

KEEP AMERICA **SECURE** ACT

Homeland Security Republicans

Keep America Secure Act

Topline

- First comprehensive 2-year authorization of all DHS activities - \$59 billion in FY21; \$60 billion in FY22.

Pandemic Preparedness

- Ensures all frontline employees are equipped with personal protective equipment, medical countermeasures, training, and the latest technology to protect them from COVID-19 and other dangerous pathogens.
- Requires the Secretary to implement a strategy to prevent shortages of food, medicine, and other critical materials and end the reliance on foreign adversaries for such supplies.

Border Security

Border Security Infrastructure

- Creates a \$35 billion Border Security and Trade Modernization Trust Fund to fund the construction of physical barriers, acquire security technology, and make improvements at ports of entry to facilitate trade. The Fund is capitalized by surcharges on visa applicants, penalties from violations of immigration laws, private contributions, and appropriations.
- Requires upgrades to CBP technology including secure communications for law enforcement, scanning technology at ports of entry, new opioid detection technology, and small unmanned aerial systems.

Manpower

- Authorizes end strengths for Border Patrol and Customs Officers.
- Provides hiring flexibility and retention incentives for law enforcement officers.

- Establishes federal, state, and local task forces to combat emerging homeland security threats.

Border Security Enforcement

- Ends the theft of American research and innovation by creating new tools and enforcement mechanisms to halt the entry of spies from Chinese Communist Party and other adversaries.
- Provides the Secretary with administrative subpoena authority to compel states to provide driver's license, vehicle registration, and other law enforcement information on illegal immigrants.
- Authorizes ICE to check social media accounts of foreigners seeking visas to the U.S.
- Directs DHS to complete and implement biometric exit at all air, land and sea ports of entry.
- Reauthorizes and improves the Customs Trade Partnership Against Terrorism Program and BITMAP.

Cybersecurity

CISA Reforms

- Creates a fixed 5-year term for the director.
- Authorizes the activities of CISA for the first time.

Cybersecurity Workforce

- Sets up a Scholarship for Service to pay the tuition and fees of students in approved cybersecurity programs that agree to work at DHS for at least 5 years.
- Creates a cybersecurity talent exchange pilot program to allow employees of CISA to be temporarily assigned to a private sector company or an employee of a private sector company to be temporarily assigned to CISA.

Critical Infrastructure, State and Local, and Election Cybersecurity

- Permanently reauthorizes CFATS.
- Provides CISA with administrative subpoena authority to mitigate cyber threats to critical infrastructure.
- Improves liability protections for the critical infrastructure sector.
- Directs CISA to create resource guides and improve information sharing with state local governments.
- Establishes a grant program for state and local cybersecurity.

- Ensures election infrastructure is eligible for CISA assistance by codifying it as critical infrastructure.

Transportation Security

Enhanced Security

- Requires TSA and ODNI to study and mitigate emerging threats to transportation security.
- Requires security checkpoints to have real time connectivity to Secure Flight.
- Reforms the Known Crewmember program to mitigate against insider threats.

TSA Reforms

- Ends the Passenger Security Fee diversion, reinvesting it toward its intended purpose: transportation security technology and infrastructure.
- Requires TSA security fees to be spent on TSO salaries during government shutdowns.
- Requires TSA to establish proper procedures to reduce fraudulent overtime pay.

Traveler Experience

- Provides redress for individuals mistakenly removed from the trusted traveler program.
- Requires TSA to conduct training and improve the experience for pregnant women and families.
- Standardizes carry-on baggage screening procedures across all airports.

Emergency Preparedness

- Reauthorizes FEMA for the first time since 2006.

State and Local Programs

- Reauthorizes state and local terrorism preparedness grants, including Operation Stonegarden.
- Reauthorizes the Center for Domestic preparedness and authorizes a Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium to provide training to emergency response providers from rural communities.

- Authorizes the Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships to enhance outreach efforts with faith-based and community organizations.

Intelligence

DHS Intelligence Enterprise

- Authorizes the National Vetting Center to enhance vetting procedures for people and goods coming to the United States.
- Requires an annual comprehensive assessment of current and emerging threats to the homeland.

Information Sharing

- Ensures DHS provides appropriate technology, personnel and information to state and locally-owned fusion centers.
- Expands the focus, training, and resources associated with the Suspicious Activity Reporting (SARs) initiative.

Emerging Threats

- Requires DHS to improve counterintelligence vetting and update the SEVIS program, which tracks foreign students studying in the United States.
- Requires threat assessments on chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear materials, as well as inland waters and transnational criminal organizations.
- Establishes a program to require DHS to share information on Federal inmates convicted on terrorism grounds prior to their release into U.S. communities.

Management Reform & Accountability

- Reforms headquarters operations and promotes unity of effort within DHS by codifying offices and functions and requiring shared services across components.
- Authorizes new hiring authorities to fill mission critical positions.
- Makes improvements to the DHS employee rotation program and ensures the program also applies to the intelligence programs at DHS.
- Reforms acquisition processes to provide more accountability and oversight of taxpayer dollars.