

**Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H. R. 1634, With an
Amendment**

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

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1634

To strengthen accountability for deployment of border security technology
at the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 25, 2015

Ms. MCSALLY (for herself, Mr. McCAUL, Mr. KATKO, Mr. HURD of Texas,
Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. WALKER, Mr. LOUDERMILK, and Mr.
RATCLIFFE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Com-
mittee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To strengthen accountability for deployment of border secu-
rity technology at the Department of 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 “Border Security Tech-
5 nology Accountability Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. BORDER SECURITY TECHNOLOGY ACCOUNT-**
2 **ABILITY.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle C of title IV of the
4 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 231 et seq.)
5 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

6 **“SEC. 434. BORDER SECURITY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM**
7 **MANAGEMENT.**

8 “(a) PLANNING DOCUMENTATION.—For each border
9 security technology acquisition program of the Depart-
10 ment that is determined to be a major acquisition pro-
11 gram, the Secretary shall—

12 “(1) ensure that each such program has a writ-
13 ten acquisition program baseline approved by the
14 relevant acquisition decision authority;

15 “(2) document that each such program is meet-
16 ing cost, schedule, and performance thresholds as
17 specified in such baseline, in compliance with rel-
18 evant departmental acquisition policies and the Fed-
19 eral Acquisition Regulation; and

20 “(3) have a plan for meeting program imple-
21 mentation objectives by managing contractor per-
22 formance.

23 “(b) ADHERENCE TO STANDARDS.—The Secretary,
24 acting through the Under Secretary for Management and
25 the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection,
26 shall ensure border security technology acquisition pro-

1 gram managers who are responsible for carrying out this
2 section adhere to relevant internal control standards iden-
3 tified by the Comptroller General of the United States.
4 The Commissioner shall provide information, as needed,
5 to assist the Under Secretary in monitoring proper pro-
6 gram management of border security technology acquisi-
7 tion programs under this section.

8 “(c) PLAN.—The Secretary, acting through the
9 Under Secretary for Management, in coordination with
10 the Under Secretary for Science and Technology and the
11 Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection,
12 shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
13 a plan for testing and evaluation, as well as the use of
14 independent verification and validation resources, for bor-
15 der security technology so that new border security tech-
16 nologies are evaluated through a series of assessments,
17 processes, and audits to ensure compliance with relevant
18 departmental acquisition policies and the Federal Acquisi-
19 tion Regulation, as well as the effectiveness of taxpayer
20 dollars.

21 “(d) MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM DEFINED.—In
22 this section, the term ‘major acquisition program’ means
23 a Department acquisition program that is estimated by
24 the Secretary to require an eventual total expenditure of

1 at least \$300,000,000 (based on fiscal year 2015 constant
2 dollars) over its life cycle cost.”.

3 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
4 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by in-
5 serting after the item relating to section 433 the following
6 new item:

“Sec. 434. Border security technology program management.”.

7 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION OF**
8 **APPROPRIATIONS.**

9 No additional funds are authorized to be appro-
10 priated to carry out this Act and the amendments made
11 by this Act. This Act and such amendments shall be car-
12 ried out using amounts otherwise available for such pur-
13 poses.