

***In the Senate of the United States,***

*October 7, 2015.*

*Resolved*, That the bill from the House of Representatives (H.R. 623) entitled “An Act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Department of Homeland Security to establish a social media working group, and for other purposes.”, do pass with the following

**AMENDMENT:**

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

1 ***SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.***

2 *This Act may be cited as the “DHS Social Media Im-*  
3 *provement Act of 2015”.*

4 ***SEC. 2. SOCIAL MEDIA WORKING GROUP.***

5 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Homeland Security*  
6 *Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) is amended by adding*  
7 *at the end the following:*

1 **“SEC. 318. SOCIAL MEDIA WORKING GROUP.**

2 “(a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—*The Secretary shall establish*  
3 *within the Department a social media working group (in*  
4 *this section referred to as the ‘Group’).*

5 “(b) *PURPOSE.*—*In order to enhance the dissemination*  
6 *of information through social media technologies between*  
7 *the Department and appropriate stakeholders and to im-*  
8 *prove use of social media technologies in support of pre-*  
9 *paredness, response, and recovery, the Group shall identify,*  
10 *and provide guidance and best practices to the emergency*  
11 *preparedness and response community on, the use of social*  
12 *media technologies before, during, and after a natural dis-*  
13 *aster or an act of terrorism or other man-made disaster.*

14 “(c) *MEMBERSHIP.*—

15 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Membership of the Group*  
16 *shall be composed of a cross section of subject matter*  
17 *experts from Federal, State, local, tribal, territorial,*  
18 *and nongovernmental organization practitioners, in-*  
19 *cluding representatives from the following entities:*

20 “(A) *The Office of Public Affairs of the De-*  
21 *partment.*

22 “(B) *The Office of the Chief Information Of-*  
23 *ficer of the Department.*

24 “(C) *The Privacy Office of the Department.*

25 “(D) *The Federal Emergency Management*  
26 *Agency.*

1           “(E) *The Office of Disability Integration*  
2           *and Coordination of the Federal Emergency*  
3           *Management Agency.*

4           “(F) *The American Red Cross.*

5           “(G) *The Forest Service.*

6           “(H) *The Centers for Disease Control and*  
7           *Prevention.*

8           “(I) *The United States Geological Survey.*

9           “(J) *The National Oceanic and Atmos-*  
10          *pheric Administration.*

11          “(2) *CHAIRPERSON; CO-CHAIRPERSON.—*

12           “(A) *CHAIRPERSON.—The Secretary, or a*  
13           *designee of the Secretary, shall serve as the*  
14           *chairperson of the Group.*

15           “(B) *CO-CHAIRPERSON.—The chairperson*  
16           *shall designate, on a rotating basis, a representa-*  
17           *tive from a State or local government who is a*  
18           *member of the Group to serve as the co-chair-*  
19           *person of the Group.*

20          “(3) *ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.—The chairperson*  
21           *shall appoint, on a rotating basis, qualified individ-*  
22           *uals to the Group. The total number of such addi-*  
23           *tional members shall—*

1           “(A) be equal to or greater than the total  
2           number of regular members under paragraph  
3           (1); and

4           “(B) include—

5                 “(i) not fewer than 3 representatives  
6                 from the private sector; and

7                 “(ii) representatives from—

8                         “(I) State, local, tribal, and terri-  
9                         torial entities, including from—

10                                 “(aa) law enforcement;

11                                 “(bb) fire services;

12                                 “(cc) emergency manage-  
13                                 ment; and

14                                 “(dd) public health entities;

15                                 “(II) universities and academia;

16                                 and

17                                 “(III) nonprofit disaster relief or-  
18                                 ganizations.

19           “(4) *TERM LIMITS.*—The chairperson shall estab-  
20           lish term limits for individuals appointed to the  
21           Group under paragraph (3).

22           “(d) *CONSULTATION WITH NON-MEMBERS.*—To the ex-  
23           tent practicable, the Group shall work with entities in the  
24           public and private sectors to carry out subsection (b).

25           “(e) *MEETINGS.*—

1           “(1) *INITIAL MEETING.*—Not later than 90 days  
2           after the date of enactment of this section, the Group  
3           shall hold its initial meeting.

4           “(2) *SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS.*—After the initial  
5           meeting under paragraph (1), the Group shall meet—

6                   “(A) at the call of the chairperson; and

7                   “(B) not less frequently than twice each  
8           year.

9           “(3) *VIRTUAL MEETINGS.*—Each meeting of the  
10          Group may be held virtually.

11          “(f) *REPORTS.*—During each year in which the Group  
12          meets, the Group shall submit to the appropriate congres-  
13          sional committees a report that includes the following:

14                   “(1) A review and analysis of current and  
15                   emerging social media technologies being used to sup-  
16                   port preparedness and response activities related to  
17                   natural disasters and acts of terrorism and other  
18                   man-made disasters.

19                   “(2) A review of best practices and lessons  
20                   learned on the use of social media technologies during  
21                   the response to natural disasters and acts of terrorism  
22                   and other man-made disasters that occurred during  
23                   the period covered by the report at issue.

1           “(3) *Recommendations to improve the Depart-*  
2           *ment’s use of social media technologies for emergency*  
3           *management purposes.*

4           “(4) *Recommendations to improve public aware-*  
5           *ness of the type of information disseminated through*  
6           *social media technologies, and how to access such in-*  
7           *formation, during a natural disaster or an act of ter-*  
8           *rorism or other man-made disaster.*

9           “(5) *A review of available training for Federal,*  
10          *State, local, tribal, and territorial officials on the use*  
11          *of social media technologies in response to a natural*  
12          *disaster or an act of terrorism or other man-made*  
13          *disaster.*

14          “(6) *A review of coordination efforts with the*  
15          *private sector to discuss and resolve legal, operational,*  
16          *technical, privacy, and security concerns.*

17          “(g) *DURATION OF GROUP.—*

18                 “(1) *IN GENERAL.—The Group shall terminate*  
19                 *on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment*  
20                 *of this section unless the chairperson renews the*  
21                 *Group for a successive 5-year period, prior to the date*  
22                 *on which the Group would otherwise terminate, by*  
23                 *submitting to the Committee on Homeland Security*  
24                 *and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Com-*  
25                 *mittee on Homeland Security of the House of Rep-*

1        *representatives a certification that the continued exist-*  
2        *ence of the Group is necessary to fulfill the purpose*  
3        *described in subsection (b).*

4                *“(2) CONTINUED RENEWAL.—The chairperson*  
5        *may continue to renew the Group for successive 5-*  
6        *year periods by submitting a certification in accord-*  
7        *ance with paragraph (1) prior to the date on which*  
8        *the Group would otherwise terminate.”.*

9        *(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in*  
10       *section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is*  
11       *amended by inserting after the item relating to section 317*  
12       *the following:*

*“Sec. 318. Social media working group.”.*

Attest:

*Secretary.*

114<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

**H.R. 623**

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**AMENDMENT**