

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1300

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to make anthrax vaccines and antimicrobials available to emergency response providers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 4, 2015

Mr. KING of New York (for himself, Mr. PASCARELL, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, and Mr. KATKO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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 direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to make anthrax vaccines and antimicrobials available to emergency response providers, 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 “First Responder An-
5 thrax Preparedness Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ANTHRAX VACCINATION PROGRAM FOR FIRST RE-**
2 **SPONDERS.**

3 (a) ANTHRAX PREPAREDNESS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Title V of the Homeland Se-
5 curity Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 6 U.S.C.
6 311 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the
7 following new section:

8 **“§ 526. Anthrax preparedness**

9 “(a) VACCINATION PROGRAM FOR FIRST EMER-
10 GENCY RESPONSE PROVIDERS.—For the purpose of do-
11 mestic preparedness for and collective response to ter-
12 rorism, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consulta-
13 tion with the Secretary of Health and Human Services,
14 shall make available surplus vaccines and antimicrobials
15 and vaccines and antimicrobials with short shelf lives,
16 from the strategic national stockpile under section 319F–
17 2(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d–
18 6b(a)) to emergency response providers for administration
19 to such providers who voluntarily consent to such adminis-
20 tration, and shall—

21 “(1) establish any necessary logistical and
22 tracking systems to facilitate making such vaccines
23 and antimicrobials so available; and

24 “(2) distribute disclosures regarding associated
25 risks to end users.

1 “(b) THREAT ASSESSMENT.—The Under Secretary
2 for Intelligence and Analysis shall—

3 “(1) support homeland security-focused risk
4 analysis and risk assessments of the threats posed
5 by anthrax from an act of terror;

6 “(2) leverage existing and emerging homeland
7 security intelligence capabilities and structures to
8 enhance prevention, protection, response, and recov-
9 ery efforts with respect to an anthrax terror attack;
10 and

11 “(3) share information and provide tailored an-
12 alytical support on threats posed by anthrax to
13 State, local, and tribal authorities, as well as other
14 national biosecurity and biodefense stakeholders.”.

15 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
16 tions in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by in-
17 serting at the end of the items relating to title V the
18 following new item:

“Sec. 526. Anthrax preparedness.”.

19 (b) PILOT PROGRAM.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the vaccina-
21 tion program authorized in section 526(a) of the
22 Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by sub-
23 section (a), the Secretary shall carry out a pilot pro-
24 gram to administer vaccines and antimicrobials to
25 emergency response providers as so authorized. The

1 duration of the pilot program shall be at least 18
2 months.

3 (2) PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS.—By not
4 later than one year after the date of the enactment
5 of this Act, and prior to implementing the pilot pro-
6 gram under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

7 (A) establish a communication platform for
8 the pilot program;

9 (B) establish education and training mod-
10 ules for the pilot program;

11 (C) conduct economic analysis of the pilot
12 program; and

13 (D) create a logistical platform for the an-
14 thrax vaccine request process under the pilot
15 program.

16 (3) LOCATION.—In carrying out the pilot pro-
17 gram under this subsection, the Secretary shall se-
18 lect emergency response providers based in at least
19 two States for participation in the pilot program.

20 (4) DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION.—The
21 Secretary shall provide to each emergency response
22 provider who participates in the pilot program under
23 this subsection disclosures and educational materials
24 regarding the associated risks of any vaccine or anti-

1 microbial administered under the pilot program and
2 of exposure to anthrax.

3 (5) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the
4 date of the enactment of this Act, and annually
5 thereafter until the completion of the pilot program,
6 the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on
7 Homeland Security of the House of Representatives
8 and the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-
9 ernmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the
10 progress and results of the pilot program. The re-
11 port shall include a plan under which the Secretary
12 plans to continue to make vaccines and
13 antimicrobials available to emergency response pro-
14 viders under section 526(a) of the Homeland Secu-
15 rity Act of 2002, as added by subsection (a).

16 (6) DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—The
17 Secretary shall begin implementing the pilot pro-
18 gram under this subsection by not later than the
19 date that is one year after the date of the enactment
20 of this Act.

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