IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. COLLINS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To provide for homeland security grant coordination and simplification.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Homeland Security Grant Coordination and Simplification Act of 2003”.

SEC. 2. INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE TO COORDINATE AND STREAMLINE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAMS.

(a) In general.—The Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after section 801 the following:
"SEC. 802. INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE TO COORDINATE AND STREAMLINE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAMS.

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an Interagency Committee to Coordinate and Streamline Homeland Security Grant Programs (in this section referred to as the ‘Interagency Committee’) that shall—

“(1) ensure coordination among the Federal agencies that provide funding or other assistance to or for—

“(A) State and local law enforcement agencies;

“(B) fire and rescue operations;

“(C) medical and emergency relief services; and

“(D) State and local homeland security efforts;

“(2) eliminate duplication of requirements contained in emergency plans requested by Federal agencies;

“(3) simplify and coordinate applications for homeland security funding;

“(4) identify ways to streamline the process through which Federal agencies support community-based law enforcement, fire and rescue, and medical and emergency relief services;
“(5) collect information regarding State and local initiatives to promote interoperability of equipment;

“(6) develop coordinated plans to provide technical assistance to States to promote interoperable equipment;

“(7) provide coordinated assistance to help States and local governments prepare risk and vulnerability assessments; and

“(8) review State plan submissions to ensure that all relevant Federal interests are protected.

“(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Interagency Committee shall be composed of—

“(1) a representative of the Office for Domestic Preparedness;

“(2) a representative of the Health Resources and Services Administration of the Department of Health and Human Services;

“(3) a representative of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the Department of Health and Human Services;

“(4) a representative of the Directorate of Emergency Preparedness and Response;

“(5) a representative of the United States Coast Guard;
“(6) a representative of the Department of Defense;

“(7) a representative of the Directorate of Border and Transportation Security;

“(8) a representative of the Department of Transportation;

“(9) a representative of the Community Oriented Policing Services of the Department of Justice;

“(10) a representative of the Office of Justice Programs of the Department of Justice;

“(11) a representative of the Federal Communications Commission;

“(12) a representative of the Environmental Protection Agency; and

“(13) a representative of the Office of Public Safety of the Department of Commerce; and

“(14) representatives of any other Federal agency identified by the President as having a significant role relating to the purposes of the Interagency Committee.

“(c) ADMINISTRATION.—The Department shall provide administrative support to the Interagency Committee which shall include—

“(1) scheduling meetings;
“(2) preparing agenda;
“(3) maintaining minutes and records; and
“(4) producing reports.
“(d) LEADERSHIP.—The Secretary shall designate a chairperson of the Interagency Committee.
“(e) MEETINGS.—The Interagency Committee shall meet—
“(1) at the call of the Secretary; or
“(2) not less frequently than once every 3 months.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—
The table of contents for the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 801 the following:

“Sec. 802. Interagency Committee To Coordinate and Streamline Homeland Security Grant Programs.”.