

HR 710

To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to prepare a comprehensive security assessment of the transportation security card program, and for other purposes.

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Feb 4, 2015

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 114-278.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 114-278. (Dec 16, 2016)

Law: 114-278 (Enacted Dec 16, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/710>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Miller, Candice S. [R-MI-10]	R · MI		Feb 4, 2015
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		Feb 4, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Apr 25, 2016
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Apr 22, 2015
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 9, 2015

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 passed by the Senate on December 10, 2016. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

(Sec. 1) This bill directs the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to commence actions to improve its process for vetting individuals with access to secure areas of vessels and maritime facilities.

These actions shall include:

- conducting a comprehensive risk analysis of security threat assessment procedures, including identifying procedures that need additional internal controls as well as best practices for quality assurance at every stage of the assessment;
- implementing such internal controls and best practices;
- improving fraud detection techniques;
- updating the guidance provided to Trusted Agents (Credentialing Office) regarding the vetting process and related regulations;
- finalizing a manual for such agents and adjudicators on the vetting process; and
- establishing quality controls to ensure consistent procedures to review adjudication decisions and terrorism vetting decisions.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) shall commission a national laboratory, a university-based center within the Science and Technology Directorate's centers of excellence network, or a qualified federally-funded research and development center to conduct an assessment of the effectiveness of the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) Program at enhancing security and reducing security risks for maritime facilities and vessels that pose a high risk of being involved in a transportation security incident.

The assessment shall review:

- the credentialing process,
- the process for renewing TWIC applications, and
- the security value of the TWIC program.

If the assessment identifies a deficiency in effectiveness of the TWIC Program, DHS shall submit to Congress a corrective action plan that:

- responds to assessment findings and includes an implementation plan with benchmarks, and
- shall be considered in any DHS rulemaking with respect to the TWIC Program.

The DHS Inspector General must review and report on the corrective action plan.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 16, 2016:** Signed by President.
- **Dec 16, 2016:** Became Public Law No: 114-278.
- **Dec 15, 2016:** Presented to President.
- **Dec 13, 2016:** Mr. Smith (NJ) asked unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table and agree to the Senate amendment.
- **Dec 13, 2016:** Resolving differences -- House actions: On motion that the House agree to the Senate amendment Agreed to without objection.(consideration: CR H7585-7586; text as House agreed to Senate amendment: CR H7585-7586)
- **Dec 13, 2016:** On motion that the House agree to the Senate amendment Agreed to without objection. (consideration: CR H7585-7586; text as House agreed to Senate amendment: CR H7585-7586)
- **Dec 13, 2016:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Dec 12, 2016:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Dec 10, 2016:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S7145-7147)
- **Dec 10, 2016:** The committee substitute withdrawn by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S7146)
- **Dec 10, 2016:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Dec 10, 2016:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Apr 25, 2016:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Thune with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 114-244.
- **Apr 25, 2016:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 436.
- **May 20, 2015:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Apr 22, 2015:** Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs discharged by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S2319)
- **Apr 22, 2015:** Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs discharged by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S2319)
- **Apr 22, 2015:** Referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
- **Feb 11, 2015:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
- **Feb 10, 2015:** Mr. Carter (GA) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Feb 10, 2015:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H899-903)
- **Feb 10, 2015:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 710.
- **Feb 10, 2015:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H899-900)
- **Feb 10, 2015:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H899-900)
- **Feb 10, 2015:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Feb 9, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security.
- **Feb 4, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 4, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on Homeland Security.