To require reporting regarding accreditation of basic training programs of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on ________________________

A BILL

To require reporting regarding accreditation of basic training programs 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 “Federal Law Enforce-
5 ment Training Research and Reporting Act of 2020”.

6 SEC. 2. FLETC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

7 The Director of the Federal Law Enforcement Train-
8 ing Centers (FLETC), in coordination with the Under
Secretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security, shall conduct research and development of a technology to enhance participation rates in training offered to State, local, and Tribal communities, with particular attention to rural or remote communities, for the purpose of enhancing domestic preparedness for and collective response to terrorism and other homeland security threats.

SEC. 3. REPORTING ON BASIC TRAINING PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

(a) Annual Reporting.—

(1) In general.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Under Secretary for Management of the Department of Homeland Security, shall report to the relevant congressional committees on the accreditation status for each basic training program within the Department, including information relating to the following:

(A) The date on which the program achieved initial accreditation, or in the case of a program that is not currently accredited, the reasons for not obtaining or maintaining accreditation, the activities, if any, taken to
achieve accreditation, and an anticipated timeline for accreditation of the program.

(B) The date the program most recently received accreditation or reaccreditation, if applicable.

(C) The program’s anticipated accreditation or next reaccreditation date.

(D) The name of the accreditation manager for the program.

(2) Termination of reporting requirement.—Annual reports under paragraph (1) shall terminate when all basic training programs of the Department of Homeland Security are accredited.

(b) Lapse in Accreditation.—

(1) In general.—If a basic training program of the Department of Homeland Security loses accreditation, the head of the relevant component of the Department shall notify the Under Secretary for Management of the Department not later than 30 days after such loss.

(2) Notice to Congress.—Not later than 60 days after receiving a notification pursuant to subsection (a), the Under Secretary for Management of the Department of Homeland Security shall notify the relevant congressional committees of the lapse in
accreditation, the reason for the lapse, and the activities underway and planned to regain accreditation.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

(1) ACCREDITATION.—The term “accreditation” means the recognition by a board that a basic training program is administered, developed, and delivered according to an applicable set of standards.

(2) ACCREDITATION MANAGER.—The term “accreditation manager” means the individual assigned by the component of the Department of Homeland Security to manage accreditation activities for a basic training program.

(3) BASIC TRAINING PROGRAM.—The term “basic training program” means an entry level program that is transitional to law enforcement service, provides training on critical competencies and responsibilities, and is typically a requirement for appointment to a law enforcement service job or job series.

(4) REACCREDITATION.—The term “reaccreditation” means the assessment of a basic training program after initial accreditation to ensure the continued compliance with an applicable set of standards.
(5) Relevant congressional committees.—The term “relevant congressional committees” means the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.