

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To require the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration to establish a pilot project to evaluate the effectiveness of technologies to combat cargo theft, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To require the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration to establish a pilot project to evaluate the effectiveness of technologies to combat cargo theft, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Cargo Security Innova-
5 tion Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PILOT PROJECT.**

7 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
2 trator” means the Administrator of the Transpor-
3 tation Security Administration.

4 (2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
5 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-
6 gress” means—

7 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
8 and Transportation of the Senate; and

9 (B) the Committee on Transportation and
10 Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

11 (3) ELIGIBLE CONSORTIUM.—The term “eligi-
12 ble consortium” means a consortium—

13 (A) consisting of—

14 (i) one or more private entities en-
15 gaged in transportation (as that term is
16 defined in section 13102 of title 49, United
17 States Code), such as—

18 (I) owners or operators of an
19 intermodal transportation hub or rail
20 yard;

21 (II) motor carriers (as that term
22 is defined in section 13102 of title 49,
23 United States Code);

1 (III) rail carriers (as that term is
2 defined in section 10102 of title 49,
3 United States Code);

4 (IV) water carriers (as that term
5 is defined in section 13102 of title 49,
6 United States Code); and

7 (V) air carriers (as that term is
8 defined in section 40102 of title 49,
9 United States Code); and

10 (ii) rail police officers (within the
11 meaning of section 28101 of title 49,
12 United States Code), if applicable; and

13 (iii) at least 1 State or local law en-
14 forcement entity; and

15 (B) that, in the determination of the Ad-
16 ministrator—

17 (i) has the resources and expertise
18 necessary—

19 (I) to deploy advanced law en-
20 forcement or cargo security tech-
21 nologies at a pilot site; and

22 (II) to evaluate the effectiveness
23 of such a technology at combatting
24 cargo theft; and

1 (ii) demonstrates capacity for inter-
2 agency coordination and technology inte-
3 gration.

4 (4) FOREIGN ENTITY OF CONCERN.—The term
5 “foreign entity of concern” has the meaning given
6 that term in section 40207 of the Infrastructure In-
7 vestment and Jobs Act (42 U.S.C. 18741).

8 (5) INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION HUB.—The
9 term “intermodal transportation hub” means an air-
10 port, land port, or seaport at which cargo can be
11 transferred between different modes of transpor-
12 tation, including rail.

13 (6) PILOT PROJECT.—The term “pilot project”
14 means the pilot project established under subsection
15 (b).

16 (7) PILOT SITE.—The term “pilot site” means
17 an intermodal transportation hub or rail yard des-
18 ignated as a pilot site under subsection (c).

19 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator, in con-
20 sultation with the Secretary of Transportation, shall es-
21 tablish a pilot project to evaluate the effectiveness of ad-
22 vanced law enforcement and cargo security technologies
23 at combatting cargo theft in transit and at and around
24 intermodal transportation hubs and rail yards with ele-
25 vated levels of cargo theft, including by providing grants

1 to eligible consortia for the deployment and evaluation of
2 those technologies.

3 (c) PILOT SITES.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
5 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Adminis-
6 trator shall designate up to 6 intermodal transpor-
7 tation hubs or rail yards as pilot sites for the deploy-
8 ment and evaluation of technologies under the pilot
9 project.

10 (2) PILOT SITE DIVERSITY.—

11 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator
12 shall ensure geographic and operational diver-
13 sity of pilot sites.

14 (B) REQUIREMENT.—The Administrator
15 may designate not more than 1 pilot site in any
16 State.

17 (3) PROHIBITION ON FOREIGN TECH-
18 NOLOGIES.—In carrying out the pilot project, the
19 Administrator may not deploy at any pilot site tech-
20 nology produced by a foreign entity of concern.

21 (d) GRANTS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Individuals and entities as-
23 sociated with a pilot site may form an eligible con-
24 sortium for purposes of pursuing a grant under the
25 pilot project for such pilot site.

1 (2) GRANT APPLICATIONS.—An eligible consor-
2 tium desiring a grant under the pilot project shall
3 submit to the Administrator an application at such
4 time, in such manner, and containing such informa-
5 tion as the Administrator may require.

6 (3) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible consortium
7 may use a grant provided under the pilot project
8 for—

9 (A) technology acquisition and deployment;

10 (B) personnel training and capacity build-
11 ing;

12 (C) interoperability with Federal data;

13 (D) oversight and technical evaluation; and

14 (E) such other activities as the Adminis-
15 trator determines necessary.

16 (e) ACCOUNTABILITY.—An eligible consortium that
17 receives a grant under the pilot project shall maintain
18 such records as the Administrator may require to facilitate
19 an effective audit relating to the receipt of the grant, the
20 use of grant amounts, or outsourcing activities.

21 (f) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date
22 on which technology is first deployed at a pilot site under
23 the pilot project, the Administrator shall submit to the ap-
24 propriate committees of Congress a report that includes—

1 (1) a description of the technologies deployed at
2 each pilot site as of the date of submission of the
3 report;

4 (2) an evaluation of the effectiveness of those
5 technologies in reducing cargo theft;

6 (3) a description of any outcomes or lessons
7 learned from the deployment and evaluation of those
8 technologies;

9 (4) a cost-benefit analysis for each of those
10 technologies;

11 (5) technology-related data generated under the
12 pilot project in a machine-readable format; and

13 (6) recommendations for scaling or modifying
14 the pilot project.

15 (g) SUNSET.—For each pilot site, the pilot project
16 shall terminate on the date that is 3 years after the initial
17 deployment of technology at that pilot site under the pilot
18 project.

19 (h) GAO EVALUATION.—Not later than 1 year after
20 the pilot project is terminated at all pilot sites pursuant
21 to subsection (g), the Comptroller General of the United
22 States shall submit to the appropriate committees of Con-
23 gress a report evaluating the effectiveness of the pilot
24 project.