

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5616

To require reporting regarding accreditation of basic training programs of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 19, 2021

Mrs. DEMINGS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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 require reporting regarding accreditation of basic training programs of the Department of Homeland Security, 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 “DHS Basic Training
5 Accreditation Improvement Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 2. REPORTING ON BASIC TRAINING PROGRAMS OF**
7 **THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.**

8 (a) ANNUAL REPORTING.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
2 the date of the enactment of this Act and annually
3 thereafter, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall
4 report to the relevant congressional committees on
5 the accreditation status for each basic training pro-
6 gram within the Department of Homeland Security,
7 including information relating to the following:

8 (A) The date on which each such program
9 achieved initial accreditation, or in the case of
10 a program that is not currently accredited, the
11 reasons for not obtaining or maintaining ac-
12 creditation, the activities, if any, taken to
13 achieve accreditation, and an anticipated
14 timeline for accreditation of such program.

15 (B) The date each such program most re-
16 cently received accreditation or reaccreditation,
17 if applicable.

18 (C) Each such program’s anticipated ac-
19 creditation or next reaccreditation date.

20 (D) The name of the accreditation man-
21 ager for each such program.

22 (2) TERMINATION OF REPORTING REQUIRE-
23 MENT.—Annual reports under paragraph (1) shall
24 terminate when all basic training programs of the
25 Department of Homeland Security are accredited.

1 (b) LAPSE IN ACCREDITATION.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—If a basic training program
3 of the Department of Homeland Security loses ac-
4 creditation, the head of the relevant component of
5 the Department shall notify the Secretary of Home-
6 land Security not later than 30 days after such loss.

7 (2) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30
8 days after receiving a notification pursuant to para-
9 graph (1), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall
10 notify the relevant congressional committees of the
11 lapse in accreditation at issue, the reason for such
12 lapse, and the activities underway and planned to re-
13 gain accreditation.

14 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 (1) ACCREDITATION.—The term “accredita-
16 tion” means the recognition by a board that a basic
17 training program is administered, developed, and de-
18 livered according to an applicable set of standards.

19 (2) ACCREDITATION MANAGER.—The term “ac-
20 creditation manager” means the individual assigned
21 by the component of the Department of Homeland
22 Security to manage accreditation activities for a
23 basic training program.

24 (3) BASIC TRAINING PROGRAM.—The term
25 “basic training program” means an entry level pro-

1 gram of the Department of Homeland Security that
2 is transitional to law enforcement service, provides
3 training on critical competencies and responsibilities,
4 and is typically a requirement for appointment to a
5 law enforcement service job or job series.

6 (4) REACCREDITATION.—The term “reaccredi-
7 tation” means the assessment of a basic training
8 program after initial accreditation to ensure the con-
9 tinued compliance with an applicable set of stand-
10 ards.

11 (5) RELEVANT CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
12 TEES.—The term “relevant congressional commit-
13 tees” means the Committee on Homeland Security
14 of the House of Representatives and the Committee
15 on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of
16 the Senate.

17 **SEC. 3. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.**

18 The Under Secretary for Science and Technology of
19 the Department of Homeland Security shall carry out re-
20 search and development of systems and technologies to en-
21 hance access to training offered by the Federal Law En-
22 forcement Training Centers to State, local, Tribal, and
23 territorial law enforcement, with particular attention to
24 law enforcement in rural and remote communities, for the
25 purpose of enhancing domestic preparedness for and col-

- 1 lective response to terrorism and other homeland security
- 2 threats.

