

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2719

To require the Transportation Security Administration to implement best practices and improve transparency with regard to technology acquisition programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 18, 2013

Mr. HUDSON (for himself, Mr. McCAUL, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. RICHMOND) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To require the Transportation Security Administration to implement best practices and improve transparency with regard to technology acquisition programs, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Transportation Secu-
5 rity Acquisition Reform Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 “(1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term ‘Administra-
2 tion’ means the Transportation Security Administra-
3 tion.

4 “(2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ‘Adminis-
5 trator’ means the Administrator of the Transpor-
6 tation Security Administration.

7 **“Subtitle B—Transportation Secu-
8 rity Administration Acquisition
9 Improvements**

10 **“SEC. 1611. MULTIYEAR TECHNOLOGY ACQUISITION PLAN.**

11 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator—

12 “(1) not later than 180 days after the date of
13 enactment of the Transportation Security Acquisi-
14 tion Reform Act, shall develop and transmit to Con-
15 gress a strategic multiyear technology acquisition
16 plan, which may include a classified addendum to re-
17 port sensitive transportation security risks, tech-
18 nology vulnerabilities, or other sensitive security in-
19 formation; and

20 “(2) to the extent possible, shall publish such
21 plan in an unclassified format within the public do-
22 main.

23 “(b) CONSULTATION.—The Administrator shall de-
24 velop the multiyear acquisition plan in consultation with
25 the Under Secretary for Management, the Chief Informa-

1 tion Officer, and the Under Secretary for Science and
2 Technology.

3 “(c) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The multiyear acquisi-
4 tion plan shall include the following:

5 “(1) An analysis of transportation security
6 risks and the associated technology gaps, including
7 consideration of the most recent Quadrennial Home-
8 land Security Review under section 707.

9 “(2) A set of transportation security-related
10 technology acquisition needs that—

11 “(A) is prioritized based on risk and gaps
12 identified under paragraph (1); and

13 “(B) includes technology acquisition road-
14 maps with defined objectives, goals, and meas-
15 ures.

16 “(3) An identification of test, evaluation, mod-
17 eling, and simulation capabilities that will be re-
18 quired to support the acquisition of the security-re-
19 lated technologies to meet those needs.

20 “(4) An identification of opportunities for pub-
21 lic-private partnerships, small and disadvantaged
22 company participation, intragovernment collabora-
23 tion, university centers of excellence, and national
24 laboratory technology transfer.

1 “(5) An identification of the Administration’s
2 acquisition workforce needs that will be required for
3 the management of planned security-related tech-
4 nology acquisitions, including consideration of
5 leveraging acquisition expertise of other Federal
6 agencies.

7 “(d) LEVERAGING THE PRIVATE SECTOR.—To the
8 extent possible, and in a manner that is consistent with
9 fair and equitable practices, the plan shall—

10 “(1) leverage emerging technology trends and
11 research and development investment trends within
12 the public and private sectors; and

13 “(2) incorporate feedback and input received
14 from the private sector through requests for infor-
15 mation, industry days, and other innovative means
16 consistent with the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

17 “(e) DISCLOSURE.—The Administrator shall include
18 with the plan required under this section a list of any non-
19 government persons that contributed to the writing of the
20 plan.

21 “(f) UPDATE.—Once every 2 years after the initial
22 strategic plan is transmitted to Congress, the Adminis-
23 trator shall transmit to Congress an update of the plan.

1 **“SEC. 1612. ACQUISITION JUSTIFICATION AND REPORTS.**

2 “(a) ACQUISITION JUSTIFICATION.—Before the Ad-
3 ministration implements any security-related technology
4 acquisition, the Administrator shall conduct a comprehen-
5 sive analysis to determine whether the acquisition is justi-
6 fied. The analysis shall include, but may not be limited
7 to, the following:

8 “(1) An identification of the type and level of
9 risk to transportation security that would be ad-
10 dressed with the technology acquisition.

11 “(2) An assessment of how the proposed acqui-
12 sition aligns to the multiyear plan developed under
13 section 1611.

14 “(3) A comparison of the total expected
15 lifecycle cost against the total expected quantitative
16 and qualitative benefits to transportation security.

17 “(4) An analysis of alternative security solu-
18 tions to determine if the proposed technology acqui-
19 sition is the most effective and cost-efficient solution
20 based on cost-benefit considerations.

21 “(5) A determination that the means of achiev-
22 ing such expected benefit to transportation security
23 is consistent with fair information practice principles
24 issued by the Privacy Officer of the Department.

25 “(b) REPORTS AND CERTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Before the Administration
2 implements any security-related technology acquisi-
3 tion, the Administrator shall establish and document
4 a set of formal baseline requirements.

5 “(2) CONTENTS.—The baseline requirements
6 shall—

7 “(A) include the estimated costs (including
8 lifecycle costs), schedule, and performance mile-
9 stones for the planned duration of the acquisi-
10 tion; and

11 “(B) identify the acquisition risks and a
12 plan for mitigating these risks.

13 “(3) FEASIBILITY.—In establishing the per-
14 formance milestones under paragraph (2), the Ad-
15 ministrator shall, to the extent possible and in con-
16 sultation with the Under Secretary for Science and
17 Technology, ensure that achieving these milestones
18 is technologically feasible.

19 “(4) TEST AND EVALUATION PLAN.—The Ad-
20 ministrator, in consultation with the Under Sec-
21 retary for Science and Technology, shall develop a
22 plan for testing and evaluating the acquired tech-
23 nologies against the performance requirements es-
24 tablished under paragraph (2). The test and evalua-
25 tion plan shall describe the necessary and cost-effec-

1 tive combination of laboratory testing, field testing,
2 modeling, simulation, and supporting analysis to en-
3 sure that the technologies meet the Administration’s
4 mission needs.

5 “(5) VERIFICATION AND VALIDATION.—The
6 Administrator may utilize independent reviewers to
7 verify and validate the performance milestones and
8 cost estimates developed under paragraph (2).

9 “(b) REVIEW OF BASELINE REQUIREMENTS AND
10 DEVIATION; REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

11 “(1) REVIEW.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator
13 shall review and assess each implemented acqui-
14 sition to determine if the acquisition is meeting
15 the baseline requirements established under
16 subsection (a).

17 “(B) TEST AND EVALUATION ASSESS-
18 MENT.—The review shall include an assessment
19 of whether the planned testing and evaluation
20 activities have been completed and the results
21 of such testing and evaluation demonstrate that
22 the performance milestones are technologically
23 feasible.

24 “(2) REPORT.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator
2 shall report to the Committee on Homeland Se-
3 curity of the House of Representatives and the
4 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
5 portation of the Senate the results of any as-
6 sessment that finds that—

7 “(i) the actual or planned costs exceed
8 the baseline costs by more than 10 per-
9 cent;

10 “(ii) the actual or planned schedule
11 for delivery has been delayed by more than
12 180 days; or

13 “(iii) there is a failure to meet any
14 performance milestone that directly im-
15 pacts security effectiveness.

16 “(B) CAUSE.—The report shall include the
17 cause for such excessive costs, delay, or failure,
18 and a plan for corrective action.

19 “(C) TIMELINESS.—The report required
20 under this section shall be provided to the Com-
21 mittee on Homeland Security of the House of
22 Representatives and the Committee on Com-
23 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-
24 ate no later than 30 days after identifying such
25 excessive costs, delay, or failure.

1 **“SEC. 1614. INVENTORY UTILIZATION.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Before the procurement of addi-
3 tional quantities of equipment to fulfill a mission need,
4 the Administrator shall, to the extent practicable, utilize
5 any existing units in the Administration’s inventory to
6 meet that need.

7 “(b) TRACKING OF INVENTORY.—The Administrator
8 shall establish a process for tracking the location, utiliza-
9 tion status, and quantity of security-related equipment in
10 such inventory.

11 “(c) LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall es-
13 tablish logistics principles for managing inventory in
14 an effective and efficient manner.

15 “(2) LIMITATION ON JUST-IN-TIME LOGIS-
16 TICS.—The Administrator may not use just-in-time
17 logistics if doing so would—

18 “(A) inhibit necessary planning for large-
19 scale delivery of equipment to airports or other
20 facilities; or

21 “(B) unduly diminish surge capacity for
22 response to a terrorist threat.

23 **“SEC. 1615. SMALL BUSINESS CONTRACTING GOALS.**

24 “Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment
25 of the Transportation Security Acquisition Reform Act,
26 and annually, the Administrator shall submit to the Com-

1 duplicative of, the Federal Acquisition Regulation and the
2 Department’s acquisition policies and directives.”.

3 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
4 in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by striking the
5 items relating to title XVI and inserting the following:

“TITLE XVI—TRANSPORTATION SECURITY

“Subtitle A—General Provisions

“Sec. 1601. Definitions.

“Subtitle B—Transportation Security Administration Acquisition
Improvements

“Sec. 1611. Multiyear technology acquisition plan.

“Sec. 1612. Acquisition justification and reports.

“Sec. 1613. Acquisition baseline establishment and reports.

“Sec. 1614. Inventory utilization.

“Sec. 1615. Small business contracting goals.

“Sec. 1616. Consistency with the Federal Acquisition Regulation and depart-
mental policies and directives.”.

6 (c) PRIOR AMENDMENTS NOT AFFECTED.—This sec-
7 tion shall not be construed to affect any amendment made
8 by title XVI of such Act as in effect before the date of
9 enactment of this Act.

10 **SEC. 4. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORT.**

11 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
12 of this Act and 3 years thereafter, the Comptroller Gen-
13 eral of the United States shall evaluate and report to Con-
14 gress the Transportation Security Administration’s
15 progress in implementing subtitle B of title XVI of the
16 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (116 Stat. 2312), as
17 amended by this Act (including provisions added to such
18 subtitle after the date of enactment of this Act).

1 **SEC. 5. NO ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-**
2 **TIONS.**

3 No additional funds are authorized to be appro-
4 priated to carry out this Act and the amendments made
5 by this Act, and this Act and such amendments shall be
6 carried out using amounts otherwise available for such
7 purpose.

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