

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 170

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish national hazard preparation and response exercises, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2021

Ms. SPANBERGER (for herself and Mr. KATKO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish national hazard preparation and response exercises, 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 “Analyzing Disaster
5 Vulnerabilites and Applicable National Capabilities for
6 Emergencies Act” or the “ADVANCE Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL HAZARD PREPARATION AND RESPONSE**

2 **EXERCISES.**

3 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act and not less fre-
5 quently than twice every year thereafter, the Secretary,
6 in coordination with the Secretary of Energy, shall con-
7 duct an exercise to test the modeling, simulation, and
8 analysis capabilities and their utility for emergency re-
9 sponse of the United States with respect to significant nat-
10 ural disasters or public health emergencies impacting crit-
11 ical infrastructure.

12 (b) PLANNING AND PREPARATION.—Each exercise
13 under paragraph (1) shall be coordinated through NISAC
14 and the National Laboratories.

15 (c) PARTICIPANTS.—

16 (1) FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PARTICIPANTS.—
17 The following shall participate in each exercise
18 under subsection (a):

19 (A) Relevant interagency partners, as de-
20 termined by the Secretary.

21 (B) Senior leader representatives from sec-
22 tor-specific agencies, as determined by the Sec-
23 retary.

24 (2) STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—The
25 Secretary shall invite representatives from State and
26 local governments to participate in the exercises

1 under subsection (a) if the Secretary determines
2 such participation to be appropriate.

3 (d) ELEMENTS.—Each exercise under subsection (a)
4 shall include the following elements:

5 (1) Testing the capability of NISAC to perform
6 modeling, simulation, and analysis to inform the sig-
7 nificant natural disaster and public health emer-
8 gency response of the United States with respect to
9 impact on critical infrastructure, including the out-
10 break of infectious diseases, extreme weather events,
11 or the overlapping combination of such outbreak or
12 such weather event.

13 (2) Testing of the relevant policy, guidance, and
14 doctrine.

15 (3) Testing of the information-sharing needs
16 and systems.

17 (4) Testing the coordination between Federal,
18 State, and local governments.

19 (e) REPORT.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after
21 the date on which each exercise under subsection (a)
22 is conducted, the Secretary shall submit to the ap-
23 propriate congressional committees a report on each
24 such exercise.

1 (2) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The report required
2 under paragraph (1) shall include information relat-
3 ing to the following:

4 (A) A list of the entities participating in
5 an exercise required under subsection (a).

6 (B) An assessment of overall performance
7 during such an exercise.

8 (C) A description of lessons learned from
9 such an exercise, including—

10 (i) gaps and limitations that require
11 improvement; and

12 (ii) recommendations with respect to
13 planned changes to training.

14 **SEC. 3. ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS RELATING TO THE**
15 **IMPACT OF NATURAL DISASTERS OR PUBLIC**
16 **HEALTH EMERGENCIES WITH RESPECT TO**
17 **CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
19 date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter,
20 the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congres-
21 sional committees a report describing the impact of nat-
22 ural disasters and public health emergencies with respect
23 to critical infrastructure.

1 (b) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The report required
2 under paragraph (1) shall include information relating to
3 the following:

4 (1) An assessment of the most concerning
5 threats to critical infrastructure from natural disas-
6 ters or public health emergencies, including the se-
7 verity and probability of a threat to each critical in-
8 frastructure from each type of natural disaster.

9 (2) An assessment relating to short-term and
10 long-term damage that may result to each critical in-
11 frastructure from each type of natural disaster or
12 public health emergency.

13 (3) A description of the modeling tools and
14 human capacity of NISAC to be utilized to inform
15 emergency preparedness, and any changes to such
16 tools and capacity since the previous report.

17 (4) An assessment of modeling tools that may
18 best inform the Federal Government with respect to
19 cascading effects on infrastructure, transportation,
20 public health, and the economy.

21 (5) Recommendations of modeling, simulation,
22 and training opportunities that may require further
23 investment and maturation with respect to addi-
24 tional consultation and analysis, including—

25 (A) DHS-CISA-NRMC and peer review;

1 (B) interagency consultation, as appro-
2 priate;

3 (C) cost-effectiveness; and

4 (D) consideration of the tools that can best
5 inform the United States government under-
6 standing of cascading effects on infrastructure,
7 transportation, the economy, and public health.

8 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

9 In this Act:

10 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
11 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
12 mittees” means—

13 (A) the Committee on Homeland Security,
14 the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the
15 Committee on Science, Space, and Technology,
16 and the Committee on Transportation and In-
17 frastructure of the House of Representatives;
18 and

19 (B) the Committee on Homeland Security
20 and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on
21 Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee
22 on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and
23 the Committee on Environment and Public
24 Works of the Senate.

1 (2) CISA.—The term “CISA” means the Cy-
2 bersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of
3 the Department of Homeland Security.

4 (3) CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.— The term
5 “critical infrastructure” has the meaning given that
6 term in section 5195c(e) of title 42, United States
7 Code.

8 (4) DHS.—The term “DHS” means the De-
9 partment of Homeland Security.

10 (5) NATIONAL LABORATORIES.—The term “Na-
11 tional Laboratories” means the United States De-
12 partment of Energy National Laboratories and
13 Technology Centers.

14 (6) NISAC.—The term “NISAC” means the
15 National Infrastructure Simulation and Analysis
16 Center.

17 (7) NRMC.—The term “NRMC” means the
18 National Risk Management Center of the Cybersecu-
19 rity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

20 (8) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
21 the Secretary of Homeland Security.

22 (9) SECTOR-SPECIFIC AGENCY.—The term “sec-
23 tor-specific agency” has the meaning given the term
24 “Sector-Specific Agency” in section 2201 of the
25 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651).

1 (10) STATE.—The term “State” has the mean-
2 ing given the term in section 311 of title 5, United
3 States Code.

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