

I thank Representative GIMENEZ, the chairman of our committee's Transportation and Maritime Security Subcommittee, for his leadership.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9388.

TSA's one-stop pilot program enables passengers arriving from certain foreign airports to be exempt from re-screening by TSA prior to connecting to domestic flights.

The one-stop program requires those foreign airports to meet certain standards deemed comparable to TSA's, which helps improve aviation security at those airports.

As more international airports start participating in the program, H.R. 9388 will ensure the program can continue to operate until December 2032, while Congress evaluates and makes any necessary changes to improve the program for the traveling public.

These changes will help advance this pilot program to improve the travel experience for passengers.

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

Mr. GARBARINO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GIMENEZ).

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bipartisan One-Stop Pilot Program Extension Act.

In south Florida, Miami International Airport is one of the busiest international gateways in the United States. Every day, millions of passengers pass through airports like Miami International Airport throughout the country. We have a responsibility to keep those passengers and our airports moving efficiently while maintaining the highest security standards. This bill does exactly that.

By extending this successful pilot program, passengers arriving from trusted foreign airports can connect to their final destination without unnecessary duplicate baggage screening.

Security is never compromised. Every participating airport must meet strict TSA standards. Customs and Border Protection retains full oversight, and any passenger or bag identified as a security concern receives additional inspection.

This commonsense, bipartisan legislation will reduce delays, ease congestion, improve the travel experience, and strengthen our aviation system while protecting our homeland.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GARBARINO for his leadership. Also, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER) for cosponsoring this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the One-Stop Pilot Program Extension Act.

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to

the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER), who is the Democratic co-lead on this bill.

□ 1630

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. WALKINSHAW for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9388, the One-Stop Pilot Program Extension Act, which I am proud to co-lead with Congressman GIMENEZ. This bipartisan measure will modernize our aviation system, reduce unnecessary delays, and strengthen our international security partnership that keeps our skies safe.

Today, the international passengers connecting to domestic flights must often retrieve their checked bags, clear customs, and undergo yet another screening process through TSA before re-entering the terminal, creating congestion, long connection times, and avoidable operational strain on airports and the airlines.

The One-Stop Security program is a current TSA pilot initiative that streamlines this process for travelers arriving from trusted foreign airports that meet strict U.S. security standards, allowing them and their baggage to connect directly to domestic flights without duplicative screening.

The One-Stop Pilot Program Extension Act extends authorization for the One-Stop Security program for four more years, giving TSA, Customs and Border Protection, and participating airports time to scale the program, expand international partnerships, and evaluate the infrastructure needed for broader implementation.

This extension will not only improve efficiency and reduce costs but also strengthen the competitiveness of our domestic travel and tourism industries.

Cities where tourism is a major economic engine—like New Orleans in my district—stand to benefit from smoother, international-to-domestic connections that make the U.S. a more attractive destination and keep visitor spending flowing into local economies and supporting our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative GIMENEZ for his leadership on this bill, and I urge favorable passage.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill will continue operations for this growing TSA pilot program, helping to improve the travel experience for inbound passengers on international flights. I urge my colleagues to support this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GARBARINO. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 9388, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STRONG). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GARBARINO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9388.

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.

WEATHERIZING INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE NORTH AND TERRORISM EMERGENCY READINESS ACT OF 2025

Mr. GARBARINO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3106) 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. 3106

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 2025".

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))) in accordance with the requirements relating to a scenario specified in subsection (b).

(b) EXERCISE REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements relating to a scenario specified in this subsection are 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 gentleman from New York (Mr. GARBARINO) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WALKINSHAW) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GARBARINO. 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. 3106.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3106, the Weatherizing Infrastructure in the North and Terrorism Emergency Readiness Act of 2025.

This legislation requires the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through appropriate offices and components of DHS to develop and conduct an exercise featuring the participation of Federal, State, local, Tribal, territorial agencies, and private-sector stakeholders focusing on a collective response to terrorism that includes the management of the cascading effects on critical infrastructure that results from the occurrence of a terrorist attack during an extreme cold weather event.

DHS must then provide an after-action report to Congress consisting of initial findings, plans to incorporate any lessons learned into future DHS operations, and any proposed legislative changes informed by this exercise.

This legislation will help strengthen the United States' ability to respond to terrorist threats, especially when they might coincide with extreme weather events.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. KENNEDY), the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. I thank Representative WALKINSHAW for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 3106, the Weatherizing Infrastructure in the North and Terrorism Emergency Readiness Act, also known as the WINTER Act.

As a nation, we must be prepared to prevent and respond to terrorist threats in every circumstance, including during the harshest winter weather. That is why I introduced the WINTER Act, to strengthen our Homeland Security posture during extreme cold weather conditions and ensure that the Department of Homeland Security is prepared to respond.

My hometown of Buffalo, New York, is no stranger to cold weather events. In December of 2022, Winter Storm El-

liott hit western New York with historic force. During the Christmas holiday, this powerful storm brought dangerous blizzard conditions, including 60-mile-per-hour winds, dangerous levels of lake-effect snowfall, and life-threatening subfreezing temperatures. Thousands lost power, phone lines went dark, and roads became impassable, bringing emergency operations and critical infrastructure in the city of Buffalo to a screeching halt.

This catastrophic storm claimed 47 precious lives in our community. Families endured unimaginable hardship and heartbreak, and local governments have spent years responding to the disaster to help neighborhoods recover.

Now, imagine the devastation if, amid a major winter storm of this caliber, our Nation was forced to respond to a terrorist attack. Severe winter conditions often strain emergency response capabilities, disrupt communications, and damage critical infrastructure, making an already dangerous situation even more dire.

These challenges are precisely why terrorists may view extreme weather as an opportunity to exploit vulnerabilities and magnify the impact of an attack.

My legislation directs the Department of Homeland Security to conduct a terrorist preparedness exercise focused on the effects of an attack on critical infrastructure during an extreme cold weather event.

It also requires DHS report to Congress on successes and potential pitfalls of the preparedness analysis, ensuring that we understand where existing security gaps remain.

The insights and expertise gained from this exercise will strengthen coordination among emergency managers, State officials, and community partners, helping to better anticipate and mitigate the consequences of such an attack.

By identifying security gaps before a disaster strikes, we can enhance our resilience and be better prepared to withstand and respond to increasingly sophisticated acts of terrorism.

We cannot control when the next severe winter storm will strike, and we cannot predict when terrorists will look to exploit our vulnerabilities. But we can ensure that our Homeland Security enterprise is prepared for both. That is exactly what this legislation will help us do.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman of the committee, Representative GARBARINO, for his support. I especially thank Representative and Ranking Member BENNIE THOMPSON for his partnership on this bill. I urge all of my colleagues to support this vital legislation.

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

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Representative KENNEDY's leadership on this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3106.

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

Mr. GARBARINO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative KENNEDY and congratulate him on his hard work. Nobody knows how to remove snow quite like those Buffalo Bills fans, especially on game day.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3106, 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. GARBARINO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3106.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. GARBARINO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

□ 1640

IMPROVING TRAVEL FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES ACT

Mr. GARBARINO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8897) to improve travel for American families, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8897

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 "Improving Travel for American Families Act".

SEC. 2. IMPROVING TRAVEL FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration (in this section referred to as the "Administrator"), may establish a pilot program at airports to expedite access to security screening for adult passengers and accompanying child passengers twelve years of age and under to support and facilitate the ease of travel for such passengers and such child passengers. The Administrator may carry out this subsection only such access does not compromise security protocols.

(b) SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.—If the Administrator establishes the pilot program under subsection (a), the Administrator shall carry out the following:

(1) Ensure each passenger described in such subsection is screened in accordance with the vetting status of such passenger under the Secure Flight program of the Transportation Security Administration, in accordance with paragraph (2) of section 44903(j) of title 49, United States Code.

(2) Prevent individuals carrying out screening functions under section 44901 of such title from allowing any passenger into a TSA PreCheck or other expedited security screening lane unless such passenger has received a boarding pass indicating eligibility for TSA PreCheck or such other expedited security screening.

(3) Permit local Administration management to open or close checkpoint lanes and