

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 6140

To facilitate access to swiftly transport goods during a publicly announced state of emergency situation.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 1, 2023

Mr. EZELL (for himself, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mr. BALDERSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To facilitate access to swiftly transport goods during a publicly announced state of emergency situation.

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 “Facilitating Access to  
5 Swiftly Transport Goods during a Publicly Announced  
6 State of Emergency Situation Act” or the “FAST PASS  
7 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. STUDY ON CRITICAL CARGO.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the  
3 date of enactment of this section, the Secretary of Trans-  
4 portation shall initiate a study to examine—

5 (1) efforts to expedite the movement of critical  
6 cargo through ports and marine terminals; and

7 (2) methodologies, practices, and processes for  
8 moving such cargo during an event for which an  
9 emergency is declared by the President or a Federal  
10 agency.

11 (b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study under sub-  
12 section (a), the Secretary shall examine methodologies,  
13 practices, and processes for—

14 (1) identifying critical cargo and expediting the  
15 movement of such cargo through the marine termi-  
16 nals and ports;

17 (2) expediting the movement of critical cargo  
18 across all modes of transportation after leaving ma-  
19 rine terminals and ports; and

20 (3) mitigating the impact on the movement of  
21 other cargo that is not critical.

22 (c) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study under  
23 subsection (a), the Secretary shall consult with—

24 (1) the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-  
25 ices; and

26 (2) other relevant Federal agencies.

1 (d) REQUEST FOR INFORMATION.—The Secretary  
2 shall issue a request for information in the Federal Reg-  
3 ister seeking public comment on the matters to be consid-  
4 ered in the study required under subsection (a).

5 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date  
6 of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit  
7 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
8 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
9 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a  
10 report containing—

11 (1) the findings of the study conducted under  
12 subsection (a); and

13 (2) recommendations for methodologies, prac-  
14 tices, and processes described in such subsection, in-  
15 cluding recommendations for using data from com-  
16 mercial and government data tracking initiatives  
17 to—

18 (A) determine when cargo is critical and  
19 needs to be expedited;

20 (B) identify such critical cargo at port and  
21 marine terminals; and

22 (C) expedite the movement and distribu-  
23 tion of such cargo to end users.

24 (f) PILOT PROGRAM.—In conducting the study under  
25 subsection (a), the Secretary may establish 1 or more vol-

1 untary pilot programs to test the effectiveness of meth-  
2 odologies, practices, and processes for expediting the  
3 movement of critical cargo through ports and marine ter-  
4 minals.

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