

HR 5909

COVERT Act of 2008

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Apr 24, 2008

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transp

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Jun 19, 2008)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/house-bill/5909>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Lowey, Nita M. [D-NY-18]

Party: Democratic • **State:** NY • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 19, 2008
Homeland Security Committee	House	Discharged from	May 20, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

(This measure has not been amended since it was reported to the House on June 5, 2008. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Catching Operational Vulnerabilities by Ensuring Random Testing Act of 2008, or the COVERT Act of 2008 - Amends the Aviation and Transportation Security Act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to make sure that advance notice of a covert test of a transportation security system is not provided to any individual (including any security screener) before completion of the test, except: (1) that such information may be provided to certain federal, state, and local government employees, officers, and contractors (including military personnel); and (2) an individual conducting such a test may disclose his or her status if a security screener or other non-covered employee identifies such tester as a potential threat.

Requires the head of each covert testing office to make sure that a covert testing person or group is accompanied by a cover team to monitor the test and confirm the identity of personnel involved. States, however, that a cover team is not required to be present during a test of the screening of persons or baggage at an aviation security checkpoint if the test: (1) is approved by the Federal Security Director for the airport; and (2) is administered under an aviation screening assessment program of the Department of Homeland Security.

Directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to study and report to Congress on the impact of implementing covert testing procedures under this Act on the Department's efforts to improve transportation security.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 19, 2008:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
- **Jun 18, 2008:** Mr. Thompson (MS) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Jun 18, 2008:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H5498-5502)
- **Jun 18, 2008:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 5909.
- **Jun 18, 2008:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H5498-5499)
- **Jun 18, 2008:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H5498-5499)
- **Jun 18, 2008:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jun 5, 2008:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Homeland Security. H. Rept. 110-687.
- **Jun 5, 2008:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 431.
- **May 20, 2008:** Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection Discharged.
- **May 20, 2008:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **May 20, 2008:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Unanimous Consent.
- **May 1, 2008:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Apr 28, 2008:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection.
- **Apr 24, 2008:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 24, 2008:** Referred to the House Committee on Homeland Security.

LegiList

CONGRESS, MADE CLEAR.

Search Every Federal Bill, Law, and Vote

LegiList is the fastest way to research Congress. Track any bill from introduction to enactment, see how every legislator voted, follow committee activity, and read the full text of every bill — all in one place, always up to date.

legilist.com

Free Course: Learn How Congress Actually Works

LegiList Learn is a free, self-paced course that walks through the entire legislative process — from drafting a bill to a presidential signature. Seven modules, plain language, no politics. Earn a certificate when you finish.

legilist.com/learn

Developer API: Build Apps on Legislative Data

The LegiList API gives developers direct access to bills, votes, legislators, committees, and more. Start free with 1,000 requests per day — no credit card required. Upgrade to Pro when you need to scale.

legilist.com/api

Public data belongs to the public. — legilist.com