

HR 6381

DHS Reform and Improvement Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Emergency Management

Introduced: Nov 18, 2016

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research. (Dec 16, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/6381>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. McCaul, Michael T. [R-TX-10]

Party: Republican • State: TX • Chamber: House

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 16, 2016
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 18, 2016
Financial Services Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 18, 2016
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 18, 2016
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 18, 2016
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 18, 2016
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 18, 2016
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 18, 2016
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 18, 2016
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 18, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 3842	Related bill	<b>Dec 16, 2016:</b> Became Public Law No: 114-285.
114 S 1915	Related bill	<b>Dec 14, 2016:</b> Became Public Law No: 114-268.
114 S 2781	Related bill	<b>Dec 12, 2016:</b> Held at the desk.
114 HR 5253	Related bill	<b>Dec 8, 2016:</b> Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Homeland Security. H. Rept. 114-850, Part I.
114 S 461	Related bill	<b>Nov 30, 2016:</b> Held at the desk.
114 HR 5391	Related bill	<b>Sep 28, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 5346	Related bill	<b>Sep 27, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 5459	Related bill	<b>Sep 27, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 5460	Related bill	<b>Sep 27, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 5943	Related bill	<b>Sep 27, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate.
114 HR 2285	Related bill	<b>Sep 26, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
114 HR 5859	Related bill	<b>Sep 22, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 4404	Related bill	<b>Jul 12, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 4785	Related bill	<b>Jul 12, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 5056	Related bill	<b>Jul 12, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
114 HR 5385	Related bill	<b>Jul 12, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 5388	Related bill	<b>Jun 22, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 5389	Related bill	<b>Jun 22, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 5390	Related bill	<b>Jun 8, 2016:</b> Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
114 HR 4780	Related bill	<b>May 17, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 3583	Related bill	<b>Apr 27, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 3586	Related bill	<b>Apr 14, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 4482	Related bill	<b>Apr 14, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 4509	Related bill	<b>Apr 14, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 4314	Related bill	<b>Apr 4, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 3572	Related bill	<b>Mar 16, 2016:</b> Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-632.
114 HR 2843	Related bill	<b>Mar 7, 2016:</b> Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 383.
114 HR 3584	Related bill	<b>Feb 24, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
114 HR 4398	Related bill	<b>Feb 24, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 4408	Related bill	<b>Feb 24, 2016:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 3878	Related bill	<b>Feb 1, 2016:</b> Star Print ordered on the bill.
114 HR 3578	Related bill	<b>Dec 14, 2015:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 3869	Related bill	<b>Dec 14, 2015:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 3875	Related bill	<b>Dec 14, 2015:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 3490	Related bill	<b>Dec 1, 2015:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
114 HR 3144	Related bill	<b>Nov 17, 2015:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
114 HR 3598	Related bill	<b>Nov 3, 2015:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 3456	Related bill	<b>Sep 9, 2015:</b> Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.
114 HR 2390	Related bill	<b>Aug 18, 2015:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Research and Technology.
114 HR 1300	Related bill	<b>Jul 30, 2015:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 2206	Related bill	<b>Jul 28, 2015:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 2750	Related bill	<b>Jul 28, 2015:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
114 HR 2770	Related bill	<b>Jul 28, 2015:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
114 HR 1646	Related bill	<b>Jun 24, 2015:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
114 HR 2199	Related bill	<b>May 1, 2015:</b> Referred to the House Committee on Homeland Security.
114 HR 877	Related bill	<b>Mar 16, 2015:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.

## **DHS Reform and Improvement Act**

This bill amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to revise or expand protections against terrorism in Department of Homeland Security (DHS) requirements for visas, border and maritime security, aviation, surface transportation, food and agriculture, emergency communications, medical preparedness, agency management, flood insurance, cybersecurity, chemical and biological defense, immigration and customs, and the prevention of trafficking in cultural property.

The bill establishes:

- an Office of Biometric Identity Management to share biometric data with agencies, foreign governments, and private entities;
- a National Computer Forensics Institute to be operated by the U.S. Secret Service;
- a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives Office;
- an Office of Policy to coordinate strategic planning and relationships with outside stakeholders;
- an Acquisition Review Board; and
- DHS positions of chief financial officer, chief procurement officer, chief acquisition officer, and chief security officer.

DHS must: (1) disseminate information to prevent drone attacks; (2) establish task forces and cooperate with foreign governments on border enforcement and security at airports and ports; (3) authorize the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to provide employees and services to ports in exchange for a fee; and (4) defend food, agriculture, and veterinary systems from terrorism and other high-consequence events.

Visa security requirements are provided for: (1) the Department of State to assign employees to visa-issuing diplomatic and consular posts to screen applications against criminal, national security, and terrorism databases; (2) a visa security advisory opinion unit within the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE); and (3) the CBP to screen electronic passports through an embedded chip and utilize facial recognition technology.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) must enter into memoranda of understanding with other DHS offices to award grants to:

- public transportation agencies to improve security under the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007;
- high-risk urban areas and state, local, and tribal governments to protect against terrorism under the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) and the State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP); and
- port authorities, facility operators, and state and local governments to implement security plans and train law enforcement personnel.

State planning committees or urban working groups that assist in the determination of funding priorities under the UASI and the SHSGP must include: (1) public health officials and medical practitioners, (2) educational institutions, (3) state and regional interoperable communications coordinators, and (4) state and major urban area fusion centers that share threat-related information. FEMA must permit grants to be used for medical preparedness to terrorism.

The bill codifies: (1) Operation Stonegarden for FEMA to enhance border security by making grants to law enforcement agencies involved in CBP operations in states that border Canada or Mexico or that have a maritime border; and (2) Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers that train government, international, and private agencies.

The bill sets forth requirements concerning:

- medical response to anthrax, pandemics, emerging infectious diseases, and chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear attacks;
- flood insurance claims processing;
- the reorganization of cybersecurity, infrastructure protection, emergency communications, and protective services under a Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection Agency headed by a Director of National Cybersecurity;
- maritime cybersecurity information sharing;
- allowable uses of public transportation security assistance grant funds;
- research and development for cybersecurity technologies; and
- oversight of DHS vehicle fleets.

The bill expands responsibilities of DHS's chief information and human capital officers.

The Domestic Nuclear Detection Office must document how research investments align with gaps in the enhanced global nuclear detection architecture.

The CBP and ICE must coordinate enforcement against illegal imports and trafficking in cultural property.

DHS may enter agreements with other countries and nongovernmental organizations to achieve its missions.

DHS must prepare: (1) quadrennial reviews of the homeland security of the United States, (2) a three-year strategy for international programs in which DHS personnel and resources are deployed abroad for vetting and screening persons seeking to enter the United States, and (3) a strategic plan for southwest border threats.

Notice must be provided within DHS and to Congress if a major acquisition program fails to meet baseline costs, schedules, or performance parameters.

DHS must: (1) conduct terrorist and foreign fighter travel exercises; (2) coordinate resources of the national cybersecurity and communications integration center with state, local, and regional fusion centers; (3) carry out a grant program for emergency response providers to prevent or respond to active shooters in major metropolitan areas and other terrorist attack scenarios; and (4) build relationships with technology-based small businesses and startup ventures.

The Transportation Security Administration must: (1) update aviation and airport security strategies, and (2) operate a "precheck" program that expedites screening for low-risk passengers.

FEMA must implement a uniform review process for grant applications to purchase equipment that does not meet or exceed national voluntary consensus standards.

DHS and the State Department must prioritize assistance to combat terrorist travel among the highest-risk countries.

The Directorate of Science and Technology is designated as the primary research, development, testing, and evaluation arm of DHS.

The President must provide a national strategy to combat terrorism travel.

The Government Accountability Office must recommend improvements to the university-based centers for homeland security program.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Dec 16, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research.
- **Nov 18, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 18, 2016:** Referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, the Judiciary, Transportation and Infrastructure, Energy and Commerce, Agriculture, Oversight and Government Reform, Ways and Means, Science, Space, and Technology, and Financial Services, 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.