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(Original Signature of Member)

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R.

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To require a review of university-based centers for homeland security, and  
for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi introduced the following bill; which was referred  
to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# A BILL

To require a review of university-based centers for homeland  
security, 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 “Homeland Security  
5 University-based Centers Review Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REVIEW OF UNIVERSITY-BASED CENTERS.**

7 (a) GAO STUDY OF UNIVERSITY-BASED CENTERS.—

8 Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of  
9 this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States

1 shall initiate a study to assess the university-based centers  
2 for homeland security program authorized by section  
3 308(b)(2) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6  
4 U.S.C. 188(b)(2)), and provide recommendations to the  
5 Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Rep-  
6 resentatives and the Committee on Homeland Security  
7 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate for appropriate  
8 improvements.

9 (b) SUBJECT MATTERS.—The study under sub-  
10 section (a) shall include the following:

11 (1) A review of the Department of Homeland  
12 Security's efforts to identify key areas of study need-  
13 ed to support the homeland security mission, and  
14 criteria that the Department utilized to determine  
15 those key areas for which the Department should  
16 maintain, establish, or eliminate university-based  
17 centers.

18 (2) A review of the method by which university-  
19 based centers, federally funded research and develop-  
20 ment centers, and Department of Energy national  
21 laboratories receive tasking from the Department of  
22 Homeland Security, including a review of how uni-  
23 versity-based research is identified, prioritized, and  
24 funded.

1           (3) A review of selection criteria for designating  
2           university-based centers and a weighting of such cri-  
3           teria.

4           (4) An examination of best practices from other  
5           agencies efforts to organize and use university-based  
6           research to support their missions.

7           (5) A review of the Department of Homeland  
8           Security's criteria and metrics to measure demon-  
9           strable progress achieved by university-based centers  
10          in fulfilling Department taskings, and mechanisms  
11          for delivering and disseminating the research results  
12          of designated university-based centers within the De-  
13          partment and to other Federal, State, and local  
14          agencies.

15          (6) An examination of the means by which aca-  
16          demic institutions that are not designated or associ-  
17          ated with the designated university-based centers  
18          can optimally contribute to the research mission of  
19          the Directorate of Science and Technology of the  
20          Department of Homeland Security.

21          (7) An assessment of the interrelationship be-  
22          tween the different university-based centers and the  
23          degree to which outreach and collaboration among a  
24          diverse array of academic institutions is encouraged  
25          by the Department of Homeland Security, particu-

1 larly with historically black colleges and universities  
2 and minority serving institutions.

3 (8) A review of any other essential elements of  
4 the programs determined in the conduct of the  
5 study.

6 (c) INFORMATION RELATING TO UNIVERSITY-BASED  
7 CENTERS.—Subparagraph (D) of section 308(b)(2) of the  
8 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 188(b)(2)) is  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 “(D) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

11 Not later than one year after the date of the  
12 enactment of this subparagraph and annually  
13 thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the  
14 Committee on Homeland Security of the House  
15 of Representatives and the Committee on  
16 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
17 of the Senate a report on the implementation of  
18 this section. Each such report shall—

19 “(i) indicate which center or centers  
20 have been designated pursuant to this sec-  
21 tion;

22 “(ii) describe how such designation or  
23 designations enhance homeland security;

1                   “(iii) provide information on any deci-  
2                   sions to revoke or modify such designation  
3                   or designations;

4                   “(iv) describe research that has been  
5                   tasked and completed by each center that  
6                   has been designated during the preceding  
7                   year;

8                   “(v) describe funding provided by the  
9                   Secretary for each center under clause (iv)  
10                  for that year; and

11                  “(vi) describe plans for utilization of  
12                  each center or centers in the forthcoming  
13                  year.”.