Bill Fact Sheet – December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/108/hr/277

HR 277

To amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to assign members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps, under certain circumstances and subject to certain conditions, to assist the Department of Homeland Security in the performance of border protection functions.

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jan 8, 2003

Current Status: Executive Comment Requested from DOD.

Latest Action: Executive Comment Requested from DOD. (Feb 13, 2003) Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/277

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Goode, Virgil H., Jr. [R-VA-5]

Party: Democratic • State: VA • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Jones, Walter B., Jr. [R-NC-3]	$R \cdot NC$		Jan 8, 2003
Rep. Tancredo, Thomas G. [R-CO-6]	$R \cdot CO$		Jan 8, 2003
Rep. Deal, Nathan [R-GA-10]	$R \cdot GA$		Apr 3, 2003
Rep. Norwood, Charles W. [R-GA-9]	$R \cdot GA$		Apr 12, 2003
Rep. Baker, Richard H. [R-LA-6]	$R \cdot LA$		May 15, 2003
Rep. Green, Mark [R-WI-8]	$R \cdot WI$		May 15, 2003
Rep. Barrett, J. Gresham [R-SC-3]	$R \cdot SC$		May 22, 2003
Rep. Brown-Waite, Ginny [R-FL-5]	$R \cdot FL$		May 22, 2003
Rep. Calvert, Ken [R-CA-44]	$R \cdot CA$		May 22, 2003
Rep. Brady, Kevin [R-TX-8]	$R \cdot TX$		Jun 19, 2003
Rep. Ramstad, Jim [R-MN-3]	$R \cdot MN$		Sep 4, 2003
Rep. Sessions, Pete [R-TX-32]	$R \cdot TX$		Sep 4, 2003

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 8, 2003
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 8, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jan 8, 2003)

Authorizes the Secretary of Defense, upon request of the Secretary of Homeland Security, to assign members of the armed forces to assist: (1) the Bureau of Border Security of the Department of Homeland Security in preventing the entry of terrorists, drug traffickers, and illegal aliens into the United States; and (2) the U.S. Customs Service in the inspection of cargo, vehicles, and aircraft at U.S. points of entry to prevent the entry of weapons of mass destruction and their components, prohibited narcotics or drugs, or other terrorist or drug trafficking items. Requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to certify that such request is necessary to respond to a threat to national security.

Requires the Secretaries to establish a training program that must be completed by military personnel serving in such capacity. Requires any member so serving to be accompanied by a civilian law enforcement officer from the agency concerned.

Authorizes the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish ongoing joint task forces to respond to threats to national security posed by the entry of terrorists, drug traffickers, or illegal aliens.

Directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to notify the governor and local governments of the State involved of the deployment of such members and the types of tasks to be performed.

Prohibits any such assignment after September 30, 2005.

Actions Timeline

- Feb 13, 2003: Executive Comment Requested from DOD.
- Jan 20, 2003: Referred to the Subcommittee on Infrastructure and Border Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Chairman.
- Jan 8, 2003: Introduced in House
- Jan 8, 2003: Introduced in House
- Jan 8, 2003: Referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Select Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
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