

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 congress-
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.

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H.R. 623

AMENDMENT