

HR 4482

Southwest Border Security Threat Assessment Act of 2016

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Emergency Management

Introduced: Feb 4, 2016

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governm

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (Apr 14, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/4482>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. McSally, Martha [R-AZ-2]

Party: Republican • **State:** AZ • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Carter, Earl L. "Buddy" [R-GA-1]	R · GA		Feb 4, 2016
Rep. Franks, Trent [R-AZ-8]	R · AZ		Feb 4, 2016
Rep. Gosar, Paul A. [R-AZ-4]	R · AZ		Feb 4, 2016
Rep. McCaul, Michael T. [R-TX-10]	R · TX		Feb 4, 2016
Rep. Salmon, Matt [R-AZ-5]	R · AZ		Feb 4, 2016
Rep. Schweikert, David [R-AZ-6]	R · AZ		Feb 4, 2016
Rep. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ-9]	D · AZ		Feb 4, 2016
Rep. Walker, Mark [R-NC-6]	R · NC		Feb 4, 2016
Rep. Young, David [R-IA-3]	R · IA		Feb 4, 2016
Rep. Zinke, Ryan K. [R-MT-At Large]	R · MT		Feb 4, 2016
Rep. Culberson, John Abney [R-TX-7]	R · TX		Feb 9, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 14, 2016
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 16, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 6381	Related bill	Dec 16, 2016: Referred to the Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research.
114 S 1808	Related bill	Dec 14, 2016: Became Public Law No: 114-267.
114 HR 455	Related bill	Oct 29, 2015: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Southwest Border Security Threat Assessment Act of 2016

(Sec. 2) This bill directs the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS) to submit a southwest border threat analysis that includes an assessment of:

- terrorism and criminal threats posed by individuals and organized groups seeking to unlawfully enter the United States through the southwest border or seeking to exploit security vulnerabilities along such border;
- improvements needed at and between ports of entry to prevent terrorists and instruments of terror from entering the United States;
- gaps in law, policy, and coordination that hinder effective and efficient border security, counterterrorism, anti-human smuggling and trafficking efforts;
- the flow of legitimate trade along the southwest border;
- the current percentage of situational awareness and of operational control achieved by DHS along the southwest border;
- the impact of trusted traveler programs on border wait times and border security; and
- traveler crossing times and any potential security vulnerability associated with prolonged wait times.

As part of such analysis, the Secretary shall consider and examine:

- technology, personnel, and infrastructure needs and challenges;
- the roles and authorities of law enforcement;
- the status of coordination among law enforcement entities;
- the terrain, population density, and climate along the southwest border; and
- international agreements between the United States and Mexico.

(Sec. 3) The bill requires the Chief of the Border Patrol, within 180 days after submission of the threat analysis and every five years thereafter, to issue a Border Patrol Strategic Plan that includes consideration of:

- the southwest border threat analysis;
- efforts to analyze and disseminate border security and border threat information between DHS components and with other federal agencies with missions associated with the border;
- efforts to increase situational awareness, to detect and prevent terrorists and instruments of terrorism from entering the United States, and to detect, interdict, and disrupt aliens and illicit drugs at the earliest possible point upon entry into the United States;
- efforts to focus intelligence collection to disrupt transnational criminal organizations outside of U.S. borders;
- efforts to ensure that any new border security technology can be operationally integrated with existing DHS technologies;
- technology required to maintain, support, and enhance security and facilitate trade at ports of entry;
- operational coordination unity of effort initiatives of DHS border security components;
- lessons learned from Operation Jumpstart and Operation Phalanx;
- cooperative agreements and information sharing with agencies that have jurisdiction on the borders;
- border security information received from consultation with such agencies and from border community stakeholders;
- staffing requirements;
- a prioritized list of departmental research and development objectives;

- an assessment of training programs for detecting fraudulent documents, understanding the scope of enforcement authorities and the use of force policies, and screening, identifying, and addressing vulnerable populations; and
- an assessment of how border security operations affect crossing times.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 14, 2016:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
- **Apr 13, 2016:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Homeland Security. H. Rept. 114-492.
- **Apr 13, 2016:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 374.
- **Apr 13, 2016:** Ms. McSally moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Apr 13, 2016:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H1663-1665)
- **Apr 13, 2016:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 4482.
- **Apr 13, 2016:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H1663-1664)
- **Apr 13, 2016:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H1663-1664)
- **Apr 13, 2016:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Mar 23, 2016:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Mar 23, 2016:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Feb 16, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security.
- **Feb 4, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 4, 2016:** Referred to the House Committee on Homeland Security.