

day; they do not take a day off, the Department of Homeland Security—they are keeping our Nation safe. While there is no doubt that this is a massive undertaking, we must also work to ensure the civil rights and liberties of every single American are upheld by the Department of Homeland Security.

H.R. 4713, the bill before us today, safeguards the civil rights of Americans by increasing accountability and transparency. Just as the dedicated men and women who work to protect our homeland, ensuring the constitutional rights of all Americans are protected is critically important for us to maintain a free society.

Increasing transparency and accountability is not a partisan issue, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 4713.

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers, and I am prepared to close.

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close. I urge adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not also take just a half a second to urge the Department of Homeland Security, in crafting their budget request for next cycle, to provide adequate resources for the CRCL to ensure that the office can do its work.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the rest of my colleagues to join by passing H.R. 4713, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4713, 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.

#### INLAND WATERS SECURITY REVIEW ACT

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4402) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct an inland waters threat analysis, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4402

*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 “Inland Waters Security Review Act”.

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs of the Senate; and

(C) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

(2) INLAND WATERS.—The term “inland waters” has the meaning given such term in section 83.03 of title 33, Code of Federal Regulations.

#### SEC. 3. INLAND WATERS THREAT ANALYSIS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an inland waters threat analysis that includes an identification and description of the following:

(1) Current and potential terrorism and criminal threats posed by individuals and groups seeking to—

(A) enter the United States through inland waters; or

(B) exploit security vulnerabilities on inland waters.

(2) Security challenges at United States inland waters ports regarding—

(A) terrorism and instruments of terror entering the United States; and

(B) criminal activity, as measured by the total flow of illegal goods and illicit drugs, related to the inland waters.

(3) Security mitigation efforts with respect to the inland waters to—

(A) prevent terrorists and instruments of terror from entering the United States; and

(B) reduce criminal activity related to the inland waters.

(4) Vulnerabilities related to cooperation between State, local, Tribal, and territorial law enforcement, or international agreements, that hinder effective security, counterterrorism, anti-trafficking efforts, and the flow of legitimate trade with respect to inland waters.

(5) Metrics and performance measures used by the Department of Homeland Security to evaluate inland waters security, as appropriate.

(b) ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS.—In preparing the threat analysis required under subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall consider and examine the following:

(1) Technology needs and challenges.

(2) Personnel needs and challenges.

(3) The roles of State, local, Tribal, and territorial law enforcement, as well as private sector partners and the public, relating to inland waters security.

(4) The need for cooperation among Federal, State, local, Tribal, territorial, and international partner law enforcement, as well as private sector partners and the public, relating to inland waters security.

(5) The challenges posed by geography with respect to inland waters security.

(c) CLASSIFIED THREAT ANALYSIS.—To the extent possible, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit the threat analysis required under subsection (a) in unclassified form. The Secretary may submit a portion of the threat analysis in classified form if the Secretary determines that such is appropriate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to in-

clude extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4402, the Inland Waters Security Review Act. This one is very close to my heart.

Maritime security is an integral part of our homeland security; however, most terrorism assessments related to maritime security have focused on the risks of terrorism on the high seas or on coastal areas.

In the United States, we have massive inland water systems that present unique security challenges. In Michigan, for instance, from where I hail, we have 3,288 miles of coastline, second only to Alaska—take that, California and Florida—so inland waters are a big deal to us. Maritime security is not just for our oceans but also for our Great Lakes, which represent a huge part of our U.S.-Canada border.

As a Michiganian who came to Congress to protect the Great Lakes, I am pleased to support this legislation, which requires the Department of Homeland Security to take a good, hard look at security threats to these vital waterways.

Specifically, H.R. 4402 would require DHS to submit an analysis of the current and potential terrorism and criminal threats, as well as security challenges, with respect to our Nation’s inland waters.

In producing this assessment, DHS must consider technology, personnel, law enforcement cooperation, public-private partnerships, and challenges posed by geography. This assessment will provide Congress and the public with vital information regarding the threats facing our inland waters.

I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of H.R. 4402, a bipartisan bill that was reported out of committee by unanimous consent. I thank my colleague on the Homeland Security committee, Mrs. LESKO, for her leadership on this bill.

With that, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4402, the Inland Waters Security Review Act sponsored by my friend and colleague, the ranking member of the Transportation and Maritime Security Subcommittee, Representative DEBBIE LESKO.

H.R. 4402 will improve the security awareness of the Department of Homeland Security and the United States Coast Guard for threats and vulnerabilities on America’s inland water systems. These important arteries for commerce face unique challenges related to illegal drugs and smuggling. It

is important that the Coast Guard continues to work diligently with relevant stakeholders to address these challenges.

This legislation would also ensure that Federal authorities are working in close partnership with their State, local, Tribal, territorial, and private sector partners to identify and address security issues related to America's inland waters.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative LESKO for her leadership on this bipartisan legislation. I urge my colleagues to support the bill; I urge adoption of the bill; and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, America is home to over 3 million miles of lakes, rivers, and streams, including more than 25,000 miles of navigable waters.

It is critically important that we have a complete picture of the security and criminal threats that inland waters face. H.R. 4402 would do just that.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Arizona for introducing this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4402.

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.

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WEATHERIZING INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE NORTH AND TERRORISM EMERGENCY READINESS ACT OF 2019

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3669) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a collective response to a terrorism exercise that includes the management of cascading effects on critical infrastructure during times of extreme cold weather, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3669

*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 “Weatherizing Infrastructure in the North and Terrorism Emergency Readiness Act of 2019”.

**SEC. 2. EXERCISE ON TERRORIST ATTACK DURING EXTREME COLD.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to, or as part of exercise programs currently carried out by the Department of Homeland Security, to enhance domestic preparedness for terrorism, promote the dissemination of homeland security information, and test the homeland security posture of the United States, the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through appropriate offices and components of the Department, shall develop and

conduct a collective response to terrorism exercise that includes management of cascading effects on critical infrastructure (as such term is defined in section 1016(e) of Public Law 107-56 (42 U.S.C. 5195c(e))), such as an extreme cold weather event caused by a polar vortex.

(b) EXERCISE REQUIREMENTS.—The exercise required under subsection (a) shall include a scenario involving the following:

(1) An extreme cold weather event, such as an event caused by a polar vortex, with respect to access to critical services.

(2) Any cascading effects on critical infrastructure.

(3) How the effects of a successful terrorist attack against critical infrastructure could be mitigated by emergency managers, State officials, and appropriate private sector and community stakeholders.

(4) How the resilience of communities that could be impacted by such an attack could be bolstered.

(5) Coordination with appropriate Federal departments and agencies, and State, local, Tribal, and territorial agencies.

(6) Coordination with appropriate private sector and community stakeholders.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the completion of the exercise required under subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, consistent with the protection of classified information, submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate an after-action report presenting the initial findings of such exercise, any immediate and longer-term plans for incorporating lessons learned into future operations of the Department of Homeland Security, and any proposed legislative changes informed by such exercise.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan.

1700

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of my own bill, H.R. 3669, the Weatherizing Infrastructure in the North and Terrorism Emergency Readiness Act of 2019 or, as we like to call it, the WINTER Act.

Terrorism is a persistent threat to the United States. We need to be prepared to confront terrorism in all situations, even during extreme weather events. As climate change continues to change weather patterns, extreme winter storms will become more common.

The effects of climate change produce more snowfall during winter storms as a warmer planet evaporates more water into the atmosphere, and that moisture means heavier snowfall and worse storms.

Given what we know, we must make sure we are prepared to act if a terrorist attack were to take place during an extreme cold event. This is why I introduced H.R. 3669, the WINTER Act.

In recent years, the Nation has experienced several extreme cold weather events, such as the polar vortex during the winter of 2019. This one was very specific and personal to the State of Michigan.

Last winter, in my State, temperatures reached as low as negative 43 degrees Fahrenheit during the polar vortex. During that time we had a fire, an accidental fire at one of our gas facilities, causing it to shut down, and resulting in a gas shortage in our State. As a result, our Governor had to go on television and ask all Michiganders to turn down their thermostats below 65 degrees to ensure that we didn't lose power across the State and were able to keep our warming stations, our hospitals, our homeless shelters open.

The dangers that result from cold weather aren't unique to Michigan. Across the U.S., over 6,000 people died from hypothermia or exposure to cold between 2006 and 2010, equating to over 1,000 deaths per year.

During these extreme cold weather events, infrastructure and emergency services are critical, and any disruption poses a serious threat to the health and safety of Americans in the affected area.

Last winter's events made me realize that if we had a critical infrastructure attack in the middle of winter, particularly in places in the northern half of the country, we would be extremely vulnerable. If terrorists choose to take advantage of any of these circumstances to amplify the deadly impacts of an attack, our elderly, our families, and our first responders could be put in the most danger.

This bipartisan bill directs the Department of Homeland Security to develop and conduct a terrorism training exercise that addresses the effects of a successful terrorist attack on critical infrastructure during extreme cold weather.

This exercise will help determine the best way for emergency managers, State and local officials, and community stakeholders to mitigate the impacts of such an attack and help keep people safe.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important bill. I urge my colleagues to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 3669, the Weatherizing Infrastructure in the North and Terrorism Emergency Readiness Act—the WINTER Act—of 2019.

This legislation seeks to better position the United States government and relevant State, local, and private sector agencies to be able to respond to a terrorist attack during an extreme cold weather event.

An extreme weather event, such as a polar vortex, has the potential to severely impact our daily lives, damage