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(Original Signature of Member)

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R.

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To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Department of Homeland Security to establish a social media working group, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Department of Homeland Security to establish a social media working group, 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 “Social Media Working  
5 Group Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. SOCIAL MEDIA WORKING GROUP.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Homeland Secu-  
3 rity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) is amended by  
4 adding at the end the following new section:

5 **“SEC. 318. SOCIAL MEDIA WORKING GROUP.**

6 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall estab-  
7 lish within the Department a social media working group  
8 (in this section referred to as the ‘Group’).

9 “(b) PURPOSE.—In order to enhance information  
10 sharing between the Department and appropriate stake-  
11 holders, the Group shall provide guidance and best prac-  
12 tices to the emergency preparedness and response commu-  
13 nity on the use of social media technologies before, during,  
14 and after a terrorist attack or other emergency.

15 “(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary for  
17 Science and Technology shall serve as the permanent  
18 chairperson of the Group, and shall designate, on a  
19 rotating basis, a representative from a State or local  
20 government who is a member of the Group to serve  
21 as co-chairperson. The Under Secretary shall estab-  
22 lish term limits for individuals appointed to the  
23 Group pursuant to paragraph (2). Membership of  
24 the Group shall be composed of a cross section of  
25 subject matter experts from Federal, State, local,  
26 tribal, and nongovernmental organization practi-

1           tioners, including representatives from the following  
2           entities:

3                   “(A) The Office of Public Affairs of the  
4           Department.

5                   “(B) The Office of the Chief Information  
6           Officer of the Department.

7                   “(C) The Privacy Office of the Depart-  
8           ment.

9                   “(D) The Federal Emergency Management  
10          Agency.

11                   “(E) The Office of Disability Integration  
12          and Coordination of the Federal Emergency  
13          Management Agency.

14                   “(F) The American Red Cross.

15                   “(G) The Forest Service.

16                   “(H) The Centers for Disease Control and  
17          Prevention.

18                   “(I) The United States Geological Survey.

19                   “(J) The National Oceanic and Atmos-  
20          pheric Administration.

21                   “(2) ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.—The Under Sec-  
22          retary for Science and Technology shall appoint, on  
23          a rotating basis, qualified individuals to the Group.  
24          The total number of such additional members  
25          shall—

1           “(A) be equal to or greater than the total  
2           number of regular members under paragraph  
3           (1); and

4           “(B) include—

5                 “(i) not fewer than three representa-  
6                 tives from the private sector; and

7                 “(ii) representatives from—

8                         “(I) State, local, and tribal enti-  
9                         ties, including from—

10                                 “(aa) law enforcement;

11                                 “(bb) fire services;

12                                 “(cc) emergency manage-  
13                                 ment; and

14                                 “(dd) public health entities;

15                                 “(II) universities and academia;

16                                 and

17                                 “(III) non-profit disaster relief  
18                                 organizations.

19           “(d) CONSULTATION WITH NON-MEMBERS.—To the  
20           extent practicable, the Group shall work with existing bod-  
21           ies in the public and private sectors to carry out subsection  
22           (b).

23           “(e) MEETINGS.—

24                 “(1) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 90  
25                 days after the date of the enactment of this section,

1 the Group shall hold its initial meeting. Such initial  
2 meeting may be held virtually.

3 “(2) SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS.—After the initial  
4 meeting under paragraph (1), the Group shall meet  
5 at least twice each year, or at the call of the Chair-  
6 person. Such subsequent meetings may be held vir-  
7 tually.

8 “(f) NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACA.—The Federal  
9 Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply  
10 to the Group.

11 “(g) REPORTS.—Not later than March 30 of each  
12 year, the Group shall submit to the appropriate congres-  
13 sional committees a report that includes the following:

14 “(1) A review of current and emerging social  
15 media technologies being used to support prepared-  
16 ness and response activities related to terrorist at-  
17 tacks and other emergencies.

18 “(2) A review of best practices and lessons  
19 learned on the use of social media during the re-  
20 sponse to terrorist attacks and other emergencies  
21 that occurred during the period covered by the re-  
22 port at issue.

23 “(3) Recommendations to improve the Depart-  
24 ment’s use of social media for emergency manage-  
25 ment purposes.

1           “(4) Recommendations to improve public  
2 awareness of the type of information disseminated  
3 through social media, and how to access such infor-  
4 mation, during a terrorist attack or other emer-  
5 gency.

6           “(5) Recommendations to improve information  
7 sharing among the Department and its components.

8           “(6) Recommendations to improve information  
9 sharing among State and local governments.

10          “(7) A review of available training for Federal,  
11 State, local, and tribal officials on the use of social  
12 media in response to a terrorist attack or other  
13 emergency.

14          “(8) A summary of coordination efforts with  
15 the private sector to discuss and resolve legal, oper-  
16 ational, technical, privacy, and security concerns.”.

17          (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
18 in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is  
19 amended by inserting after the item relating to section  
20 317 the following new item:

“Sec. 318. Social media working group.”.