

Union Calendar No. 412

111TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5105

[Report No. 111-668, Part I]

To establish a Chief Veterinary Officer in the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama (for himself, Ms. KILROY, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. MCCAUL, Ms. CLARKE, and Mr. CARNEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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

NOVEMBER 30, 2010

Reported from the Committee on Homeland Security with an amendment
[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

NOVEMBER 30, 2010

Referral to the Committee on Agriculture extended for a period ending not later than December 10, 2010

DECEMBER 10, 2010

Referral to the Committee on Agriculture extended for a period ending not later than December 17, 2010

DECEMBER 17, 2010

Referral to the Committee on Agriculture extended for a period ending not later than December 21, 2010

DECEMBER 21, 2010

Referral to the Committee on Agriculture extended for a period ending not later than December 22, 2010

DECEMBER 22, 2010

The Committee on Agriculture discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on April 21, 2010]

A BILL

To establish a Chief Veterinary Officer in 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. CHIEF VETERINARY OFFICER OF DEPARTMENT**
4 **OF HOMELAND SECURITY.**

5 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Homeland Security*
6 *Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) is amended by adding*
7 *at the end the following new section:*

8 **“SEC. 317. CHIEF VETERINARY OFFICER.**

9 *“(a) IN GENERAL.—There is in the Department a*
10 *Chief Veterinary Officer, who shall be appointed by the Sec-*
11 *retary. The Chief Veterinary Officer shall report directly*
12 *to the Chief Medical Officer, unless an individual other than*
13 *the Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs is serving as the*
14 *Chief Medical Officer, in which case the Chief Veterinary*
15 *Officer shall report directly to the Assistant Secretary for*
16 *Health Affairs.*

17 *“(b) QUALIFICATIONS.—The individual appointed as*
18 *Chief Veterinary Officer shall be a veterinarian who pos-*
19 *sesses a demonstrated ability in and knowledge of veteri-*
20 *nary public health and emergency preparedness, and other*
21 *professional experience as determined by the Secretary, such*
22 *as in agriculture, food defense, and disaster medicine.*

23 *“(c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Chief Veterinary Officer*
24 *shall be the head of the division of the Department with*
25 *primary responsibility for veterinary issues, food defense,*

1 *and agriculture security, and shall have primary responsi-*
2 *bility within the Department for responsibilities relating*
3 *to veterinary medicine and veterinary public health, in-*
4 *cluding each of the following:*

5 “(1) *Serving as the principal authority in the*
6 *Department responsible for advising the Secretary, in*
7 *coordination with the Assistant Secretary for Health*
8 *Affairs, on veterinary public health, food defense, and*
9 *agricultural security issues.*

10 “(2) *Providing guidance for the health and wel-*
11 *fare of the Department’s working animals, including*
12 *those used to enhance transportation, border, and*
13 *maritime security, and for other purposes.*

14 “(3) *Leading the Department’s policy initiatives*
15 *relating to food, animal, and agricultural incidents,*
16 *and the impact of such incidents on animal and pub-*
17 *lic health.*

18 “(4) *Leading the Department’s policy initiatives*
19 *relating to overall domestic preparedness for and col-*
20 *lective response to agricultural terrorism.*

21 “(5) *Serving as the principal point of contact in*
22 *the Office of Health Affairs for all veterinary pre-*
23 *paredness and response research and development.*

24 “(6) *Serving as the principal point of contact in*
25 *the Office of Health Affairs for sharing homeland se-*

1 *curity veterinary medical information with Depart-*
2 *ment officials, including all components with veteri-*
3 *nary, food, or agricultural interests.*

4 *“(7) Serving as the principal point of contact*
5 *within the Department with respect to veterinary*
6 *homeland security issues for the Department of Agri-*
7 *culture, the Department of Defense, the Department of*
8 *Health and Human Services, and other Federal de-*
9 *partments and agencies.*

10 *“(8) Serving as the principal point of contact*
11 *within the Department with respect to veterinary*
12 *homeland security issues for State, local, and tribal*
13 *governments, the veterinary community, and other*
14 *entities within and outside the Department.*

15 *“(9) Performing such other duties relating to*
16 *such responsibilities as the Secretary may require.*

17 *“(d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days*
18 *after the last day of each fiscal year, the Chief Veterinary*
19 *Officer shall submit to Congress a report on the state of*
20 *the Department’s working animals during that fiscal year.*
21 *Each such report shall include—*

22 *“(1) the number of animals in service to the De-*
23 *partment during the fiscal year, including the compo-*
24 *nent and mission of each such animal and the home-*
25 *land security activities conducted by such animal;*

1 “(2) an assessment of the overall health and wel-
2 fare of the Department’s working animals during the
3 fiscal year; and

4 “(3) a description of the activities of the Office
5 during the fiscal year, including a description of any
6 animal initiative or program conducted during such
7 fiscal year, and for each such initiative or program—

8 “(A) the objectives of the initiative or pro-
9 gram;

10 “(B) the species or genus of animals that
11 are subject of the initiative or program;

12 “(C) the amount of resources used (includ-
13 ing capital and human resources) for such ini-
14 tiative or program;

15 “(D) when the initiative or program will
16 conclude or terminate; and

17 “(E) the degree of completion of the initia-
18 tive or program.

19 “(e) *ADVANCE NOTICE OF REORGANIZATION RE-*
20 *QUIRED.—Not later than 180 days before carrying out any*
21 *reorganization within the Department that would affect*
22 *any responsibility of the Chief Veterinary Officer, the Sec-*
23 *retary shall submit to the appropriate congressional com-*
24 *mittees a report on the proposed reorganization.”.*

1 **(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—*The table of contents in*
2 *section 1(b) of such Act is amended by adding at the end*
3 *of the items relating to title III the following new item:*

“Sec. 317. Chief Veterinary Officer.”.

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DECEMBER 22, 2010

The Committee on Agriculture discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed