

Today, more than 11,400 certified partners have been accepted into the program.

The CTPAT Pilot Program Act of 2023 expands upon this already successful program by requiring CBP to establish a pilot program to assess the benefits of allowing non-asset-based third-party logistics providers, 3PLs, and additional asset-based 3PLs to participate in this program.

Mr. Speaker, I hope all Members will support this critical legislation today, as it strengthens our efforts to combat the threat of terrorism in the global supply chain.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill would help American businesses thrive and also enhance the safety of our communities. By expanding access to CTPAT, more of our trusted trading partners can expedite cargo into our local communities and our country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, 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, again, I urge my colleagues to support S. 794, 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, S. 794.

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.

## PRODUCING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES FOR HOMELAND SECURITY ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9459) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enable secure and trustworthy technology through other transaction contracting authority, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9459

*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 “Producing Advanced Technologies for Homeland Security Act” or the “PATHS Act”.

### SEC. 2. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACQUISITION PILOT PROGRAM EXTENSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 831 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “Until September 30, 2024, and subject to subsection (d)” and inserting “Until September 30, 2027, and subject to subsection (c)”; and

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

“(3) OTHER TRANSACTION AUTHORITY INVOLVING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.—Not later than 72 hours after the use or extension of the transaction authority authorized under paragraph (1) involving artificial intelligence technology, the Secretary shall notify the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and offer a briefing explaining the reason for the use or extension.”; and

(2) in subsection (c)(1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “September 30, 2024” and inserting “September 30, 2027”.

(b) REDUCTION IN AMOUNT OF COVERED CONTRACT AWARD.—Subparagraph (A) of section 7113(d)(1) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (6 U.S.C. 112 note; Public Law 117–263) is amended by striking “\$4,000,000” and inserting “\$1,000,000”.

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. 9459.

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 support of H.R. 9459, the PATHS Act.

DHS’ other transaction authority is an important tool in the Department’s limited arsenal of mechanisms to acquire innovative new research and prototypes.

This bill also includes some common-sense transparency reforms to DHS’ use of OTA authority.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST), for his work on this measure.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill would authorize the Department of Homeland Security to continue to use other transaction authority, or OTA, for an additional 3 years.

OTA allows the Department to work with nontraditional government contractors to conduct research and prototype projects outside the framework of the traditional acquisition process.

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DHS’ ability to use OTA expires on September 30, just 1 week from now. Let’s pass this legislation and ensure that this does not happen again.

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 Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) the Congressman who represents my parents and who is the vice chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9459, the Producing Advanced Technologies for Homeland Security Act. I am grateful to my colleagues on the Homeland Security Committee for advancing this bipartisan piece of legislation that I am proud to lead with my friend from Maryland, Congressman GLENN IVEY.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Homeland Security has a constantly evolving mission, and to meet these needs, the Department was previously granted authority to enter into other transactional agreements, or OTAs. These legally binding agreements allow the Department to engage with non-traditional contractors that would not normally do business with the Federal Government.

This authority allows the Department of Homeland Security to operate quickly and more efficiently. These agreements have allowed entities to produce prototypes of nonintrusive inspection technology that can detect illicit materials hidden inside vehicles crossing the border and has researched machine learning practices to assist U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

The usefulness of this authority has been demonstrated in my home State of Mississippi, as The University of Southern Mississippi was part of a project to develop sensors for unmanned vehicles used by both DHS and the United States Coast Guard.

It is critical that we pass this legislation before the authority expires on September 30.

This bill served as a companion to Senator PETERS’ Senate bill, which passed unanimously out of markup in the Senate in April of this year. It would extend the Department’s OTA authority by 3 years to 2027.

Mr. Speaker, I am also glad to say that this bill provides additional accountability and places guardrails on the current program.

It would require advanced notification to Congress should the authority be used in any advancement of artificial intelligence technology.

It would amend the DHS Contract Reporting Act of 2021 to ensure greater—once again, greater—transparency by reducing the amount of a contract to be reported on the DHS website from \$4 million to \$1 million.

Again, I thank Mr. IVEY for his leadership on this important legislation, and I appreciate Chairman GREEN and the committee staff for their work on this timely and relevant issue.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this bill.

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

gentleman from Maryland (Mr. IVEY), a cosponsor of this measure.

Mr. IVEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise today as a proud cosponsor of the Producing Advanced Technologies for Homeland Security Act.

Other transaction authority, or OTA, is a vital tool that enables DHS to more quickly obtain cutting-edge, emerging technologies that address specific operational needs.

For example, DHS has used OTA to fund research and development of digital IDs that people can store on their phone and advanced technology to improve the detection of explosive materials at airport checkpoints.

This bipartisan bill also provides for increased transparency into the Department's use of OTA by requiring DHS to notify the public and Congress when it uses the authority to enter into agreements worth over \$1 million or for agreements involving artificial intelligence.

A lapse in DHS' authority would impede the Department's ability to rapidly develop solutions for border security, aviation security, and other critical homeland security concerns.

Mr. Speaker, 5 years ago when OTA did briefly lapse, that is exactly what happened. DHS was forced to delay or stop 48 projects.

DHS estimates that if OTA lapses again next week, 77 planned and underway projects would be halted or delayed.

A potential halt in OTA would be inefficient, wasteful, and potentially harmful to the security of our homeland.

In closing, I thank my colleague, Congressman GUEST, for sponsoring this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

I thank Representatives MICHAEL GUEST and GLENN IVEY for cosponsoring this bill.

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

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

I, again, urge my colleagues to support H.R. 9459, 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. 9459.

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.

#### DHS CYBERSECURITY ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAM ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and

pass the bill (H.R. 3208) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a DHS Cybersecurity On-the-Job Training Program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3208

*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 "DHS Cybersecurity On-the-Job Training Program Act".

#### SEC. 2. DHS CYBERSECURITY ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of title XXII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 141 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

##### "SEC. 2220F. DHS CYBERSECURITY ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAM.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established within the Agency a 'DHS Cybersecurity On-the-Job Training Program' (in this section referred to as the 'Program') to voluntarily train Department employees who are not currently in a cybersecurity position for work in matters relating to cybersecurity at the Department. The Program shall be led by the Director, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Management.

"(b) DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR.—In carrying out the Program under subsection (a), the Director—

"(1) shall develop a curriculum for the Program, incorporating any existing curricula as appropriate, and consistent with the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education Framework or any successor framework, which may include distance learning instruction, in-classroom instruction within a work location, on-the-job instruction under the supervision of experienced cybersecurity staff, or other means of training and education as determined appropriate by the Director;

"(2) shall develop criteria for participation in the Program;

"(3) in accordance with paragraph (1), shall provide cybersecurity training to employees of the Department and may, as appropriate, provide cybersecurity training to other Federal employees; and

"(4) shall annually for seven years 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 that includes—

"(A) information relating to the number of employees who participated in the Program in the preceding year;

"(B) an identification of the positions into which employees trained through the Program were hired after such training;

"(C) a description of metrics used to measure the success of the Program;

"(D) copies of the reports submitted pursuant to (c)(1); and

"(E) any additional information relating to the duties specified in this subsection.

"(c) DUTIES OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MANAGEMENT.—In carrying out the Program under subsection (a), the Under Secretary for Management shall—

"(1) submit to the Secretary an annual report on the status of vacancies in cybersecurity positions throughout the Department;

"(2) support efforts by the Director to identify and recruit individuals employed by the Department to participate in the Program;

"(3) implement policies, including continuing service agreements, to encourage participation in the Program by employees throughout the Department; and

"(4) conduct outreach to employees who complete the Program regarding cybersecurity job opportunities within the Department."

(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 2220E the following new item:

"Sec. 2220F. DHS Cybersecurity On-the-Job Training Program."

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 days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3208.

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 in support of H.R. 3208. The DHS Cybersecurity On-the-Job Training Program Act will strengthen CISA's role in providing cybersecurity training to DHS employees not formerly in cybersecurity positions.

This legislation is reflective of the consistent efforts of its sponsor, Ms. Jackson Lee, who we all lost just months ago, to improve DHS. This, I believe, is her last bill. She was a true friend to the committee and to this Chamber, and I know we will all miss her presence.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

During Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee's two decades in Congress serving on the Homeland Security Committee, one of her top priorities was strengthening our Nation's cyber defenses.

She consistently prioritized expanding our cybersecurity workforce, recognized that investing in cybersecurity education and training would make our Nation more secure.

At a time when few Members of Congress were focused on cybersecurity back in 2005, Congresswoman Jackson Lee introduced the Cybersecurity Education Enhancement Act to provide funding for expanded cybersecurity education programs across the country.

With her trademark persistence, Congresswoman Jackson Lee kept on fighting to expand the talent pool of trained cybersecurity professionals, most recently with the introduction last year of this legislation that we are considering today, the DHS Cybersecurity On-the-Job Training Program Act.

This bill will direct the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, or CISA, to provide cybersecurity