

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3310

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a study on how to improve training and support for local emergency response providers in areas with high concentrations of covered chemical facilities in how to respond to a terrorist attack on a chemical facility.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 18, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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 conduct a study on how to improve training and support for local emergency response providers in areas with high concentrations of covered chemical facilities in how to respond to a terrorist attack on a chemical facility.

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

1 **SECTION 1. STUDY ON LOCAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE CA-**
2 **PACITY TO RESPOND TO CHEMICAL SECU-**
3 **RITY INCIDENTS.**

4 (a) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Homeland
5 Security, acting through the Under Secretary for Science
6 and Technology, shall conduct a study on how to improve
7 training and support for local emergency response pro-
8 viders in areas with high concentrations of covered chem-
9 ical facilities in how to respond to a terrorist attack on
10 a chemical facility.

11 (b) FEATURES.—In carrying out the study required
12 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall consider, as ap-
13 propriate—

14 (1) the degree to which jurisdictions with high
15 concentrations of covered chemical facilities have
16 fire, police, medical, and other response personnel
17 trained and equipped to respond to a terrorist attack
18 on a chemical facility and have—

19 (A) evacuation and shelter in place proto-
20 cols tailored to the unique needs of the jurisdic-
21 tion and the chemical properties of chemicals of
22 interest that would be involved in the attack
23 and that take into consideration vulnerable pop-
24 ulations, including schools, child care centers,
25 nursing facilities, and hospitals;

1 (B) community notification and warning
2 systems; and

3 (C) surge capacities of hospitals and other
4 health care facilities in the area;

5 (2) what, if any, distinctions are there in pre-
6 paredness for a terrorist attack on a chemical facil-
7 ity in jurisdictions that rely on volunteers to carry
8 out fire, police, medical and other response and ju-
9 risdictions that do not rely, in whole or in part, on
10 volunteers; and

11 (3) all training, equipment, and support pro-
12 vided by the Department of Homeland Security to
13 local emergency response providers in areas with a
14 high concentration of covered chemical facilities and
15 chemical facilities of interest.

16 (c) SURVEY.—In carrying out the study required
17 under subsection (a), the Secretary may partner with a
18 non-Departmental entity for the survey of a representative
19 sample of emergency response providers in areas with a
20 high concentration of covered chemical facilities, chemical
21 facilities of interest, or other facilities with large quantities
22 of chemicals.

23 (d) REPORT.—No later than two years from the date
24 on which the Secretary commences the study required
25 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to Con-

1 gress the study, accompanied by plans, as appropriate,
2 to—

3 (1) improve the Department’s counterterrorism
4 preparedness and response planning, training, and
5 equipment efforts to ensure that they are better tai-
6 lored and resourced to address the unique needs of
7 local emergency response providers in areas with a
8 high concentration of covered chemical facilities and
9 chemical facilities of interest; and

10 (2) improve coordination among Federal, State,
11 local, tribal, and territorial government officials in
12 emergency planning and response in areas with high
13 concentrations of covered chemical facilities, chem-
14 ical facilities of interest, or other facilities with large
15 quantities of hazardous chemicals.

16 (e) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The report required
17 under this section shall be made publicly available, but
18 may include a classified annex.

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