

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 2520, the State and Local Government Cybersecurity Act of 2021.

Today, State and local governments are not in the position to defend their networks against cyberattacks from sophisticated foreign adversaries or cybercriminals. State and local governments are rich targets for cyber adversaries, and the frequency of attacks is only accelerating as budgets are increasingly constrained.

The Federal Government needs to redouble their efforts to support State, local, Tribal, and territorial government entities to bolster their cybersecurity posture.

To help remedy this, this bill amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for engagements with SLTT entities to increase Federal support and information sharing.

Additionally, the bill expands DHS' responsibilities concerning grants and cooperative agreements. The bill also provides DHS the ability to coordinate with SLTT entities to conduct exercises, provide technical and operational cybersecurity training, as well as promote cybersecurity education and awareness.

S. 2520 will help shore up SLTT vulnerabilities against malicious cyberattackers and will go a long way to strengthen our more localized entities that are closer to the everyday American.

I urge Members to join me in supporting S. 2520, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, we rely on State and local governments for some of our most basic and necessary public services. We have seen many communities across the country experience disruptions in those vital services due to ransomware attacks originating from Russia.

In this current threat environment, with a heightened risk of even more dangerous cyberattacks, S. 2520 would enhance DHS's collaboration with State and local governments in addressing this pressing national security threat.

By passing this bill and sending it to the President, we will continue our ongoing efforts to expand critical Federal cybersecurity assistance to State and local governments.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support S. 2520, 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 Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2520.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

BOMBING PREVENTION ACT OF 2022

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6873) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Office for Bombing Prevention to address terrorist explosive threats, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6873

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 "Bombing Prevention Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. OFFICE FOR BOMBING PREVENTION.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Title XXII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new subtitle:

"Subtitle D—Bombing Prevention

"SEC. 2241. OFFICE FOR BOMBING PREVENTION.

"(a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—There is established within the Department an Office for Bombing Prevention (in this section referred to as the 'Office').

"(b) *ACTIVITIES.*—The Office shall have the primary responsibility within the Department for enhancing the ability and coordinating the efforts of the United States to deter, detect, prevent, protect against, mitigate, and respond to terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States, including by carrying out the following:

"(1) *Advising the Secretary on matters related to terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States.*

"(2) *Coordinating the efforts of the Department to counter terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States, including by carrying out the following:*

"(A) *Developing, in coordination with the Under Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans, the Department's strategy against terrorist explosives threats and attacks, including efforts to support the security and preparedness of critical infrastructure and the public sector and private sector.*

"(B) *Leading the prioritization of the Department's efforts against terrorist explosive threats and attacks, including preparedness and operational requirements.*

"(C) *Ensuring, in coordination with the Under Secretary for Science and Technology and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the identification, evaluation, and availability of effective technology applications through field pilot testing and acquisition of such technology applications by the public sector to deter, detect, prevent, protect against, mitigate, and respond to terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States.*

"(D) *Providing advice and recommendations to the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency regarding the effective use of grants authorized under section 2002.*

"(E) *In coordination with the Assistant Secretary for Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction, aligning Department efforts related to terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States and weapons of mass destruction.*

"(3) *Engaging other Federal departments and agencies, including Sector Risk Management Agencies, regarding terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States.*

"(4) *Facilitating information sharing and deterrent support of the public and private sector*

involved in deterrence, detection, prevention, protection against, mitigation of, and response to terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States. Such sharing and support may include the following:

"(A) *Operating and maintaining a secure information sharing system that allows the sharing of critical information and data relating to terrorist explosive attack tactics, techniques, procedures, and security capabilities, including information and data described in paragraph (6) and section 2242.*

"(B) *Working with international partners, in coordination with the Office for International Affairs of the Department, to develop and share effective practices to deter, prevent, detect, protect against, mitigate, and respond to terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States.*

"(5) *Promoting security awareness among the public and private sector and the general public regarding the risks posed by the misuse of explosive precursor chemicals and other bomb-making materials.*

"(6) *Providing training, guidance, assessments, and planning assistance to the public and private sector, as appropriate, to help counter the risk of terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States.*

"(7) *Conducting analysis and planning for the capabilities and requirements necessary for the public and private sector, as appropriate, to deter, detect, prevent, protect against, mitigate, and respond to terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States by carrying out the following:*

"(A) *Maintaining a database on capabilities and requirements, including capabilities and requirements of public safety bomb squads, explosive detection canine teams, special tactics teams, public safety dive teams, and recipients of services described in section 2242.*

"(B) *Applying the analysis derived from the database described in subparagraph (A) with respect to the following:*

"(i) *Evaluating progress toward closing identified gaps relating to national strategic goals and standards related to deterring, detecting, preventing, protecting against, mitigating, and responding to terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States.*

"(ii) *Informing decisions relating to homeland security policy, assistance, training, research, development efforts, testing and evaluation, and related requirements regarding deterring, detecting, preventing, protecting against, mitigating, and responding to terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States.*

"(8) *Promoting secure information sharing of sensitive material and promoting security awareness, including by carrying out the following:*

"(A) *Operating and maintaining a secure information sharing system that allows the sharing among and between the public and private sector of critical information relating to explosive attack tactics, techniques, and procedures.*

"(B) *Educating the public and private sectors about explosive precursor chemicals.*

"(C) *Working with international partners, in coordination with the Office for International Affairs of the Department, to develop and share effective practices to deter, detect, prevent, protect against, mitigate, and respond to terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States.*

"(D) *Executing national public awareness and vigilance campaigns relating to terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States, preventing explosive attacks, and activities and measures underway to safeguard the United States.*

"(E) *Working with relevant stakeholder organizations.*

"(9) *Providing any other assistance the Secretary determines necessary.*

“SEC. 2242. COUNTERING EXPLOSIVE DEVICES TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

“(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Upon request, the Secretary shall, to the extent practicable, provide to the public and private sector technical assistance services to support the security and preparedness of such sectors, as appropriate, to counter terrorist explosive threats and attacks that pose a risk in certain jurisdictions, including vulnerable and disadvantaged communities, to critical infrastructure facilities, or to special events, as appropriate.

“(b) **ELEMENTS.**—Technical assistance services provided pursuant to subsection (a) shall—

“(1) support the planning and implementation of effective measures to deter, detect, prevent, protect against, mitigate, and respond to terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States, including effective strategic risk management and emergency operations plans;

“(2) support the security of explosive precursor chemicals and other bomb-making materials outside of regulatory control;

“(3) support efforts to prepare for and respond to bomb threats or other acts involving the malicious conveyance of false information concerning terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States;

“(4) make available resources to enhance deterrence, prevention, detection, protection, mitigation, and response capabilities for terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States, including coordination and communication, to better integrate State, local, Tribal, and territorial and private sector capabilities and assets, as appropriate, with Federal operations;

“(5) make available augmenting resources, as appropriate, to enable State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments to sustain and refresh their capabilities;

“(6) track performance in meeting the goals and associated plans of the provision of such technical assistance; and

“(7) include any other assistance the Secretary determines necessary.

“SEC. 2243. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER DEPARTMENT COMPONENTS AND FEDERAL AGENCIES.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The authority of the Secretary under this subtitle shall not affect or diminish the authority or the responsibility of any officer of any other Federal agency with respect to the command, control, or direction of the functions, personnel, funds, assets, or liabilities of any other such Federal agency.

“(b) **DEPARTMENT COMPONENTS.**—Nothing in this subtitle or any other provision of law may be construed to affect or reduce the responsibilities of—

“(1) the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office or the Assistant Secretary of the Office, including with respect to any asset, function, or mission of the Office or the Assistant Secretary, as the case may be;

“(2) the Federal Emergency Management Agency or the Administrator of the Agency, including the diversion of any asset, function, or mission of the Agency or the Administrator as the case may be; or

“(3) the Transportation Security Administration or the Administrator of the Administration, including the diversion of any asset, function, or mission of the Administration or the Administrator, as the case may be.”.

(b) **STRATEGY AND REPORTS.**—

(1) **STRATEGY.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the head of the Office for Bombing Prevention of the Department of Homeland Security (established pursuant to section 2241 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by subsection (a)), in consultation with the heads of other components of the Department and the heads of other Federal agencies, as appropriate, shall develop a strategy to align the Office's activities with the threat environment and stakeholder needs, and make the public and private sector aware of the Office's capabilities. Such strategy shall include the following elements:

(A) Information on terrorist explosive threats, tactics, and attacks in the United States.

(B) Information, by region of the United States, regarding public and private sector entities likely to be targeted by terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States, including historically black colleges and universities and minority serving institutions, places of worship, health care facilities, transportation systems, commercial facilities, and government facilities.

(C) Guidance on how outreach to owners and operators of critical infrastructure (as such term is defined in section 1016(e) of Public Law 107–56 (42 U.S.C. 5195c(e))) in a region should be prioritized.

(D) A catalogue of the services and training currently offered by the Office, and a description of how such services and trainings assist the public and private sector to deter, detect, prevent, protect against, mitigate, and respond to terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States.

(E) Long-term objectives of the Office, including future service and training offerings.

(F) Metrics for measuring the effectiveness of services and trainings offered by the Office.

(G) An assessment of resource requirements necessary to implement such strategy.

(H) A description of how the Office partners with other components of the Department and other Federal agencies to carry out its mission.

(2) **REPORTS.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Homeland Security 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 describing the activities of the Office for Bombing Prevention of the Department of Homeland Security (established pursuant to section 2241 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by subsection (a)). Each such report shall include information on the following:

(A) Changes to terrorist explosive threats, tactics, and attacks in the United States.

(B) Changes to the types of public and private sector entities likely to be targeted by terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States.

(C) The number of trainings, assessments, and other engagements carried out by the Office within each region of the United States, including a description of the critical infrastructure sector or stakeholder served.

(D) The number of trainings, assessments, or other engagements the Office was asked to conduct but did not, and an explanation relating thereto.

(E) The effectiveness of the trainings, assessments, or other engagements provided by the Office based on the metrics described in paragraph (1)(F).

(F) Any changes or anticipated changes in the trainings, assessments, and other engagements, or any other services, offered by the Office, and an explanation relating thereto.

(c) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 2238 the following new items:

“Subtitle D—Bombing Prevention

“Sec. 2241. Office for Bombing Prevention.

“Sec. 2242. Countering explosive devices technical assistance.

“Sec. 2243. Relationship to other Department components and Federal agencies.”.

SEC. 3. EXPLOSIVES TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Title III of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 323. EXPLOSIVES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary, acting through the Under Secretary for Science and Technology, and in coordination with the head of the Office for Bombing Prevention and the Assistant Secretary for the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office, and in consultation with the Attorney General, the Secretary of Defense, and the head of any other relevant Federal department or agency, including Sector Risk Management Agencies, shall ensure coordination and information sharing regarding non-military research, development, testing, and evaluation activities of the Federal Government relating to the deterrence, detection, prevention, protection against, mitigation of, and response to terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States.

“(b) **LEVERAGING MILITARY RESEARCH.**—The Secretary, acting through the Under Secretary for Science and Technology, and in coordination with the head of the Office for Bombing Prevention and the Assistant Secretary for the Countering of Weapons of Mass Destruction Office, shall consult with the Secretary of Defense and the head of any other relevant Federal department or agency, including Sector Risk Management Agencies, to ensure that, to the maximum extent possible, military policies and procedures, and research, development, testing, and evaluation activities relating to the deterrence, detection, prevention, protection against, mitigation of, and response to terrorist explosive threats and attacks in the United States are adapted to nonmilitary uses.”.

(b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 322 the following new item:

“Sec. 323. Explosives research and development.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) and the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. LATURNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MALINOWSKI. 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 this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, between January 4 and February 16 of this year, there were over 50 bomb threats that disproportionately targeted historically Black colleges and universities, Black churches, mosques, and synagogues across our country.

These racially and ethnically targeted bomb threats have continued through the spring. They have sowed fear, disrupted academic instruction, and interfered with the ability of Americans to worship safely.

They have also brought into focus the diversity of the current homeland security threat picture and reminded us that conventional threats, like

bombings, deserve sustained attention, even as efforts to counter mass shootings and cyber threats have to be intensified.

I introduced H.R. 6873, the Bombing Prevention Act of 2022, for the first time to authorize the Office for Bombing Prevention.

For the past 15 years, the Office for Bombing Prevention has been responsible for coordinating DHS' efforts at preventing, protecting against, mitigating the effects of, and responding to improvised explosive devices here domestically, and helping our partners and allies around the world do the same.

The Office for Bombing Prevention is squarely focused on protecting critical infrastructure, working with private sector partners, and supporting our Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial entities to mitigate explosive effects on critical infrastructure.

To that end, it regularly engages with stakeholders, including educational stakeholders, about accessing the office's training and tools, such as its counter-IED capability.

H.R. 6873 would bring needed permanence and predictability to the operations of this office and position it to build capacity to meet growing demands for its services.

Importantly, my bill directs the office to develop a strategy that aligns its operations with the threat environment and stakeholder needs; improves the sharing of information about explosive threats; and enhances awareness of the office's capabilities to those around the country who are most at risk.

The bill also directs the Secretary of the DHS to provide to public- and private-sector entities technical assistance services related to countering these explosive threats.

Finally, to keep the office accountable, H.R. 6873 requires an annual report to Congress.

This bipartisan legislation, which I was pleased to introduce with my colleague from Arkansas (Mr. CRAWFORD), will better position the Office for Bombing Prevention to provide counter-explosives resources to stakeholders as the threat environment changes, making communities across America more secure and helping to ensure that in this country, no person should have to work, study, or worship while living in fear of a terrorist bombing.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6873, the Bombing Prevention Act of 2022. Between just January 4 and February 16 of this year, the FBI reported more than 50 bomb threats against domestic targets.

The DHS Office of Bombing Protection, or OBP, has a mission to protect life and critical infrastructure by building capabilities within the general

public and across public and private sectors to prevent, protect against, respond to, and mitigate bombing incidents.

To that end, this bill will more aptly enable OBP to conduct its mission by requiring: a strategy for securing critical infrastructure against terrorist explosives; promoting awareness of risks posed by the misuse of explosive chemicals and bomb-making materials; and a database of capabilities and requirements to track public and private terrorist explosive threats.

This legislation is a critical step toward ensuring that threats to our domestic security posed by bombings and malicious use of explosives is mitigated to the best of our ability.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to join me in supporting H.R. 6873, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. LATURNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. CRAWFORD).

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank my cosponsor for his work on this, and I can't tell you how thrilled I am to see this bill come to the House floor for consideration.

As a former Army bomb tech, I know how critical it is for our military to be adequately equipped on the front lines to dispose of explosive threats. This is all the more true on our home front, where the public safety continues to be threatened by terrorists and other bad actors who consistently use bombs and explosive hazards to advance their agenda.

But it should not take a tragedy to enact sensible change and to continue to equip our homeland security officials with the tools they need to mitigate bombing incidents and to protect the critical infrastructure of our Nation and the lives of our citizens.

The Office for Bombing Prevention, or OBP, was created in response to terrorism events, both at home and abroad, including the bombing of a Pan Am flight over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988; the World Trade Center in 1993; Oklahoma City in 1995; a Madrid train in 2004; London in 2005; the Boston Marathon in 2013; and Nashville on Christmas Day in 2020.

OBP leads the Department of Homeland Security's efforts to implement the National Policy for Countering Improvised Explosive Devices and enhances the Nation's ability to prevent, protect against, respond to, and mitigate the use of explosives against critical infrastructure, the private sector, and Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial entities.

Currently, the OBP sits underneath the jurisdiction of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, or CISA. However, our recent history has proven that OBP needs a bit of promotion in order to adequately inform the Secretary of Homeland Security on ongoing threats and to keep the general public out of harm's way.

I say recent history because, unfortunately, our Nation has not been safe from threats, most of which, thankfully, never led to serious injury, destruction, or death. The 2010 Times Square car bombing attempt, the IEDs left outside the RNC and DCCC on January 6, 2021, and over 50 reported bomb threats between January and February of this year targeted disproportionately at HBCUs, Black churches, mosques, and synagogues.

It is our responsibility as Members of Congress to lead and address these unacceptable threats while simultaneously reducing the amount of threats designed to instill fear in the public. I applaud my colleagues for responding to these events seriously and appropriately, and I have full confidence the OBP will have the tools necessary to carry out this mission.

Our bill authorizes OBP and directs the office to develop a strategy for further securing critical infrastructure against terrorist explosive threats and attacks and to evaluate effective technologies to defend against them. Further, OBP will be required to promote security awareness of risks posed by the misuse of explosive precursor chemicals, bomb-making materials, providing technical assistance to the public and private sectors to support security preparedness, assist other agencies with information sharing and responding to various threats, and working with relevant stakeholder interests in bettering this overall effort.

It has come to my attention that in response to the bomb threats at our HBCUs, the OBP led a briefing with 150 leaders on training opportunities and engaged with educational stakeholders about accessing OBP's counter-IED capability development programs, information, training, and tools. This kind of responsiveness to a dire situation only strengthens my confidence that the men and women at OBP are ready and informed to respond to ongoing bomb threats and prevent further incidents and potential devastation.

We should be proud, as Americans, to feel a sense of security each and every day. Security and strength are what brings us together and the foundation for what we fight for. Unfortunately, we live the reality that anyone can be a threat to this security and strength, even when we least expect it, from our grocery stores, to our places of worship, to our schools. We must continue to fight and ensure that Americans live free from fear of the malicious use of explosives and from the threat of a terrorist's agenda. Our citizens should feel and remain secure at their jobs, their schools, and, most importantly, around their families. That is my mission as a Member of Congress; that will be the mission of the Office for Bombing Prevention, and that is why I support H.R. 6873.

I thank my co-lead, Representative MALINOWSKI, one more time, as well as

Representative KATKO for his leadership on the Homeland Security Committee, and for meeting with me to discuss my priorities for bombing prevention from our service branches to the domestic front.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, in my home State of New Jersey, there have been more than 25 bomb scares since 2020, threatening public schools, universities, community centers, and religious institutions.

Just last fall in my district, the Roxbury Township school system received a bomb threat that led to panic and K9 sweeps on school property during teaching hours, and nearby Hopewell Valley Central High School encountered an explosive threat that forced the school to evacuate and shut down early for the day.

In addition, 7 years ago this September, over a 2-day period, communities in Seaside Park and Elizabeth, New Jersey, as well as the Chelsea neighborhood of Manhattan were rocked by three bombings that wounded 31 people.

Subsequent analysis done by the Office for Bombing Prevention at DHS determined that each of the devices planted by the assailant was completely different from the others.

Two of the bombs were pipe bombs, two were homemade pressure cooker bombs, some used modified Christmas tree lights and cellphones, and one of the pressure cooker bombs used two different chemicals that alone are not dangerous but ignite when combined.

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The office concluded that while each of the bombs was different, all included elements detailed in several issues of al-Qaida's Inspire magazine.

The invaluable analysis carried out by the office in the wake of the September 2016 New Jersey-area attacks was shared with first responders and homeland security stakeholders all across the country, underscoring the expertise of the Office for Bombing Prevention and the important role it plays in equipping our communities with the best information available to keep the public safe.

Today, the office provides critical support to help defend communities across America from the threats posed by explosives, but we need to empower it to do more. The Bombing Prevention Act does just that. It has been endorsed by the Anti-Defamation League and by the Jewish Federations of North America.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 6873, 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 Jersey (Mr.

MALINOWSKI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6873, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

NONPROFIT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2022

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6825) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance the funding and administration of the Nonprofit Security Grant Program of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6825

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 "Nonprofit Security Grant Program Improvement Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. ENHANCEMENTS TO FUNDING AND ADMINISTRATION OF NONPROFIT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2009 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting "and threats" before the period at the end;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "this" before "subsection"; and

(B) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

"(2) determined by the Secretary to be at risk of terrorist attacks and threats.";

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) as subparagraphs (A), (B), and (E), respectively, and moving such subparagraphs, as so redesignated, two ems to the right;

(B) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), as so redesignated, by striking "The recipient" and inserting the following:

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The recipient";

(C) in subparagraph (A), as so redesignated, by striking "equipment and inspection and screening systems" and inserting "equipment, inspection and screening systems, and alteration or remodeling of existing buildings or physical facilities";

(D) by inserting after subparagraph (B), as so redesignated, the following new subparagraph:

"(C) Facility security personnel costs, including costs associated with contracted security.

"(D) Expenses directly related to the administration of the grant, except that such expenses may not exceed five percent of the amount of the grant."; and

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

"(2) RETENTION.—Each State through which a recipient receives a grant under this section may retain up to five percent of each grant for expenses directly related to the administration of the grant.";

(4) in subsection (e)—

(A) by striking "2020 through 2024" and inserting "2022 through 2028"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new sentence: "Each such report shall also include information on the number of applications submitted by eligible nonprofit organizations to each State, the number of applications submitted by each State to the Administrator, and the operations of the Nonprofit Security Grant Program Office, including staffing resources and efforts with respect to subparagraphs (A) through (E) of subsection (c)(1).";

(5) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (j);

(6) by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsections:

"(f) ADMINISTRATION.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Administrator shall establish within the Federal Emergency Management Agency a program office for the Program (in this section referred to as the 'program office'). The program office shall be headed by a senior official of the Agency. The Administrator shall administer the Program (including, where appropriate, in coordination with States), including relating to the following:

"(1) Outreach, engagement, education, and technical assistance and support to eligible nonprofit organizations described in subsection (b), with particular attention to such organizations in underserved communities, prior to, during, and after the awarding of grants, including web-based training videos for eligible nonprofit organizations that provide guidance on preparing an application and the environmental planning and historic preservation process.

"(2) Establishment of mechanisms to ensure program office processes are conducted in accordance with constitutional, statutory, regulatory, and other legal and agency policy requirements that protect civil rights and civil liberties and, to the maximum extent practicable, advance equity for members of underserved communities.

"(3) Establishment of mechanisms for the Administrator to provide feedback to eligible nonprofit organizations that do not receive grants.

"(4) Establishment of mechanisms to collect data to measure the effectiveness of grants under the Program.

"(5) Establishment and enforcement of standardized baseline operational requirements for States, including requirements for States to eliminate or prevent any administrative or operational obstacles that may impact eligible nonprofit organizations described in subsection (b) from receiving grants under the Program.

"(6) Carrying out efforts to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse, including through audits of grantees.

"(g) GRANT GUIDELINES.—For each fiscal year, prior to awarding grants under this section, the Administrator—

"(1) shall publish guidelines, including a notice of funding opportunity or similar announcement, as the Administrator determines appropriate; and

"(2) may prohibit States from closing application processes prior to the publication of such guidelines.

"(h) ALLOCATION REQUIREMENTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—In awarding grants under this section, the Administrator shall ensure that—