

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 642

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## AN ACT

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance the partnership between the Department of Homeland Security and the National Network of Fusion Centers, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Fusion Center En-  
3 hancement Act of 2017”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FUSION**  
5 **CENTER PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 210A of the Homeland  
7 Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124h) is amended—

8 (1) by amending the section heading to read as  
9 follows:

10 **“SEC. 210A. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FU-**  
11 **SION CENTER PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE.”;**

12 (2) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the  
13 following new sentence: “Beginning on the date of  
14 the enactment of the Fusion Center Enhancement  
15 Act of 2017, such Initiative shall be known as the  
16 ‘Department of Homeland Security Fusion Center  
17 Partnership Initiative.’”;

18 (3) by amending subsection (b) to read as fol-  
19 lows:

20 **“(b) INTERAGENCY SUPPORT AND COORDINATION.—**  
21 Through the Department of Homeland Security Fusion  
22 Center Partnership Initiative, in coordination with prin-  
23 cipal officials of fusion centers in the National Network  
24 of Fusion Centers and the officers designated as the  
25 Homeland Security Advisors of the States, the Secretary  
26 shall—

1           “(1) coordinate with the heads of other Federal  
2 departments and agencies to provide operational and  
3 intelligence advice and assistance to the National  
4 Network of Fusion Centers;

5           “(2) support the integration of fusion centers  
6 into the information sharing environment;

7           “(3) support the maturation and sustainment  
8 of the National Network of Fusion Centers;

9           “(4) reduce inefficiencies and maximize the ef-  
10 fectiveness of Federal resource support to the Na-  
11 tional Network of Fusion Centers;

12           “(5) provide analytic and reporting advice and  
13 assistance to the National Network of Fusion Cen-  
14 ters;

15           “(6) review information within the scope of the  
16 information sharing environment, including home-  
17 land security information, terrorism information,  
18 and weapons of mass destruction information, that  
19 is gathered by the National Network of Fusion Cen-  
20 ters and incorporate such information, as appro-  
21 priate, into the Department’s own such information;

22           “(7) provide for the effective dissemination of  
23 information within the scope of the information  
24 sharing environment to the National Network of Fu-  
25 sion Centers;

1           “(8) facilitate close communication and coordi-  
2 nation between the National Network of Fusion  
3 Centers and the Department and other Federal de-  
4 partments and agencies;

5           “(9) provide the National Network of Fusion  
6 Centers with expertise on Department resources and  
7 operations;

8           “(10) coordinate the provision of training and  
9 technical assistance to the National Network of Fu-  
10 sion Centers and encourage participating fusion cen-  
11 ters to take part in terrorism threat-related exercises  
12 conducted by the Department;

13           “(11) ensure, to the greatest extent practicable,  
14 that support for the National Network of Fusion  
15 Centers is included as a national priority in applica-  
16 ble homeland security grant guidance;

17           “(12) ensure that each fusion center in the Na-  
18 tional Network of Fusion Centers has a privacy poli-  
19 cy approved by the Chief Privacy Officer of the De-  
20 partment and a civil rights and civil liberties policy  
21 approved by the Officer for Civil Rights and Civil  
22 Liberties of the Department;

23           “(13) coordinate the nationwide suspicious ac-  
24 tivity report initiative to ensure information gath-

1       ered by the National Network of Fusion Centers is  
2       incorporated as appropriate;

3           “(14) lead Department efforts to ensure fusion  
4       centers in the National Network of Fusion Centers  
5       are the primary focal points for the sharing of home-  
6       land security information, terrorism information,  
7       and weapons of mass destruction information with  
8       State, local, tribal, and territorial entities to the  
9       greatest extent practicable;

10          “(15) develop and disseminate best practices on  
11       the appropriate levels for staffing at fusion centers  
12       in the National Network of Fusion Centers of quali-  
13       fied representatives from State, local, tribal, and ter-  
14       ritorial law enforcement, fire, emergency medical,  
15       and emergency management services, and public  
16       health disciplines, as well as the private sector; and

17          “(16) carry out such other duties as the Sec-  
18       retary determines appropriate.”;

19          (4) in subsection (c)—

20                (A) by striking so much as precedes para-  
21                graph (3)(B) and inserting the following:

22                “(c) RESOURCE ALLOCATION.—

23                    “(1) INFORMATION SHARING AND PERSONNEL  
24                    ASSIGNMENT.—

1           “(A) INFORMATION SHARING.—The Under  
2 Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis shall en-  
3 sure that, as appropriate—

4           “(i) fusion centers in the National  
5 Network of Fusion Centers have access to  
6 homeland security information sharing sys-  
7 tems; and

8           “(ii) Department personnel are de-  
9 ployed to support fusion centers in the Na-  
10 tional Network of Fusion Centers in a  
11 manner consistent with the Department’s  
12 mission and existing statutory limits.

13           “(B) PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENT.—Depart-  
14 ment personnel referred to in subparagraph  
15 (A)(ii) may include the following:

16           “(i) Intelligence officers.

17           “(ii) Intelligence analysts.

18           “(iii) Other liaisons from components  
19 and offices of the Department, as appro-  
20 priate.

21           “(C) MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING.—  
22 The Under Secretary for Intelligence and Anal-  
23 ysis shall negotiate memoranda of under-  
24 standing between the Department and a State  
25 or local government, in coordination with the

1 appropriate representatives from fusion centers  
2 in the National Network of Fusion Centers, re-  
3 garding the exchange of information between  
4 the Department and such fusion centers. Such  
5 memoranda shall include the following:

6 “(i) The categories of information to  
7 be provided by each entity to the other en-  
8 tity that are parties to any such memo-  
9 randa.

10 “(ii) The contemplated uses of the ex-  
11 changed information that is the subject of  
12 any such memoranda.

13 “(iii) The procedures for developing  
14 joint products.

15 “(iv) The information sharing dispute  
16 resolution processes.

17 “(v) Any protections necessary to en-  
18 sure the exchange of information accords  
19 with applicable law and policies.

20 “(2) SOURCES OF SUPPORT.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Information shared  
22 and personnel assigned pursuant to paragraph  
23 (1) may be shared or provided, as the case may  
24 be, by the following Department components  
25 and offices, in coordination with the respective

1 component or office head and in consultation  
2 with the principal officials of fusion centers in  
3 the National Network of Fusion Centers:

4 “(i) The Office of Intelligence and  
5 Analysis.

6 “(ii) The Office of Infrastructure Pro-  
7 tection.

8 “(iii) The Transportation Security  
9 Administration.

10 “(iv) U.S. Customs and Border Pro-  
11 tection.

12 “(v) U.S. Immigration and Customs  
13 Enforcement.

14 “(vi) The Coast Guard.

15 “(vii) Other components or offices of  
16 the Department, as determined by the Sec-  
17 retary.

18 “(B) COORDINATION WITH OTHER FED-  
19 ERAL AGENCIES.—The Under Secretary for In-  
20 telligence and Analysis shall coordinate with ap-  
21 propriate officials throughout the Federal Gov-  
22 ernment to ensure the deployment to fusion  
23 centers in the National Network of Fusion Cen-  
24 ters of representatives with relevant expertise of  
25 other Federal departments and agencies.



1 “(3) RESOURCE ALLOCATION CRITERIA.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
3 make available criteria for sharing information  
4 and deploying personnel to support a fusion  
5 center in the National Network of Fusion Cen-  
6 ters in a manner consistent with the Depart-  
7 ment’s mission and existing statutory limits.”;  
8 and

9 (B) in paragraph (4)(B), in the matter  
10 preceding clause (i), by inserting “in which  
11 such fusion center is located” after “region”;  
12 (5) in subsection (d)—

13 (A) in paragraph (3), by striking “and” at  
14 the end;

15 (B) in paragraph (4)—

16 (i) by striking “government” and in-  
17 serting “governments”; and

18 (ii) by striking the period at the end  
19 and inserting “; and”; and

20 (C) by adding at the end the following new  
21 paragraph:

22 “(5) utilize Department information, including  
23 information held by components and offices, to de-  
24 velop analysis focused on the mission of the Depart-  
25 ment under section 101(b).”;

1 (6) in subsection (e)—

2 (A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as  
3 follows:

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To the greatest extent  
5 practicable, the Secretary shall make it a priority to  
6 allocate resources, including deployed personnel,  
7 under this section from U.S. Customs and Border  
8 Protection, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforce-  
9 ment, and the Coast Guard to support fusion centers  
10 in the National Network of Fusion Centers located  
11 in jurisdictions along land or maritime borders of  
12 the United States in order to enhance the integrity  
13 of and security at such borders by helping Federal,  
14 State, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement  
15 authorities to identify, investigate, and otherwise  
16 interdict persons, weapons, and related contraband  
17 that pose a threat to homeland security.”; and

18 (B) in paragraph (2), in the matter pre-  
19 ceding subparagraph (A), by striking “partici-  
20 pating State, local, and regional fusion centers”  
21 and inserting “fusion centers in the National  
22 Network of Fusion Centers”;

23 (7) in subsection (j)—

24 (A) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” at  
25 the end;

1 (B) by redesignating paragraph (5) as  
2 paragraph (6); and

3 (C) by inserting after paragraph (4) the  
4 following new paragraph:

5 “(5) the term ‘National Network of Fusion  
6 Centers’ means a decentralized arrangement of fu-  
7 sion centers intended to enhance individual State  
8 and urban area fusion centers’ ability to leverage the  
9 capabilities and expertise of all fusion centers for the  
10 purpose of enhancing analysis and homeland secu-  
11 rity information sharing nationally; and”;

12 (8) by striking subsection (k).

13 (b) ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT.—Not later than 1  
14 year after the date of the enactment of this Act and annu-  
15 ally thereafter through 2024, the Under Secretary for In-  
16 telligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland  
17 Security shall report to the Committee on Homeland Secu-  
18 rity and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence  
19 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
20 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Se-  
21 lect Committee on Intelligence of the Senate on the efforts  
22 of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Depart-  
23 ment and other relevant components and offices of the De-  
24 partment to enhance support provided to fusion centers  
25 in the National Network of Fusion Centers, including

1 meeting the requirements specified in section 210A of the  
2 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124h), as  
3 amended by subsection (a) of this section.

4 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
5 in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by striking the  
6 item relating to section 210A and inserting the following  
7 new item:

“Sec. 210A. Department of Homeland Security Fusion Centers Initiative.”.

8 (d) REFERENCE.—Any reference in any law, rule, or  
9 regulation to the “Department of Homeland Security  
10 State, Local, and Regional Fusion Center Initiative” shall  
11 be deemed to be a reference to the “Department of Home-  
12 land Security Fusion Center Initiative”.

Passed the House of Representatives January 31,  
2017.

Attest:

*Clerk.*



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