the National Network of Fusion Centers;

"(8) facilitate close communication and coordination between the National Network of Fusion Centers and the Department and other Federal departments and agencies;

"(9) provide the National Network of Fusion Centers with expertise on Department resources and operations;

"(10) coordinate the provision of training and technical assistance to the National Network of Fusion Centers and encourage participating fusion centers to take part in terrorism threat-related exercises conducted by the Department;

"(11) ensure, to the greatest extent practicable, that support for the National Network of Fusion Centers is included as a national priority in applicable homeland security grant guidance;

"(12) ensure that each fusion center in the National Network of Fusion Centers has a privacy policy approved by the Chief Privacy Officer of the Department and a civil rights and civil liberties policy approved by the Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties of the Department;

"(13) coordinate the nationwide suspicious activity report initiative to ensure information gathered by the National Network of Fusion Centers is incorporated as appropriate;

"(14) lead Department efforts to ensure fusion centers in the National Network of Fusion Centers are the primary focal points for the sharing of homeland security information, terrorism information, and weapons of mass destruction information with State, local, tribal, and territorial entities to the greatest extent practicable;

"(15) develop and disseminate best practices on the appropriate levels for staffing at fusion centers in the National Network of Fusion Centers of qualified representatives from State, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement, fire, emergency medical, and emergency management services, and public health disciplines, as well as the private sector; and

"(16) carry out such other duties as the Secretary determines appropriate.";

(4) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking so much as precedes paragraph (3)(B) and inserting the following:

"(c) RESOURCE ALLOCATION.—"

"(1) INFORMATION SHARING AND PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENT.—"

"(A) INFORMATION SHARING.—The Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis shall ensure that, as appropriate—

"(i) fusion centers in the National Network of Fusion Centers have access to homeland security information sharing systems; and

"(ii) Department personnel are deployed to support fusion centers in the National Network of Fusion Centers in a manner consistent with the Department's mission and existing statutory limits.

"(B) PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENT.—Department personnel referred to in subparagraph (A)(ii) may include the following:

"(i) Intelligence officers.

"(ii) Intelligence analysts.

"(iii) Other liaisons from components and offices of the Department, as appropriate.

“(C) MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING.—The Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis shall negotiate memoranda of understanding between the Department and a State or local government, in coordination with the appropriate representatives from fusion centers in the National Network of Fusion Centers, regarding the exchange of information between the Department and such fusion centers. Such memoranda shall include the following:

“(i) The categories of information to be provided by each entity to the other entity that are parties to any such memoranda.

“(ii) The contemplated uses of the exchanged information that is the subject of any such memoranda.

“(iii) The procedures for developing joint products.

“(iv) The information sharing dispute resolution processes.

“(v) Any protections necessary to ensure the exchange of information accords with applicable law and policies.

“(2) SOURCES OF SUPPORT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Information shared and personnel assigned pursuant to paragraph (1) may be shared or provided, as the case may be, by the following Department components and offices, in coordination with the respective component or office head and in consultation with the principal officials of fusion centers in the National Network of Fusion Centers:

“(i) The Office of Intelligence and Analysis.

“(ii) The Office of Infrastructure Protection.

“(iii) The Transportation Security Administration.

“(iv) U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

“(v) U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

“(vi) The Coast Guard.

“(vii) Other components or offices of the Department, as determined by the Secretary.

“(B) COORDINATION WITH OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—The Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis shall coordinate with appropriate officials throughout the Federal Government to ensure the deployment to fusion centers in the National Network of Fusion Centers of representatives with relevant expertise of other Federal departments and agencies.

“(3) RESOURCE ALLOCATION CRITERIA.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make available criteria for sharing information and deploying personnel to support a fusion center in the National Network of Fusion Centers in a manner consistent with the Department’s mission and existing statutory limits.”; and

(B) in paragraph (4)(B), in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting “in which such fusion center is located” after “region”;

(5) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (3), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking “government” and inserting “governments”; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) utilize Department information, including information held by components and offices, to develop analysis focused on the mission of the Department under section 101(b).”;

(6) in subsection (e)—

(A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—To the greatest extent practicable, the Secretary shall make it a priority to allocate resources, including deployed personnel, under this section from

U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the Coast Guard to support fusion centers in the National Network of Fusion Centers located in jurisdictions along land or maritime borders of the United States in order to enhance the integrity of and security at such borders by helping Federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement authorities to identify, investigate, and otherwise interdict persons, weapons, and related contraband that pose a threat to homeland security.”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “participating State, local, and regional fusion centers” and inserting “fusion centers in the National Network of Fusion Centers”;

(7) in subsection (j)—

(A) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (6); and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraph:

“(5) the term ‘National Network of Fusion Centers’ means a decentralized arrangement of fusion centers intended to enhance individual State and urban area fusion centers’ ability to leverage the capabilities and expertise of all fusion centers for the purpose of enhancing analysis and homeland security information sharing nationally; and”; and

(8) by striking subsection (k).

(b) ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter through 2024, the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security shall report to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate on the efforts of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department and other relevant components and offices of the Department to enhance support provided to fusion centers in the National Network of Fusion Centers, including meeting the requirements specified in section 210A of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124h), as amended by subsection (a) of this section.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by striking the item relating to section 210A and inserting the following new item:

“Sec. 210A. Department of Homeland Security Fusion Centers Initiative.”.

(d) REFERENCE.—Any reference in any law, rule, or regulation to the “Department of Homeland Security State, Local, and Regional Fusion Center Initiative” shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Department of Homeland Security Fusion Center Initiative”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in 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. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 642, the Fusion Center Enhancement Act of 2017, introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania, my good friend, Congressman LOU BARLETTA.

The bill before us today, Mr. Speaker, is focused on improving the partnership between the Department of Homeland Security and the National Network of Fusion Centers. The bill amends section 210A of the Homeland Security Act to clarify and enhance partnership between DHS and fusion centers.

As the United States is facing the highest threat environment since 9/11, it is vital that State and local agencies are receiving realtime threat information and have access to Federal intelligence and support. This was a key lesson learned from the 9/11 terror attacks, and, unfortunately, reinforced after the 2012 Boston Marathon bombing. DHS has a legal mandate to assist fusion centers in this effort, and H.R. 642 helps move the ball forward.

The threat of lone wolves inspired by ISIS and other radical Islamist terrorist groups are not deteriorating, and it is critical that there are strong partnerships between the Federal Government and State and local law enforcement agencies. This bill will help the Department and the national network maintain and improve their current partnership.

This bill passed the House last Congress by voice vote, and I am pleased the House is willing to move it again this year.

I want to thank Congressman BARLETTA for leading the committee’s efforts in developing this responsible and commonsense legislation. Congressman BARLETTA’s background as a businessman, city councilman, mayor, and Congressman has left him with a strong commitment to public safety and security.

□ 1445

It has been a pleasure to work with Lou on the Homeland Security Committee, where he was a vocal advocate for information sharing. I urge my colleagues to support this bill to ensure that the partnership between DHS and the national network is strong and agile to protect the United States against the ever-changing terrorism threat.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE,

Washington, DC, January 31, 2017.

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

DEAR CHAIRMAN McCAUL: I write concerning H.R. 642, the Fusion Center Enhancement Act of 2017. This legislation includes

matters that I believe fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

In order to expedite floor consideration of H.R. 642, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure agrees to forgo action on this bill. However, this is conditional on our mutual understanding that forgoing consideration of the bill would 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 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 into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor.

Sincerely,

BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, January 31, 2017.

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

DEAR CHAIRMAN SHUSTER: Thank you for your interest in H.R. 642, the "Fusion Center Enhancement Act of 2017." I appreciate your cooperation in allowing this legislation to move expeditiously before the House of Representatives. I understand that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to the extent it may have a jurisdictional claim, will not seek a sequential referral on the bill; and therefore, there has been no formal determination as to its jurisdiction by the Parliamentarian. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

The Committee on Homeland Security concurs with the mutual understanding that the absence of a decision on this bill at this time does not prejudice any claim the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure may have held or may have on similar legislation in the future.

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.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 642, the Fusion Center Enhancement Act of 2017.

Mr. Speaker, last Congress, the House approved this measure to update the law to reflect the evolution of the Department of Homeland Security's National Network of Fusion Centers.

H.R. 642 clarifies that fusion centers are State and locally owned and operated, and requires the Department's Office of Intelligence and Analysis to provide support to centers in its network by deploying personnel and providing access to timely information.

Importantly, H.R. 642 also adds several new responsibilities to DHS' Under Secretary of Intelligence and Analysis with respect to the grant guidance, nationwide suspicious activity reports, and fusion centers' access to information.

The bill makes several technical changes to existing law to help ensure more information sharing resources are made available to Federal, State, and local law enforcement officials at our National Network of Fusion Centers.

If enacted, H.R. 642 will go a long way to provide States and localities that have invested significant resources in standing up fusion centers with the support they need to keep their communities, and ultimately the Nation, secure.

I urge passage of H.R. 642.

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

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA), the sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. KING of New York for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my legislation, the Fusion Center Enhancement Act of 2017. I thank Mr. KING of New York and Chairman MCCAUL for working with me to introduce this legislation.

The purpose of my bill is to clarify and enhance the partnership between the Department of Homeland Security and the National Network of Fusion Centers. The bill amends the existing statute to update the Department's responsibilities for sharing information with State and local law enforcement and other emergency personnel within the National Network of Fusion Centers.

After the 9/11 terrorist attacks, State and local governments created fusion centers as a way to communicate Federal homeland security information to State and local law enforcement officials, as well as fuse State and locally collected information with Federal intelligence.

Congress supported this partnership by mandating that the Office of Intelligence and Analysis within the Department of Homeland Security coordinate and share information with fusion centers. There are now 78 State and locally owned fusion centers across the country.

I would especially like to recognize the work of the Pennsylvania Criminal Intelligence Center, PaCIC, which is run by the Pennsylvania State Police. In 2015, our fusion center received the Fusion Center of the Year Award from the National Fusion Center Association.

I want to congratulate the men and women working at PaCIC for their commitment to security and public safety. They share vital information with police departments that keep officers and our citizens safe.

PaCIC provides intelligence and information products to over 1,200 local, State, and Federal criminal justice agencies, while also working with over 6,000 private and public center partners to also share information to help protect critical infrastructure and key resources.

Our center has been nationally recognized for their training and compliance with issues of privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties. They produce documents that highlight threats and scams that target Pennsylvanians, and help make sure that local police departments have information on public events, ranging from the Little League World Series to the visit of Pope Francis.

A significant amount of progress has been made by States and fusion centers within the national network to improve information sharing and analytic support. Many centers, including PaCIC, provide all crime, all hazard support. They also maintain a focus on our homeland security missions, including protecting critical information and sharing suspicious activity reporting.

H.R. 642 recognizes the progress and focuses on enhancing the Department of Homeland Security's responsibility to support, share information, and coordinate with fusion centers. This includes improving coordination with other Federal departments that provide better operational intelligence, reduce inefficiencies, and coordinate nationwide suspicious activity reporting.

As a member of the Homeland Security Committee and a former mayor, I have heard concerns raised by law enforcement in my district and elsewhere about the lack of information and coordination from several DHS component agencies, including ICE and CBP. To address this issue, I included language in this bill to direct the Department to ensure that each component is providing information and personnel to work with fusion centers.

To address the need for better accountability, language is included throughout the bill requiring DHS to coordinate with fusion centers and State Homeland Security Advisers in carrying out the assigned responsibilities.

Additionally, there is a requirement for the Department to submit a report to Congress on their efforts, including the components to support fusion centers, and specifically report on how they are meeting the requirements that are set forth in this bill.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill so that we can add important requirements and accountability in how the Department of Homeland Security interacts and shares information with key State and local stakeholders.

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

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL).

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 642, the Fusion Center Enhancement Act.

I spent the last 2 years traveling across the State of Kansas, and was reminded time and time again that national security is a top-three issue for my residents.

Why is this?

After years of turmoil and the lack of strong American leadership, people in Kansas no longer feel safe.

This legislation that my colleague from Pennsylvania has introduced will ensure that those on the front lines of protecting our Nation's citizens have access to the critical information they need to evaluate threats to protect our national security.

Fusion centers conduct analyses and facilitate information sharing, which are necessary and fundamental actions that assist State and local law enforcement in preventing and responding to crime and terrorism.

Just this last week I had the opportunity to go back to meet with staff and visit the Kansas Threat Integration Center in Topeka, Kansas. I can assure you the work they are doing is vital to our national security and the citizens of my State. They are leveraging partnerships with the private sector and focused on protecting our critical infrastructure.

I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 642.

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

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to express my support for this bill. I urge passage of H.R. 642, the Fusion Center Enhancement Act of 2017, which, if enacted, would send the message that Congress values the investment that States and localities have made to address the challenges of a post-9/11 world and stand with DHS in supporting the National Network of Fusion Centers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 642.

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

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge support of the gentleman's bill. I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 642 in order to bolster the information sharing environment within the Department of Homeland Security and between the Department and State and local stakeholders.

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 New York (Mr. KING) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 642.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COUNTERTERRORISM ADVISORY BOARD ACT OF 2017

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 526) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish in the Department of Homeland Security a board to coordinate and integrate departmental intelligence, activities, and

policy related to counterterrorism, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 526

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 "Counterterrorism Advisory Board Act of 2017".

SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY COUNTERTERRORISM ADVISORY BOARD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—At the end of subtitle A of title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 121 et seq.) insert the following new section:

"SEC. 210G. DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION ON COUNTERTERRORISM.

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is in the Department a board to be composed of senior representatives of departmental operational components and headquarters elements. The purpose of the board shall be to coordinate and integrate departmental intelligence, activities, and policy related to the counterterrorism mission and functions of the Department.

"(b) CHARTER.—There shall be a charter to govern the structure and mission of the board. Such charter shall direct the board to focus on the current threat environment and the importance of aligning departmental counterterrorism activities under the Secretary's guidance. The charter shall be reviewed and updated every four years, as appropriate.

"(c) MEMBERS.—

"(1) CHAIR.—The Secretary shall appoint a Coordinator for Counterterrorism within the Department who will serve as the chair of the board.

"(2) ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.—The Secretary shall appoint additional members of the board from among the following:

"(A) The Transportation Security Administration.

"(B) United States Customs and Border Protection.

"(C) United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

"(D) The Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"(E) The Coast Guard.

"(F) United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

"(G) The United States Secret Service.

"(H) The National Protection and Programs Directorate.

"(I) The Office of Operations Coordination.

"(J) The Office of the General Counsel.

"(K) The Office of Intelligence and Analysis.

"(L) The Office of Policy.

"(M) The Science and Technology Directorate.

"(N) Other Departmental offices and programs as determined appropriate by the Secretary.

"(d) MEETINGS.—The board shall meet on a regular basis to discuss intelligence and coordinate ongoing threat mitigation efforts and departmental activities, including coordination with other Federal, State, local, tribal, territorial, and private sector partners, and shall make recommendations to the Secretary.

"(e) TERRORISM ALERTS.—The board shall advise the Secretary on the issuance of terrorism alerts pursuant to section 203 of this Act.

"(f) PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—No additional funds are authorized to carry out this section."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is

amended by inserting after the item relating to section 210F the following new item:

"Sec. 210G. Departmental coordination on counterterrorism."

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary, acting through the Coordinator for Counterterrorism, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the status and activities of the board established under section 210G of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by subsection (a).

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

Mr. Speaker, nearly 16 years after September 11th, our country continues to face the persistent threat of terrorism. From ISIS to al Qaeda, radical groups continue to target the United States and our way of life. Last year alone, we saw more than 131 plots by ISIS alone against the West.

As terrorists continue to evolve, this body must ensure that the security measures in place to protect the United States and its citizens adapt to meet these threats.

Faced with the most dangerous threat environment since 9/11, the Department of Homeland Security needs to continue to focus on its core mission of protecting Americans from these threats in an increasingly expeditious manner. I am proud that this body is working to continue to strengthen our national security by debating the bill before us today.

H.R. 526, the Counterterrorism Advisory Board Act of 2017, will help integrate intelligence, operations, and policy decisions to ensure the Department of Homeland Security remains adaptable, while eliminating waste and duplication. This same bill was introduced last year and passed the House by overwhelming majority.

Mr. Speaker, with open investigations in all 50 States and more than 119 arrests, this body must continue to take action to protect our homeland. Further, these threats will likely expand as foreign fighters flee places like Raqqa and Mosul.

Mr. Speaker, the world is witnessing the greatest convergence of radical Islamic threats in its history. More than 40,000 jihadists fighters, many of whom came from the West, have traveled to