

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8801

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish stronger accountability mechanisms for Joint Task Forces, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

Mr. CORREA (for himself, Mr. GIMENEZ, and Ms. SLOTKIN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish stronger accountability mechanisms for Joint Task Forces, 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 Joint Task Force
5 Reauthorization Act of 2022”.

6 **SEC. 2. JOINT TASK FORCES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF**
7 **HOMELAND SECURITY.**

8 Subsection (b) of section 708 of the Homeland Secu-
9 rity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 348) is amended—

1 (1) by amending paragraph (8) to read as fol-
2 lows:

3 “(8) JOINT TASK FORCE STAFF.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each Joint Task
5 Force shall have a staff, composed of officials
6 from relevant components and offices of the De-
7 partment, to assist the Director of such Joint
8 Task Force in carrying out the mission and re-
9 sponsibilities of such Joint Task Force.

10 “(B) REPORT.—The Secretary shall in-
11 clude in the report submitted under paragraph
12 (6)(F)—

13 “(i) the number of personnel perma-
14 nently assigned to each Joint Task Force
15 by each component and office; and

16 “(ii) the number of personnel assigned
17 on a temporary basis to each Joint Task
18 Force by each component and office.”;

19 (2) in paragraph (9)—

20 (A) in the heading, by inserting “MISSION
21 AND” after “ESTABLISHMENT OF”;

22 (B) by amending subparagraph (A) to read
23 as follows:

24 “(A) using leading practices in perform-
25 ance management and lessons learned by other

1 law enforcement task forces and joint oper-
2 ations, establish—

3 “(i) the mission, strategic goals, and
4 objectives of each Joint Task Force;

5 “(ii) the criteria for terminating each
6 Joint Task Force; and

7 “(iii) outcome-based and other appro-
8 priate performance metrics to evaluate the
9 effectiveness of each Joint Task Force with
10 respect to the mission, strategic goals, and
11 objectives established pursuant to clause
12 (i), including—

13 “(I) targets for each such Joint
14 Task Force to achieve by not later
15 than one and three years after such
16 establishment; and

17 “(II) a description of the meth-
18 odology used to establish such
19 metrics;”;

20 (C) in subparagraph (B)—

21 (i) by striking “date of the enactment
22 of this section” and insert “date of the en-
23 actment of the DHS Joint Task Forces
24 Reauthorization Act of 2022”;

(ii) by inserting “mission, strategic goals, objectives, and” before “metrics”; and

(iii) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(D) by amending subparagraph (C) to read as follows:

“(C) not later than one year after the date of the enactment of the DHS Joint Task Forces Reauthorization Act of 2022 and annually thereafter, submit to the committees specified in subparagraph (B) a report that contains information on the progress in implementing the outcome-based and other appropriate performance metrics established pursuant to subparagraph (A)(iii).”;

(3) in paragraph (11)—

(A) in the heading, by inserting “OR TERMINATION” after “FORMATION”; and

(B) by amending subparagraph (A) to read as follows:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days before establishing or terminating a Joint Task Force under this subsection, the Secretary shall submit to the majority leader of the Sen-

1 ate, the minority leader of the Senate, the
2 Speaker of the House of Representatives, the
3 majority leader of the House of Representa-
4 tives, the minority leader of the House of Rep-
5 resentatives, and the Committee on Homeland
6 Security and the Committee on Transportation
7 and Infrastructure of the House of Representa-
8 tives and the Committee on Homeland Security
9 and Governmental Affairs and the Committee
10 on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of
11 the Senate a notification regarding such estab-
12 lishment or termination, as the case may be.
13 The contents of any such notification shall in-
14 clude the following:

15 “(i) The criteria and conditions re-
16 quired to establish or terminate the Joint
17 Task Force at issue.

18 “(ii) The primary mission, strategic
19 goals, objectives, and plan of operations of
20 such Joint Task Force.

21 “(iii) If such notification is a notifica-
22 tion of termination, information on the ef-
23 fectiveness of such Joint Task Force as
24 measured by the outcome-based perform-
25 ance metrics and other appropriate per-

1 formance metrics established pursuant to
2 paragraph (9)(A)(iii).

3 “(iv) The funding and resources re-
4 quired to establish or terminate such Joint
5 Task Force.

6 “(v) The number of personnel perma-
7 nently assigned to such Joint Task Force
8 from each component or office.

9 “(vi) The number of personnel as-
10 signed on a temporary basis to such Joint
11 Task Force from each component or office.

12 “(vii) If such notification is a notifica-
13 tion of establishment, the anticipated costs
14 of establishing and operating such Joint
15 Task Force.

16 “(viii) If such notification is a notifi-
17 cation of termination, funding allocated in
18 the immediately preceding fiscal year to
19 such Joint Task Force for—

20 “(I) operations notwithstanding
21 such termination; and

22 “(II) activities associated with
23 such termination.

1 “(ix) The anticipated establishment or
2 termination date of such Joint Task Force,
3 as the case may be.”;

4 (4) in paragraph (12)—

5 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

6 (i) by striking “January 31, 2018,
7 and January 31, 2021, the Inspector Gen-
8 eral of the Department” and inserting
9 “one year after the date of the enactment
10 of the DHS Joint Task Forces Reauthor-
11 ization Act of 2022, the Comptroller Gen-
12 eral of the United States”; and

13 (ii) by inserting “an assessment of the
14 effectiveness of the Secretary’s utilization
15 of the authority provided under this section
16 for the purposes set forth in subsection
17 (b)(2) as among the range of options avail-
18 able to the Secretary to conduct joint oper-
19 ations among departmental components
20 and offices and” before “a review of the
21 Joint Task Forces”; and

22 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

23 (i) in the matter preceding clause (i),
24 by striking “reviews” and inserting “re-
25 view”; and

1 (ii) by amending clauses (i) and (ii) to
2 read as follows:

3 “(i) an assessment of methodology
4 utilized to determine whether to establish
5 or terminate each Joint Task Force; and

6 “(ii) an assessment of the effective-
7 ness of oversight over each Joint Task
8 Force with specificity regarding the Sec-
9 retary’s utilization of outcome-based or
10 other appropriate performance metrics es-
11 tablished pursuant to paragraph (9)(A)(iii)
12 to evaluate the effectiveness of each Joint
13 Task Force in measuring progress with re-
14 spect to the mission, strategic goals, and
15 objectives established pursuant to para-
16 graph (9)(A)(i) of such Joint Task
17 Force.”; and

18 (5) in paragraph (13), by striking “2022” and
19 inserting “2024”.

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