

hinges upon the reauthorization of the DHS Office of Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction, CWMD.

Without CWMD, the Securing the Cities program will cease to operate. Securing the Cities, also called STC, was launched by the Department of Homeland Security in fiscal year 2007 as a pilot program to support New York City, Jersey City, and Newark, New Jersey, in detecting and preventing nuclear or radiological threats.

Today, the STC program provides 14 local governments, including my hometown of New Orleans, with detection equipment, training, exercise support, operational and technical support, subject matter expertise, and programmatic support.

STC's work in New Orleans has supported important events such as Mardi Gras, which is a very special and joyous time in my hometown. As you know, we will have the Super Bowl next year. This will have a critical impact on its safety and delivering joy to the people of our country and our world.

However, STC is limited to high-risk urban areas designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency under the Urban Area Security Initiative, or UASI, program.

Linking STC and UASI together can create uncertainty for local governments participating in the program, as the composition of jurisdictions in the UASI program can fluctuate from one year to the next.

To ensure stability within the STC program and maintain partnerships with at-risk cities, I introduced the Securing the Cities Improvement Act. My legislation would allow CWMD to determine which cities to partner with for the STC program based on the jurisdiction's capability and capacity to prepare for and respond to threats of vulnerabilities against terrorist attacks and other high-consequence events utilizing nuclear or other radiological materials.

It would also establish performance metrics and milestones for the STC program and monitor expenditures for the program.

Furthermore, the legislation requires DHS to provide a report to Congress regarding participation in the STC program, the establishment of metrics and milestones for the program, and any proposed modifications for this program.

The bill is a commonsense measure, one that will ensure that our cities are protected from nuclear or radiological threats.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4403, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4403 is important for sustaining local jurisdictions' capa-

bilities to counter chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear threats.

Without the support of programs like STC, addressing and mitigating threats could become more difficult or cease to exist altogether, which would jeopardize the safety and well-being of every individual residing in our country.

Passage of this legislation is vital to maintaining our preparedness and ensuring the security of the Nation against the evolving challenges posed by terrorist attacks and other high-consequence events that utilize nuclear or radiological materials.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my House colleagues to support H.R. 4403, and I thank Chairman GREEN for his support in this measure.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I, again, urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4403. I thank Mr. CARTER, the gentleman from Louisiana, for his excellent work on this, 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. 4403.

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.

IMPROVING TRAVEL FOR FAMILIES ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5969) to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to revise certain regulations to permit certain children to accompany their parents or legal guardians through Global Entry airport lanes, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5969

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 Families Act".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF GLOBAL ENTRY TO CERTAIN CHILDREN.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall revise section 235.12 of title 8, Code of Federal Regulations, to permit a child who is 10 years old or younger who is not a member of Global Entry in accordance with such section and who is traveling with such child's parent or legal guardian who is a member of Global Entry in accordance with such section to accompany such parent or legal guardian through a Global Entry lane upon arrival at an international airport in the United States.

(b) *APPOINTMENTS.*—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall take such actions as may be

necessary to permit a parent or legal guardian of up to four children described in subsection (a) who is applying for membership in Global Entry on behalf of such children to schedule a single appointment for an interview relating to such membership for all such children.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER) 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 to include extraneous material on H.R. 5969.

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. 5969, the Global Entry program, which is managed by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, grants expedited clearance for preapproved, low-risk travelers.

Millions of users are enrolled in the Global Entry program and Global Entry kiosks are deployed at many major airports throughout the United States. However, issues can arise when families are traveling with minor children who are not enrolled in the Global Entry program. Because Global Entry benefits are member specific, young children who are not enrolled in the program are not currently allowed to join their parents in the Global Entry line.

H.R. 5969 would rectify this by allowing children ages 10 and younger to join their Global Entry-enrolled parents or guardian through the Global Entry lane.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman LUTTRELL for his work on this very important bill. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5969, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5969 aims to make Global Entry more family friendly by allowing children ages 10 or under to accompany their parents or legal guardians through Global Entry lanes when clearing customs in the United States.

We would like to see all families with young children stay together throughout the customs process, and this bill would make travel more family friendly without compromising security.

This bill also makes it possible for parents to schedule interviews for Global Entry for their kids as groups as opposed to the current format which schedules appointments separately—a logistical nightmare for parents.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LUTTRELL), the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. LUTTRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to advocate for the passage of our bill, H.R. 5969, the Improving Travel for Families Act.

Global Entry has been a critical asset in expediting clearance for preapproved, low-risk travelers upon arrival in the United States. Reduced wait times and access to expedited entry into the United States are all the benefits of Global Entry membership.

Global Entry began as a small pilot program in 2008 with availability in just three airports. Today, the Global Entry program offers expedited preapproved travel clearance for millions of travelers and is available in over 60 U.S. airports.

Our bill would improve international travel for families by allowing children ages 10 and younger who are not currently enrolled in the Global Entry program to accompany their parents and guardians who are in the program in the designated precleared lanes upon arrival at international airports in the United States.

Additionally, the bill would streamline the Global Entry application process by permitting parents or guardians to schedule a single application appointment for up to four young children at a time, rather than having to book multiple individual appointments, thereby reducing the interview appointment backlog.

These small, but meaningful, advancements will be a marked improvement on the Global Entry program. Under current law, only preapproved Global Entry travelers, regardless of age, are permitted to utilize dedicated lanes and kiosks. This creates a major inconvenience for Global Entry-enrolled parents who are traveling with young children who are not currently enrolled.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GREEN, Congressman GLENN IVEY, and the members and staff of the Homeland Security Committee for working with me and my staff on this important bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this sensible legislative measure that will afford law-abiding Americans the opportunity to travel with their children.

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. IVEY).

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5969, the Improving Travel for Families Act. I am proud to cosponsor this bipartisan legislation with my friend and Homeland Security Committee colleague from Texas, Representative MORGAN LUTTRELL.

This bill aims to make the CBP Global Entry program more friendly for family travel at our international airports by allowing children ages 10 or

under to accompany their parent or guardian through Global Entry when clearing customs in the United States.

The bill also makes it possible for parents to schedule interviews for Global Entry for their kids as a group. It will do all of this without risking the security of children, as Global Entry approval requires multiple steps, including a background check.

As a father of six, I know how difficult the logistics can be for families traveling with young children.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense, bipartisan legislation that will make travel more friendly for families without compromising security.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LUTTRELL) for introducing this bill, and I commend the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. IVEY) for cosponsoring this bill aimed at improving the travel experience for families. I believe this bill will help families traveling with young children eliminate some of the difficulties that they may experience along the way.

I am happy to support this bill, and I urge all Members of the House to do the same.

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

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

I again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5969. I, of course, thank again Mr. LUTTRELL for his excellent work on the bill.

Mr. Speaker, 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. 5969, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ERADICATING NARCOTIC DRUGS AND FORMULATING EFFECTIVE NEW TOOLS TO ADDRESS NATIONAL YEARLY LOSSES OF LIFE ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 206) to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to regularly review and update policies and manuals related to inspections at ports of entry.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 206

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLES.

This Act may be cited as the “Eradicating Narcotic Drugs and Formulating Effective New Tools to Address National Yearly Losses of life Act” or the “END FENTANYL Act”.

SEC. 2. ENSURING TIMELY UPDATES TO U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION FIELD MANUALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than triennially, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall review and update, as necessary, the current policies and manuals of the Office of Field Operations related to inspections at ports of entry to ensure the uniform implementation of inspection practices that will effectively respond to technological and methodological changes designed to disguise illegal activity, such as the smuggling of drugs and humans, along the border.

(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Shortly after each update required under subsection (a), the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall submit a report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives that summarizes the policy and manual changes implemented by such update.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER) 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 S. 206.

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 S. 206. In 2019, the Government Accountability Office issued a report which determined that U.S. Customs and Border Protection did not regularly update their inspection policies at ports of entry. In some cases, policies had not been updated in 20 years and did not accurately reflect current operating conditions, presently deployed technology, or adequately address how to handle things like fentanyl.

S. 206 would require CBP to review and update policies and manuals at least once every 3 years and also provide reports to Congress on changes made by those updates. This should ensure that CBP is employing the latest and most efficient methods to stop illegal activity at the ports of entry and prevent it from entering the United States.

I thank Senator SCOTT and Congressman GUEST for their important work