

The bill also assesses the feasibility of linking compatible security technology utilized by the United States and international allies in order to augment screening checkpoints. The coordinated collaboration is an essential element of strengthening global security.

Currently, technical standards for safety and operating procedures at the international airports are set by international agreements. However, the standards in place are generally broad, leaving potential vulnerabilities through inconsistencies with international partners.

On a recent congressional delegation trip that I appreciated the chairman including me on to review screening procedures for inbound travel to the United States at major EU hubs, I was startled by the lack of consistency in international standards and gaps in technology that support precautionary measures to ensure passenger safety.

Today's bill—and I appreciate the work of the committee, and I thank you for making it an even stronger bill—will address this concern and improve the safety of our air travel for all passengers. I have always contended that, if we are not safe, nothing else matters.

The protection and security of our homeland and its citizens is our responsibility, Mr. Speaker, which is why I introduced the SAFE TECH Act. We must ensure those entrusted with the care of our citizens have the best resources and technology available to combat the growing threat of terrorism.

Passage of this bill today makes air travel safer for everyone entering the United States and for our citizens, and it represents a step forward in ensuring the cooperation needed to improve global security. I urge my colleagues to support this good bill and its passage in the House.

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I would first like to point out that this series of bills that we have presented today has been worked on in a strong bipartisan fashion.

I would like to thank Chairman KATKO and Ranking Member WATSON COLEMAN for their strong leadership on this subcommittee, Mr. BILIRAKIS for his hard work, and, of course, Chairman MCCAUL and Ranking Member THOMPSON for their leadership on the Homeland Security committee.

On behalf of both Members and staff on this side of the aisle, we also wish Krista Harvey the best of luck in her future endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4561 is common-sense legislation. This bill promotes the incorporation of innovative technology in airport screening capabilities. It does so by requiring DHS to stand up a third-party testing program to accelerate the evaluation of promising transportation security technologies, including 3D-imaging computer tomography, or CT technology.

CT scan technology holds great promise in enhancing the effectiveness of TSA screening operations insofar as transportation security officers would have the benefit of seeing a full 3D multicolor image of whatever the screener is inspecting and getting better detail about any suspect items.

Presently, TSA is testing a number of systems in the lab and in the field and has said that it expects to be able to begin deployment of this new tool to airports by early 2019.

Given the known ongoing terrorist threat posed by electronic devices, CT technology should be introduced into the airport environment in an expedited fashion. If done right, the establishment of a third-party testing program within TSA has the potential of getting innovative technologies into our transportation security systems quicker and improving the overall effectiveness of security screening. As such, I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 4561.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the time is long overdue to apply strong oversight and reform to the manner in which TSA develops and deploys new screening technologies across our aviation system.

With persistent threats facing the aviation sector, H.R. 4561 makes much-needed improvements to the innovation and procurement process at TSA. I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WEBER of Texas). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4561, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SECURING AMERICAN NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AGAINST TERRORISM ACT OF 2017

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1486) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide funding to secure non-profit facilities from terrorist attacks, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1486

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 American Non-Profit Organizations Against Terrorism Act of 2017".

SEC. 2. NON-PROFIT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of title XX of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C.

601 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 2009. NON-PROFIT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM.

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Department a program to be known as the 'Non-Profit Security Grant Program' (in this section referred to as the 'Program'). Under the Program, the Secretary, acting through the Administrator, shall make grants to eligible nonprofit organizations described in subsection (b), through the State in which such organizations are located, for target hardening and other security enhancements to protect against terrorist attacks.

"(b) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—Eligible nonprofit organizations described in this subsection (a) are organizations that are—

"(1) described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code; and

"(2) determined to be at risk of a terrorist attack by the Administrator.

"(c) PERMITTED USES.—The recipient of a grant under this section may use such grant for any of the following uses:

"(1) Target hardening activities, including physical security enhancement equipment and inspection and screening systems.

"(2) Fees for security training relating to physical security and cybersecurity, target hardening, terrorism awareness, and employee awareness.

"(3) Any other appropriate activity, including cybersecurity resilience activities, as determined by the Administrator.

"(d) PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE.—The Administrator shall make funds provided under this section available for use by a recipient of a grant for a period of not less than 36 months.

"(e) REPORT.—The Administrator shall annually for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2022 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 containing information on the expenditure by each grant recipient of grant funds made under this section.

"(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2022 to carry out this section.

"(2) SPECIFICATION.—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1)—

"(A) \$35,000,000 is authorized for eligible recipients located in jurisdictions that receive funding under section 2003; and

"(B) \$15,000,000 is authorized for eligible recipients in jurisdictions not receiving funding under section 2003."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (a) of section 2002 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 603) is amended by striking "sections 2003 and 2004" and inserting "sections 2003, 2004, and 2009".

(c) 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 2008 the following new item:

"Sec. 2009. Non-profit security grant program."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) 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 to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the bill that is 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.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1486, the Securing American Non-Profit Organizations Against Terrorism Act of 2017. This bill authorizes the Non-profit Security Grant Program within the Department of Homeland Security.

Administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, this program provides critical support to help protect at-risk nonprofit institutions, including Jewish community centers, houses of worship, and other cultural and community institutions, against threats and attacks.

Security enhancements covered by the program include the installation of cameras, physical barriers or controlled entry systems, along with training for active-shooter scenarios.

Nonprofit organizations in my district have told me about the positive impact this program has had on their security. In fact, the Jewish Community Center of Staten Island recently received a \$75,000 grant through this program for their facility located on Arthur Kill Road in order to adequately respond to an increase in threats.

I have also led letters to appropriators advocating for \$50 million for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program and was so glad to see that the funding level was included in the Make America Secure and Prosperous Appropriations Act, which passed the House last September.

The bill we are considering today further demonstrates our commitment to the program by authorizing it for the first time. I was pleased to work with the ranking member on this language as part of the DHS Authorization Act that we approved this summer, and I am pleased to once again support it today.

Nonprofit organizations provide vital services to our communities every day. The program authorized by the bill we are considering here today will help provide peace of mind that they will be secure as they continue to serve their neighbors.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in support of this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1486, the Securing American Non-Profit Organizations Against Terrorism Act of 2017.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1486 would authorize the Department of Homeland Security's Nonprofit Security Grant Program, which awards grants to nonprofit organizations at risk of a terrorist attack, in statute.

Since early last year, nonprofit organizations throughout the United States have experienced an uptick in threats, vandalism, and violent acts. According to the Anti-Defamation League, anti-Semitic incidents jumped 67 percent from 2016 to the first three quarters of 2017. Many nonprofit organizations, however, do not have the resources to make their facilities more secure by installing proper surveillance, hardening their facilities, and undergoing general preparedness activities.

The need for nonprofit organizations across the country to have access to the Homeland Security grants to bolster security is substantial. Given the security challenges associated with the current terrorist threat environment, it is important that this critical Homeland Security grant program be codified in law.

This bill goes further than just codifying the existing program. It expands it to include jurisdictions that are located outside funded UASIs but are still at risk of terrorism.

H.R. 1486 authorizes the Nonprofit Security Grant Program at \$50 million, a \$25 million increase over its current funding level. Language similar to this measure was included in the Department of Homeland Security Authorization Act of 2017, which passed the House earlier this Congress.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, with the emergence of lone wolves and small terrorist cells, we have seen that acts of terror are not just limited to urban areas. As threats to our homeland continue to evolve and as violent extremists continue to exploit soft targets, the risk to nonprofit organizations grows. We need to make sure that we do our part to ensure that places of worship and other nonprofit organizations throughout the country have access to resources necessary to keep themselves safe and secure.

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H.R. 1486 was endorsed by The Jewish Federations of North America. I appreciate its support.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the letter of support.

THE JEWISH FEDERATIONS
OF NORTH AMERICA,
Washington, DC, December 7, 2017.

Hon. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL, Chairman,
Hon. BENNIE G. THOMPSON, Ranking Member,
Committee on Homeland Security, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Hon. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, Chairman,
Hon. DONALD M. PAYNE, Jr., Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMEN MCCAUL AND DONOVAN AND RANKING MEMBERS THOMPSON AND PAYNE: We commend you for scheduling the mark-up of H.R. 1486, the Securing American Non-Profit

Organizations Against Terrorism Act of 2017. The Jewish Federations strongly endorse this bill, and respectfully urge Members of the Committee to adopt Ranking Member Thompson's amendment of the bill in the nature of a substitute, in order to align it with Sec. 2011 of House-passed H.R. 2825, the Department of Homeland Security Authorization Act of 2017.

The vulnerability of places of worship to violent homegrown extremists (HVEs) is a growing threat in the United States. According to a joint assessment by the National Counterterrorism Center, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, HVEs are increasingly favoring softer civilian targets, such as houses of worship, having judged them to have lower levels of security (and, for some, as a result of encouragement from overseas violent extremists, such as ISIL).

Last month, the FBI released its annual hate crimes report for 2016, which found that Muslim bias crimes increased, and, for the 20th consecutive year, anti-Jewish hate crimes amounted to the majority of all religious bias crimes reported. This year, synagogues, churches, mosques, religious centers, cemeteries, and other nonprofits have been subjected to arson/fire-bombing, shooting/mass shooting, attempted bombing, death threats, robbery, vandalism/destruction of property, hate-based/anti-Semitic graffiti, assault, intimidation, and the targets of incitement to violence.

According to DHS, religious facilities share a number of common vulnerabilities that make them ready targets of attack, including unrestricted access to facilities and contiguous and peripheral areas, easy identification, predictable schedules, and large congregations of people. To minimize these vulnerabilities, DHS recommends protective measures that include, access controls, barriers, monitoring, surveillance, and other physical target hardening and preparedness investments, such as planning and training. Unfortunately, DHS acknowledges that common vulnerabilities also include the limited resources nonprofit institutions have for security.

Passage of the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 1486 would address the vulnerabilities of at-risk nonprofit institutions, by authorizing a nonprofit security grant program for the acquisition and installation of physical target hardening, including fencing, bollards, and other barriers; lighting, surveillance, and metal detection equipment; blast proofing doors and windows; cyber-security; and related employee training and awareness exercises.

For these reasons, JFNA strongly endorses H.R. 1486, and respectfully urges Members of the Committee to adopt the bill as amended.

Sincerely,
ROBERT B. GOLDBERG,
Senior Director, Legislative Affairs,
The Jewish Federations of North America.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 1486, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I, once again, urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1486, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the cost estimate from the Congressional Budget Office regarding H.R. 1486. The cost estimate was not available at the time of the filing of the Committee report.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, January 8, 2018.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 1486, the Securing American Non-Profit Organizations Against Terrorism Act of 2017.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Robert Reese.

Sincerely,

KEITH HALL.

Enclosure.

H.R. 1486—SECURING AMERICAN NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AGAINST TERRORISM ACT OF 2017

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Homeland Security on December 13, 2017

SUMMARY

H.R. 1486 would authorize the appropriation of \$50 million annually for fiscal years 2018 through 2022 for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide grants to certain nonprofit organizations to enhance security measures aimed at guarding against terrorist attacks.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates implementing H.R. 1486 would cost \$112 million over the 2018–2022

period. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1486 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

H.R. 1486 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA).

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary effect of H.R. 1486 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 450 (community and regional development).

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2018–2022
INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	50	50	50	50	50	250
Estimated Outlays	4	11	21	33	43	112

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

CBO assumes the bill will be enacted near the beginning of calendar year 2018 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated each year. H.R. 1486 would authorize the appropriation of \$50 million in each of fiscal years 2018 through 2022 for FEMA to provide grants to nonprofit organizations for improvements to physical security and cybersecurity. (In 2017, FEMA allocated \$25 million for such grants.) Based on historical spending patterns for such grants, CBO estimates implementing the bill would cost \$112 million over the five year period and \$138 million after 2022.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS

None.

INCREASE IN LONG-TERM DIRECT SPENDING AND DEFICITS

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1486 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

MANDATES

H.R. 1486 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY

Federal Costs: Robert Reese; Mandates: Andrew Laughlin.

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY

H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

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. 1486, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COUNTER TERRORIST NETWORK ACT

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4578) to authorize certain counter terrorist networks activities of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:
H.R. 4578

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 “Counter Terrorist Network Act”.

SEC. 2. DUTY TO COUNTER TERRORIST NETWORKS; DETAILS AND ASSIGNMENT.

Section 411 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 211) is amended—

(1) in subsection (g)(4)—

(A) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) in clause (vi), by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) by redesignating clause (vii) as clause (viii); and

(iii) by inserting after clause (vi) the following new clause:

“(vii) collaborate with appropriate agencies, including Federal, State, local, tribal, and international entities, to enhance border security through operations such as operations that seek to disrupt and dismantle networks, including foreign terrorist organizations (as such term is described in section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189)), that pose terrorist or other threats; and”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (p) through (r) as subsections (q) through (s), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after subsection (o) the following new subsection:

“(p) ASSIGNMENT OF PERSONNEL.—The Commissioner may detail or otherwise assign personnel of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to other appropriate agencies, including to serve overseas in support of global information sharing partnership operations in furtherance of enhancing border security, including by preventing entry into the United States by individuals known or suspected of being associated with a network, including a foreign terrorist organization (as such term is described in section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189)), that poses terrorist or other threats.”.

SEC. 3. BRIEFINGS.

The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall biannually brief the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate regarding activities, during the prior six months, in furtherance of clause (vii) of section 411(g)(4) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 211(g)(4)), as added by section 2 of this Act. Such brief-

ings may be provided in a classified setting if the Commissioner determines such is appropriate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. ESTES) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VELA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4578, the Counter Terrorist Network Act.

The fine men and women in uniform at U.S. Customs and Border Protection are tasked with an incredibly important mission. Every day, they protect our Nation from transnational criminal organizations, human traffickers, and terrorists who wish to exploit vulnerabilities at our Nation’s borders.

To execute this critical mission, the CBP has developed a cadre of subject matter experts that are well versed in counternetwork operations. These experts work tirelessly at our Nation’s seaports, airports, and land border crossings, honing their skills, stopping the flow of illicit goods and people, and creating actionable intelligence.

Given the fact that the CBP is uniquely positioned on our Nation’s front line, it would seem expected that members of the CBP would have the authority to participate in counternetwork activities that target terrorists and transnational threats, both domestically and internationally.