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(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4561

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To provide for third party testing of transportation security screening technology, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BILIRAKIS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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## A BILL

To provide for third party testing of transportation security screening technology, 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 “Security Assessment  
5 Feasibility for Equipment Testing and Evaluation of Ca-  
6 pabilities for our Homeland Act” or the “SAFE TECH  
7 Act”.

8 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

9 In this Act:

1           (1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term “Administra-  
2           tion” means the Transportation Security Adminis-  
3           tration.

4           (2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-  
5           trator” means the Administrator of the Transpor-  
6           tation Security Administration.

7   **SEC. 3. THIRD PARTY TESTING OF SECURITY SCREENING**  
8                           **TECHNOLOGY.**

9           (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the  
10          date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in  
11          consultation with the Under Secretary for Science and  
12          Technology of the Department of Homeland Security,  
13          shall develop a program to enable a vendor of transpor-  
14          tation security screening technology to obtain testing, in-  
15          cluding as an alternative to the Administration’s testing  
16          process under paragraph (9) of section 114(f) of title 49,  
17          United States Code, by an appropriate third party, as de-  
18          termined by the Administrator, in consultation with the  
19          Under Secretary, of such technology before procurement  
20          or development of such technology.

21          (b) DETECTION TESTING.—

22                (1) IN GENERAL.—The third party testing pro-  
23                gram authorized under subsection (a) shall include  
24                detection testing to evaluate the performance of a  
25                security screening technology relating to the prob-

1 ability of detection, the probability of false alarm,  
2 and other indicators that such technology is able to  
3 meet the Administration's mission needs for detec-  
4 tion of—

5 (A) explosives; and

6 (B) prohibited items.

7 (2) COORDINATION WITH FINAL PROCESSES.—

8 To the extent practicable, and without compromising  
9 the integrity of the Administration's testing process  
10 under paragraph (9) of section 114(f) of title 49,  
11 United States Code, or the Department of Home-  
12 land Security's oversight of such testing process, or  
13 increasing costs to the Administration, the Adminis-  
14 trator shall coordinate the third party detection test-  
15 ing under paragraph (1) with any associated subse-  
16 quent final Government Department of Homeland  
17 Security testing.

18 (3) INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS.—To the  
19 extent practicable and permissible under law, and in  
20 accordance with national security interests of the  
21 United States, the Administrator shall—

22 (A) share with appropriate international  
23 partners detection testing information and  
24 standards; and

1 (B) coordinate with such appropriate inter-  
2 national partners to align such testing informa-  
3 tion and standards to maximize the capability  
4 to detect explosives and other threats.

5 (c) ALTERNATIVE TESTING FACTORS.—Third party  
6 testing under subsection (a) may include as an alternative,  
7 at the discretion of the Administrator, the testing at the  
8 TSA Systems Integration Facility of the Administration,  
9 including testing for—

- 10 (1) health and safety factors;
- 11 (2) operator interface;
- 12 (3) human factors;
- 13 (4) environmental factors;
- 14 (5) throughput;
- 15 (6) reliability, maintainability, and availability
- 16 factors; and
- 17 (7) interoperability.

18 (d) TESTING FRAMEWORK.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator, in con-  
20 sultation with the Under Secretary for Science and  
21 Technology of the Department of Homeland Secu-  
22 rity, shall—

23 (A) establish a framework for the third  
24 party testing under this section to determine if  
25 the security screening technology that is the

1 subject of such testing satisfies the Administra-  
2 tion's requirements before such technology may  
3 enter or re-enter, as applicable, operational test-  
4 ing at an airport or other transportation facil-  
5 ity; and

6 (B) use phased implementation to allow  
7 the Administration and the third party con-  
8 cerned to establish best practices.

9 (e) **PRIORITIZATION OF THIRD PARTY TESTING.**—  
10 The Administrator may prioritize, when appropriate, the  
11 field testing of security screening technology and equip-  
12 ment by third parties.

13 **SEC. 4. RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION OF SECURITY STAND-**  
14 **ARDS.**

15 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator, in coordina-  
16 tion with the European Civil Aviation Conference, shall  
17 continue development of a validation process for the recip-  
18 rocal recognition of security validation processes for rec-  
19 ognition of security screening technologies or certification  
20 authorities for deployment.

21 (b) **REQUIREMENT.**—The validation process under  
22 subsection (a) shall ensure that the certification process  
23 of each participating international security partner or rec-  
24 ognized certification authority complies with Administra-  
25 tion standards.