

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 6229

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize a program to assess the threat, vulnerability, and consequences of terrorism or other security threats, as appropriate, to certain events, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 3, 2023

Ms. TITUS (for herself and Mr. HUDSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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

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## A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize a program to assess the threat, vulnerability, and consequences of terrorism or other security threats, as appropriate, to certain events, 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 “DHS Special Events  
5 Program and Support Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DHS SPECIAL EVENTS PROGRAM.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle H of title VIII of the  
3 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 451 et seq.)  
4 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

5 **“SEC. 890E. SPECIAL EVENTS PROGRAM.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized within the  
7 Department a program to assess the threat, vulnerability,  
8 and consequences of terrorism or other security threats,  
9 as appropriate, at certain special events in accordance  
10 with subsection (b).

11 “(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The program authorized  
12 under subsection (a) shall—

13 “(1) apply to special events that are pre-  
14 planned and not designated as National Special Se-  
15 curity Events by the Secretary;

16 “(2) include a standard process for Federal,  
17 State, local, Tribal, and territorial officials to volun-  
18 tarily submit to the Secretary requests for a special  
19 event rating that could result in direct support for  
20 security and situational awareness for such special  
21 event;

22 “(3) maintain a risk-based methodology to as-  
23 sess ratings requests, including requests submitted  
24 pursuant to paragraph (2), that considers the antici-  
25 pated attendance by United States officials or for-  
26 eign dignitaries, the size and venue of the special

1 event, credible threats of terrorism or other security  
2 threats, and other homeland security information, as  
3 appropriate; and

4 “(4) include a process for expedited consider-  
5 ation and, where appropriate, a process for the reas-  
6 sessment, of a special event rating.

7 “(c) SUPPORT TO SPECIAL EVENTS.—For purposes  
8 of protecting a special event described in subsection (b),  
9 the Secretary may provide security and situational aware-  
10 ness support to a Federal, State, local, Tribal, or terri-  
11 torial official at the request of an appropriate Federal,  
12 State, local, Tribal, or territorial official.

13 “(d) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than one year  
14 after the date of the enactment of this section and annu-  
15 ally thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Com-  
16 mittee on Homeland Security of the House of Representa-  
17 tives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-  
18 ernmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the program  
19 authorized under subsection (a). Each such report shall  
20 include information relating to the following:

21 “(1) The total number of special events sub-  
22 mitted to the program authorized under subsection  
23 (a) in the prior year, including the number of special  
24 events at each rating level.

1           “(2) The total number of events in the prior  
2           year for which the Secretary designated a Federal  
3           coordinator or coordinated security and situational  
4           awareness support, including a summary of Federal  
5           support provided.

6           “(3) The total number of requests for special  
7           event rating reassessment under subsection (b)(4),  
8           including the following:

9                   “(A) The identification of the requesting  
10                  entity.

11                   “(B) The special event name, date, and lo-  
12                  cation.

13                   “(C) The initial and final rating deter-  
14                  mination.

15                   “(D) The justification for such final rating  
16                  determination.

17           “(e) PERIODIC ASSESSMENTS.—Not later than one  
18           year after the date of the enactment of this section and  
19           every five years thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to  
20           the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of  
21           Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security  
22           and Governmental Affairs of the Senate an assessment of  
23           the program authorized under subsection (a).

1       “(f) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘home-  
2 land security information’ has the meaning given such  
3 term in section 892.”.

4       (b) MASS GATHERING RESEARCH.—Not later than  
5 one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
6 Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the  
7 Undersecretary for Science and Technology of the Depart-  
8 ment of Homeland Security and the official responsible for  
9 carrying out section 890E of the Homeland Security Act  
10 of 2002, as added by subsection (a), shall, to the extent  
11 practicable, carry out research and development, including  
12 operational testing, of technologies and techniques for en-  
13 hancing the Department’s security and situational aware-  
14 ness support to Federal, State, local, Tribal, and terri-  
15 torial officials relating to mass gatherings consistent with  
16 applicable constitutional, privacy, civil rights, and civil lib-  
17 erties protections.

18       (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
19 in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is  
20 amended by inserting after the item relating to section  
21 890D the following new item:

“Sec. 890E. Special events program.”.

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