

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To reauthorize and amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to create stronger accountability mechanisms for Joint Task Forces.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. PETERS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To reauthorize and amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to create stronger accountability mechanisms for Joint Task Forces.

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 “DHS Joint Task
5 Forces Reauthorization Act of 2022”.

6 **SEC. 2. AMENDING SECTION 708 OF THE HOMELAND SECU-**
7 **RITY ACT OF 2002.**

8 Section 708(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002
9 (6 U.S.C. 348(b)) is amended—

1 (1) by striking paragraph (8) and inserting the
2 following:

3 “(8) JOINT TASK FORCE STAFF.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each Joint Task
5 Force shall have a staff, composed of officials
6 from relevant components and offices of the De-
7 partment, to assist the Director of that Joint
8 Task Force in carrying out the mission and re-
9 sponsibilities of that Joint Task Force.

10 “(B) REPORT.—The Secretary shall in-
11 clude in the report submitted under paragraph
12 (6)(F)—

13 “(i) the number of personnel perma-
14 nently assigned to each Joint Task Force
15 by each component and office; and

16 “(ii) the number of personnel assigned
17 on a temporary basis to each Joint Task
18 Force by each component and office.”;

19 (2) in paragraph (9)—

20 (A) in the heading, by inserting “STRAT-
21 EGY AND OF” after “ESTABLISHMENT OF”;

22 (B) by striking subparagraph (A) and in-
23 serting the following:

24 “(A) using leading practices in perform-
25 ance management and lessons learned by other

1 law enforcement task forces and joint oper-
2 ations, establish a strategy for each Joint Task
3 Force that contains—

4 “(i) the mission of each Joint Task
5 Force and strategic goals and objectives to
6 assist the Joint Task Force in accom-
7 plishing that mission; and

8 “(ii) outcome-based and other appro-
9 priate performance metrics to evaluate the
10 effectiveness of each Joint Task Force and
11 measure progress towards the goals and
12 objectives described in clause (i), which in-
13 clude—

14 “(I) targets for current and fu-
15 ture fiscal years; and

16 “(II) a description of the meth-
17 odology used to establish those
18 metrics and any limitations with re-
19 spect to data or information used to
20 assess performance.”;

21 (C) in subparagraph (B)—

22 (i) by striking “enactment of this sec-
23 tion” and insert “enactment of the DHS
24 Joint Task Forces Reauthorization Act of
25 2022”;

1 (ii) by inserting “strategy and” after
2 “Senate the”; and

3 (iii) by striking the period at the end
4 and inserting a semicolon; and

5 (D) by striking subparagraph (C) and in-
6 serting the following:

7 “(C) beginning not later than 1 year after
8 the date of enactment of the DHS Joint Task
9 Forces Reauthorization Act of 2022, submit an-
10 nually to each committee specified in subpara-
11 graph (B) a report that—

12 “(i) contains the evaluation described
13 in subparagraphs (A) and (B); and

14 “(ii) outlines the progress in imple-
15 menting outcome-based and other perform-
16 ance metrics referred to in subparagraph
17 (A)(ii).”;

18 (3) in paragraph (11)(A), by striking the period
19 at the end and inserting the following: “, which shall
20 include—

21 “(i) the justification, focus, and mis-
22 sion of the Joint Task Force; and

23 “(ii) a strategy for the conduct of the
24 Joint Task Force, including goals and per-

1 performance metrics for the Joint Task
2 Force.”;

3 (4) in paragraph (12)—

4 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “Jan-
5 uary 31, 2018, and January 31, 2021, the In-
6 spector General of the Department” and insert-
7 ing “1 year after the date of enactment of the
8 DHS Joint Task Forces Reauthorization Act of
9 2022, the Comptroller General of the United
10 States”; and

11 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking
12 clauses (i) and (ii) and inserting the following:

13 “(i) an assessment of the structure of
14 each Joint Task Force;

15 “(ii) an assessment of the effective-
16 ness of oversight over each Joint Task
17 Force;

18 “(iii) an assessment of the strategy of
19 each Joint Task Force; and

20 “(iv) an assessment of staffing levels
21 and resources of each Joint Task Force.”;

22 and

23 (5) in paragraph (13), by striking “2022” and
24 inserting “2024”.