

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 3224, With an Amendment

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

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3224

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to extend the authorization of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 11, 2023

Mr. D'ESPOSITO (for himself, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to extend the authorization of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office of 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 “Countering Weapons
5 of Mass Destruction Extension Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF THE COUN-**
2 **TERING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION**
3 **OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND**
4 **SECURITY.**

5 (a) EXTENSION.—

6 (1) TERMINATION DATE.—Section 1901 of the
7 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 591) is
8 amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the
9 following new subsection:

10 “(e) TERMINATION.—The Office shall terminate on
11 the date that is two years after the date of the enactment
12 of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Exten-
13 sion Act of 2023.”.

14 (2) EXCEPTION.—The termination date speci-
15 fied in subsection (e) of section 1901 of the Home-
16 land Security Act of 2002, as amended by para-
17 graph (1), shall not apply to sections 1931 and 1932
18 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C.
19 597 and 597a; relating to the Chief Medical Officer
20 and the medical countermeasures program of the
21 Department of Homeland Security).

22 (b) ORGANIZATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY.—

23 (1) EMPLOYEE MORALE.—Not later than 180
24 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
25 Assistant Secretary for the Countering Weapons of
26 Mass Destruction Office of the Department of

1 Homeland Security shall submit a report to and
2 brief the Committee on Homeland Security of the
3 House of Representatives and the Committee on
4 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the
5 Senate regarding an employee engagement action
6 plan and strategy to continuously improve morale
7 within the Office.

8 (2) COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—Not later than
9 one year after the date of the enactment of this Act,
10 the Comptroller General of the United States shall
11 conduct a review of and brief the Committee on
12 Homeland Security of the House of Representatives
13 and the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-
14 ernmental Affairs of the Senate regarding the fol-
15 lowing with respect to the Countering Weapons of
16 Mass Destruction Office of the Department of
17 Homeland Security:

18 (A) The efforts of the Office to prioritize
19 the programs and activities that carry out the
20 mission of the Office, including research and
21 development.

22 (B) The consistency and effectiveness of
23 the Office's stakeholder coordination across the
24 mission of the Department, including oper-

1 ational and support components of the Depart-
2 ment and State and local entities.

3 (C) The efforts of the Office to manage
4 and coordinate the lifecycle of research and de-
5 velopment within the Office and with other
6 components of the Department, including the
7 Science and Technology Directorate.