

From there, they may face a lengthy trek to the security checkpoint where they officially then clock in for work.

According to the Government Accountability Office, TSOs have reported that just getting from the parking lot to the checkpoint to clock in for work can take as long as 45 minutes to an hour at some airports.

My bill, the TSA Commuting Fairness Act, will help improve conditions for these civil servants by directing TSA to conduct a feasibility study on using mobile location data to allow employees to clock in for work upon arrival at the airport transit stops instead of when they reach that security checkpoint.

Doing so will help reduce commuting costs and improve the quality of life for TSA employees, while allowing agency leadership to manage the workforce appropriately.

This study will also provide important insight for TSA and Congress as we collectively seek innovative ways to recruit and retain top talent to help secure our transportation systems. My bill will help us build the workforce we need to address evolving threats and keep air travel trusted and secure.

Now, more than ever, it is critical that we advance policies like the TSA Commuting Fairness Act to make it clear that we value the critical work of our transportation security workers.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman GARBARINO and my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for working with me to develop this legislation.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, given the recent attacks against our Federal workers, we must seek innovative ways to compete for the top talent. This bill would require a feasibility study to improve the quality of life for the TSA workforce, while ensuring that TSA leadership retains the ability to manage the workforce appropriately and maintain security standards.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members of Congress to support this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 862, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 862.

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.

## STRATEGIC HOMELAND INTELLIGENCE AND ENFORCEMENT LEGISLATION TO DEFEND AGAINST THE CCP ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 708) to establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 708

*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 “Strategic Homeland Intelligence and Enforcement Legislation to Defend Against the CCP Act” or the “SHIELD Against CCP Act”.

### SEC. 2. WORKING GROUP TO COUNTER CERTAIN THREATS POSED TO THE UNITED STATES BY THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY.

#### (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group (in this section referred to as the “Working Group”), which shall carry out the duties specified in subsection (b) relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party.

#### (2) DIRECTOR.—

(A) APPOINTMENT.—The head of the Working Group shall be a Director (in this section referred to as the “Director”), who shall be appointed by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(B) REPORTING.—The Director shall report to the Secretary of Homeland Security regarding all administrative, operational, and security matters of the Working Group.

(3) STAFFING.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure the Working Group is provided with the following:

(A) A sufficient number of employees to perform required duties.

(B) Not fewer than one employee dedicated to ensuring compliance with privacy laws and regulations.

(4) DETAILEES.—The Working Group may accept and employ detailees with expertise in countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed by the Chinese Communist Party to the United States, or in related fields, from any element of the intelligence community or any other Federal agency the Director determines appropriate, with or without reimbursement, consistent with applicable laws and regulations regarding such employees.

(b) DUTIES.—The Working Group shall carry out the following:

(1) Examine, assess, and report upon efforts by the Department of Homeland Security to counter terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, including efforts to counter the Chinese Communist Party’s—

(A) nontraditional tactics and exploitation of the United States immigration system through—

(i) identity theft;

(ii) the immigrant and nonimmigrant visa processes;

(iii) unlawful border crossings;

(iv) human smuggling; and

(v) human trafficking;

(B) predatory economic and trade practices, including the trafficking of counterfeit and pirated goods, the use of forced labor, labor exploitation for financial gain, customs fraud, and theft of intellectual property and technology;

(C) direct or indirect support for transnational criminal organizations trafficking in fentanyl, illicit drug precursors, or other controlled substances through—

(i) the United States border;

(ii) international mail shipments; or

(iii) express consignment operations; and

(D) support for illicit financial activity by Chinese Money Laundering Organizations, including any repatriation to China or any other country of the proceeds derived from the activities described in subparagraphs (A) through (C).

(2) Account for the resources of the Department that are dedicated to programs aimed at countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, and any supporting information as to the efficacy of each such program.

(3) Build upon existing or ongoing evaluations and avoid unnecessary duplication by reviewing the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of other appropriate working groups, committees, commissions, or entities established by the Department related to efforts to counter terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party.

(4) Identify gaps in policies, processes, and activities of the Department to respond to terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party.

(5) Facilitate cooperation and coordination among offices and components of the Department on a holistic response to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party.

(c) ADDITIONAL DUTY RELATING TO INFORMATION SHARING.—The Working Group shall review, in coordination with the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security, information relating to terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party that is gathered by Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial partners, and the National Network of Fusion Centers, and incorporate such information, as appropriate, into the Working Group’s own information relating to such threats. The Working Group, in coordination with the Office of Intelligence and Analysis, shall also ensure the dissemination to Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial partners, and the National Network of Fusion Centers, of information related to such threats.

#### (d) ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this section and annually thereafter for five years, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Director of National Intelligence, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that assesses terrorist, cybersecurity,

border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party during the immediately preceding 12 months.

(2) CONTENTS.—Each assessment under paragraph (1) shall also include the following:

(A) A description of the activities and operations of the Working Group undertaken pursuant to subsection (b).

(B) Any other matters the Secretary of Homeland Security determines relevant.

(3) FORM.—Each assessment under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex. The Secretary of Homeland Security shall post on a publicly available website of the Department of Homeland Security the unclassified portion of each assessment.

(4) BRIEFING.—Not later than 30 days after the submission of each assessment under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a briefing on such assessment and the progress and challenges of the Working Group.

(e) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the implementation of this section.

(f) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Director and the Under Secretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security, shall, to the extent practicable, carry out research and development, including operational testing, of technologies and techniques for enhancing the Department's security and situational awareness relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party.

(g) IMPLEMENTATION.—All activities carried out pursuant to this section—

(1) shall be carried out in accordance with applicable constitutional, privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties protections; and

(2) may not infringe upon the lawful exercise of free speech by United States persons.

(h) SUNSET.—The Working Group shall terminate on the date that is seven years after the establishment of the Working Group under subsection (a)(1).

(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

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

(A) in the House of Representatives—

(i) the Committee on Homeland Security;

(ii) the Committee on Ways and Means;

(iii) the Committee on Financial Services;

(iv) the Committee on the Judiciary; and

(v) the Committee on Foreign Affairs; and

(B) in the Senate—

(i) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs;

(ii) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs;

(iii) the Committee on Finance;

(iv) the Committee on the Judiciary; and

(v) the Committee on Foreign Relations.

(2) FUSION CENTER.—The term “fusion center” has the meaning given such term in subsection (k) of section 210A of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124h).

(3) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term “intelligence community” has the meaning given such term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

(4) NATIONAL NETWORK OF FUSION CENTERS.—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 such fusion centers for the purpose of enhancing analysis and homeland security information sharing nationally.

(5) UNITED STATES PERSONS.—The term “United States person” has the meaning given such term in section 1637(d)(10) of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal year 2015 (50 U.S.C. 1708(d)(10)).

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 708.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 708, the SHIELD Against CCP Act.

The Chinese Communist Party continues to increasingly threaten the security of our homeland. We must begin to come up with serious solutions to this serious problem, and this bill is an important start.

This bill would require that DHS establish a working group to take the important step of appropriately addressing and countering these threats. I commend my colleague, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG), for his important work on this measure and on this subject.

Mr. Speaker, we must alter our posture to appropriately address the threat posed by the CCP to our homeland. This is not optional.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I think we all agree that the United States' main competitor is China and the Chinese Communist Party who are intent on tilting the global playing field to their benefit, undermining our national standing.

To do this, China is expanding its covert influence, seeking to turn public opinion and effect policies that are more favorable to China and against the United States. Additionally, the CCP seeks to exploit American openness to steal economic secrets and undermine our national security.

This bill would require the Department of Homeland Security to establish a working group to coordinate its efforts to address the threats posed to the homeland by the Chinese Communist Party.

The working group will examine the threats posed by the CCP, identify on-

going Departmental efforts to address those threats, identify any gaps in such efforts, and then facilitate coordination across DHS to holistically address the threats from the CCP.

Mr. Speaker, this bill helps ensure that DHS implements a coordinated and effective response to the Chinese Communist Party's efforts to undermine the United States.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG), the author of this legislation.

Mr. STRONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 708, the SHIELD Against CCP Act.

I thank Chairman GREEN and each of the Members who have joined me in introducing this bill.

There is no question that the Chinese Communist Party poses a clear and present threat to both the security and democracy of the United States of America.

As detailed in DHS' 2025 Homeland Threat Assessment, the Chinese Government poses a wide array of dangers to our Nation. These threats span across various sectors, including public safety, border and immigration, critical infrastructure, and economic security.

Threats of this nature undermine our global competitiveness and national security, and in some cases, impose a significant financial burden on our economy. It is absolutely essential that the Department of Homeland Security take decisive action to address these complex threats both at home and abroad.

This is why I have reintroduced H.R. 708, the SHIELD Against CCP Act. This legislation requires DHS to establish a dedicated working group focused on countering the threats posed by the CCP to our Homeland Security. Specifically, it requires them to examine, assess, and report on DHS' efforts to address these threats.

To ensure accountability, my bill also mandates that DHS provide an annual report to Congress, allowing us to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of their efforts.

□ 1630

As Members of Congress, it is our solemn duty to ensure the safety and well-being of our great Nation. We cannot afford to ignore the increased aggression and influence of China on the global stage.

In the 118th Congress, I was honored to have the backing of my colleagues in advancing this legislation through the House. I now urge all Members to join me once again in supporting the SHIELD Against CCP Act to protect our national security and safeguard our interests.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative STRONG for sponsoring this legislation,

but I must acknowledge that over the past few weeks, the Trump administration has taken several alarming actions that work to counter the work we are trying to do today with this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Trump administration to work with Congress and not against Congress' efforts to strengthen America's ability to compete with China like this bill that aims to do exactly that.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. 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 Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 708.

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.

#### RESEARCH SECURITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN DHS ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 901) to require the Under Secretary of the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security to develop a Department-wide policy and process to safeguard research and development from unauthorized access to or disclosure of sensitive information in research and development acquisitions, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 901

*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 "Research Security and Accountability in DHS Act".

##### SEC. 2. SAFEGUARDING SENSITIVE RESEARCH IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 302 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 182) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (13), by striking "and" after the semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (14), by striking the period and inserting "and"; and

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

"(15) developing, in coordination with appropriate agency officials, a Department-wide policy and process to safeguard research and development from unauthorized access to or disclosure of sensitive information in research and development acquisitions."

(b) GAO REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States 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 how the Department of Homeland Security

has complied with National Security Presidential Memorandum-33 (NSPM-33) and adopted the National Science and Technology Council's 2022 implementation guidance.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall address the following:

(A) How the Department of Homeland Security has complied with disclosure requirements outlined in NSPM-33, and how violations are reported to the relevant executive agencies, including in the intelligence community (as such term is defined in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

(B) Coordination and compliance with guidelines established by the National Science Foundation, the National Science Technology Council, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and other executive agencies regarding Federal research security.

(C) The role of the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department regarding establishing a research security framework for research and development projects across the Department.

(c) CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a briefing addressing the development of policies and processes to safeguard Department of Homeland Security research and development in accordance with paragraph (15) of section 302 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 182), as added by subsection (a).

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 901.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 901, the Research Security and Accountability in DHS Act. The Science and Technology Directorate is the principal of research and development for DHS. In 2022, the DHS Office of Inspector General found that S&T failed to safeguard sensitive information in research and development projects.

This bill requires S&T to develop a proper standard for safeguarding sensitive information which has become especially critical given the heightened activity of our adversaries. This bill carried by former Representative Anthony D'Esposito passed the House last Congress, and I thank the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG) for his attention to this issue this Congress.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 901, the Research Security and Accountability in DHS Act. This bill seeks to enhance security measures by directing the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate to establish a comprehensive policy and process to protect research and development activities from unauthorized access or disclosure of sensitive information.

Additionally, this bill would task the Government Accountability Office to assess DHS' adherence to the National Science and Technology Council's 2022 implementation guidance and a 2021 National Security Presidential Memorandum focused on safeguarding U.S. research from foreign interference.

This bill also requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide Congress with a briefing on its implementation.

Time and time again, we have seen bad actors attempt to exploit our sensitive information. This measure strengthens DHS' ability to prevent such threats and protects our national security.

This bill is a critical step in ensuring DHS upholds strong policies and procedures to secure research and development efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 901, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG).

Mr. STRONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 901, the Research Security and Accountability in DHS Act.

I understand how important new technologies are in saving lives and protecting the American homeland as threats and challenges evolve.

Whether the Department of Homeland Security is working to prevent a terrorist act, inhibiting drug traffic at the southwest border, or responding to a life-threatening natural disaster, DHS relies heavily on research and development projects to enhance its operational effectiveness.

The critical role that R&D projects and new technologies play in helping protect our homeland cannot be understated. It is no secret that Federal R&D projects are a target for foreign theft, espionage, and influence.

It is our responsibility to safeguard them from malicious actors and prevent the unauthorized access to, or disclosure of, sensitive information.

This is why I reintroduced H.R. 901, the Research Security and Accountability in DHS Act. This legislation requires the Science and Technology Directorate to develop a process that safeguards sensitive information in R&D projects across all components of the Department.

Both the Trump and Biden administrations have made Federal research