

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5497

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve the integrated public alert and warning system relating to active shooters, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

Ms. MACE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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 amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve the integrated public alert and warning system relating to active shooters, 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 “Active Shooter Alert
5 System Improvements Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. INTEGRATED PUBLIC ALERT AND WARNING SYS-**
2 **TEM MODERNIZATION AND COORDINATION.**

3 (a) ACTIVE SHOOTER ALERT COORDINATOR.—Sec-
4 tion 2006 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C.
5 607) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b)(4)—

7 (A) in subparagraph (E), by striking
8 “and” after the semicolon;

9 (B) in subparagraph (F), by striking the
10 period and inserting “; and”; and

11 (C) by adding at the end the following new
12 subparagraph:

13 “(G) shall serve as, or appoint an indi-
14 vidual within the Office for State and Local
15 Law Enforcement to serve as, the Active Shoot-
16 er Alert Coordinator of the Department.”; and

17 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
18 section:

19 “(c) ACTIVE SHOOTER ALERT COORDINATOR DU-
20 TIES.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Active Shooter Alert
22 Coordinator of the Department shall—

23 “(A) seek to eliminate gaps in the inte-
24 grated public alert and warning system under
25 section 526 relating to active shooters, includ-

1 ing gaps relating to interstate travel of active
2 shooters;

3 “(B) work with law enforcement, States,
4 and localities to encourage the development of
5 additional elements, such as local active shooter
6 plans, when utilizing such integrated public
7 alert and warning systems;

8 “(C) encourage States and localities to
9 apply for grants under subtitle A of this title to
10 obtain, improve, train users of, and implement
11 integrated public alert and warning systems re-
12 lating to active shooters; and

13 “(D) work with States and localities to en-
14 sure appropriate regional and local coordination
15 of various elements of the integrated public
16 alert and warning systems relating to active
17 shooters.

18 “(2) ACTIVE SHOOTER ALERT COOPERATION.—
19 The Active Shooter Alert Coordinator of the Depart-
20 ment shall cooperate with appropriate authorities in
21 carrying out activities under this subsection.”.

22 (b) PERFORMANCE REPORTS.—Subparagraph (B) of
23 section 526(e)(1) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002
24 (6 U.S.C. 321o(e)(1)) is amended—

1 (1) in clause (ii), by striking “and” after the
2 semicolon;

3 (2) in clause (iii), by striking the period and in-
4 serting a semicolon; and

5 (3) by adding at the end the following new
6 clauses:

7 “(iv) the recruitment and registration
8 of alerting authorities of States and units
9 of local government to use the public alert
10 and warning system, whether an alerting
11 authority was appointed, efforts to solicit
12 local law enforcement participation in the
13 public alert and warning system, and the
14 number of alerts sent in a calendar year by
15 altering authorities; and

16 “(v) efforts to improve the geolocation
17 capabilities of the public alert and warning
18 system.”.

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