

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 367

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an acquisition professional career program, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 19, 2021

Ms. TITUS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

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## A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an acquisition professional career program, 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 “Homeland Security  
5       Acquisition Professional Career Program Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF THE ACQUISITION PROFES-**  
7       **SIONAL CAREER PROGRAM.**

8       (a) IN GENERAL.—Title VII of the Homeland Secu-  
9       rity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341 et seq.) is amended by  
10      adding at the end the following new section:

1 **“SEC. 711. ACQUISITION PROFESSIONAL CAREER PRO-**  
2 **GRAM.**

3 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the  
4 Department an acquisition professional career program to  
5 develop a cadre of acquisition professionals within the De-  
6 partment.

7 “(b) ADMINISTRATION.—The Under Secretary for  
8 Management shall administer the acquisition professional  
9 career program established pursuant to subsection (a).

10 “(c) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—The Under Sec-  
11 retary for Management shall carry out the following with  
12 respect to the acquisition professional career program.

13 “(1) Designate the occupational series, grades,  
14 and number of acquisition positions throughout the  
15 Department to be included in the program and man-  
16 age centrally such positions.

17 “(2) Establish and publish on the Department’s  
18 website eligibility criteria for candidates to partici-  
19 pate in the program.

20 “(3) Carry out recruitment efforts to attract  
21 candidates—

22 “(A) from institutions of higher education,  
23 including such institutions with established ac-  
24 quisition specialties and courses of study, his-  
25 torically Black colleges and universities, and  
26 Hispanic-serving institutions;

1 “(B) with diverse work experience outside  
2 of the Federal Government; or

3 “(C) with military service.

4 “(4) Hire eligible candidates for designated po-  
5 sitions under the program.

6 “(5) Develop a structured program comprised  
7 of acquisition training, on-the-job experience, De-  
8 partment-wide rotations, mentorship, shadowing,  
9 and other career development opportunities for pro-  
10 gram participants.

11 “(6) Provide, beyond required training estab-  
12 lished for program participants, additional special-  
13 ized acquisition training, including small business  
14 contracting and innovative acquisition techniques  
15 training.

16 “(d) REPORTS.—Not later than December 31, 2021,  
17 and annually thereafter through 2027, the Secretary shall  
18 submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the  
19 House of Representatives and the Committee on Home-  
20 land Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a  
21 report on the acquisition professional career program.  
22 Each such report shall include the following information:

23 “(1) The number of candidates approved for  
24 the program.

1           “(2) The number of candidates who commenced  
2 participation in the program, including generalized  
3 information on such candidates’ backgrounds with  
4 respect to education and prior work experience, but  
5 not including personally identifiable information.

6           “(3) A breakdown of the number of partici-  
7 pants hired under the program by type of acquisition  
8 position.

9           “(4) A list of Department components and of-  
10 fices that participated in the program and informa-  
11 tion regarding length of time of each program par-  
12 ticipant in each rotation at such components or of-  
13 fices.

14           “(5) Program attrition rates and post-program  
15 graduation retention data, including information on  
16 how such data compare to the prior year’s data, as  
17 available.

18           “(6) The Department’s recruiting efforts for  
19 the program.

20           “(7) The Department’s efforts to promote re-  
21 tention of program participants.

22           “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

23           “(1) HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The  
24 term ‘Hispanic-serving institution’ has the meaning

1 given such term in section 502 of the Higher Edu-  
2 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101a).

3 “(2) HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND  
4 UNIVERSITIES.—The term ‘historically Black col-  
5 leges and universities’ has the meaning given the  
6 term ‘part B institution’ in section 322(2) of Higher  
7 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061(2)).

8 “(3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—  
9 The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the  
10 meaning given such term in section 101 of the High-  
11 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).”.

12 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
13 in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is  
14 amended by inserting after the item relating to section  
15 710 the following new item:

“Sec. 711. Acquisition professional career program.”.

