

**Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H. R. 1372, With an
Amendment**

**(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a
new text)**

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1372

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to ensure that the needs of children are considered in homeland security planning, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 6, 2017

Mr. PAYNE (for himself, Mr. DONOVAN, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to ensure that the needs of children are considered in homeland security planning, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Homeland Security
3 for Children Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR**
5 **STRATEGY, POLICY, AND PLANS.**

6 Paragraph (6) of section 709(c) of the Homeland Se-
7 curity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 349(c)) is amended by insert-
8 ing “, including feedback from organizations representing
9 the needs of children,” after “stakeholder feedback”.

10 **SEC. 3. TECHNICAL EXPERT AUTHORIZED.**

11 Paragraph (2) of section 503(b) of the Homeland Se-
12 curity Act (6 U.S.C. 313(b)) is amended—

13 (1) in subparagraph (G), by striking “and” at
14 the end;

15 (2) in subparagraph (H), by striking the period
16 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

17 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
18 paragraph:

19 “(I) identify and integrate the needs of
20 children into activities to prepare for, protect
21 against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate
22 against the risk of natural disasters, acts of ter-
23 rorism, and other manmade disasters, including
24 catastrophic incidents, including by appointing
25 a technical expert, who may consult with rel-
26 evant outside organizations and experts, as nec-

1 essary, to coordinate such integration, as nec-
2 essary.”.

3 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

4 Not later than one year after the date of the enact-
5 ment of this Act and annually thereafter for five years,
6 the Under Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans of the
7 Department of Homeland Security shall submit to the
8 Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Rep-
9 resentatives and the Committee on Homeland Security
10 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report describ-
11 ing the efforts the Department has undertaken to review
12 and incorporate feedback from organizations representing
13 the needs of children into Department policy in accordance
14 with paragraph (6) of section 709(c) of the Homeland Se-
15 curity Act of 2002 (as added by section 2 of this Act),
16 including information on the following:

17 (1) The designation of any individual respon-
18 sible for carrying out such paragraph (6).

19 (2) Any review, formal or informal, of Depart-
20 ment policies, programs, or activities to assess the
21 suitability of such policies, programs, or activities
22 for children and where feedback from organizations
23 representing the needs of children should be re-
24 viewed and incorporated.

1 (3) Any review, change, modification, or pro-
2 mulgation of Department policies, programs, or ac-
3 tivities to ensure that such policies, programs, or ac-
4 tivities are appropriate for children.

5 (4) Coordination with organizations or experts
6 outside the Department pursuant to such paragraph
7 (6) conducted to inform any such review, change,
8 modification, or promulgation of such policies, pro-
9 grams, or activities.