

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7760

To establish a procedure for terminating a determination by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to suspend the introduction of persons into the United States from designated places, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 12, 2022

Mr. WENSTRUP (for himself, Mr. BURGESS, and Mr. HARRIS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To establish a procedure for terminating a determination by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to suspend the introduction of persons into the United States from designated places, 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 “Strengthening Our
5 Health Security Act of 2022”.

1 **SEC. 2. TERMINATION OF SUSPENSION OF PERSONS FROM**
2 **DESIGNATED PLACES RELATED TO THE**
3 **COVID-19 PANDEMIC.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—An order of suspension issued
5 under section 362 of the Public Health Service Act (42
6 U.S.C. 265) as a result of the public health emergency
7 declaration under section 319 of such Act (42 U.S.C.
8 247d) with respect to COVID-19 (including any renewal
9 of such declaration) shall not be lifted earlier than 60 days
10 after the date on which the Secretary of Health and
11 Human Services provides written notification to the ap-
12 propriate committees of Congress that such public health
13 emergency declaration has been terminated.

14 (b) PROCEDURES DURING 60-DAY TERMINATION
15 WINDOW.—

16 (1) PLAN.—Not later than 30 days after the
17 date on which a written notification is provided
18 under subsection (a), the Secretary of Health and
19 Human Services shall develop and submit to the ap-
20 propriate committees of Congress a plan to address
21 any possible influx of persons related to the termi-
22 nation of such order.

23 (2) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of Health
24 and Human Services shall develop the plan required
25 by paragraph (1) in consultation with—

1 (A) the Secretary of Homeland Security;
2 and

3 (B) any Federal agency, State, local, or
4 Tribal government, and nongovernmental orga-
5 nization that, as determined by the Secretary,
6 has a role in managing outcomes associated
7 with the termination of such order.

8 (3) CONTENTS.—The plan required by para-
9 graph (1) shall include the following:

10 (A) The process for screening persons re-
11 ferred to in paragraph (1) for COVID–19 and
12 other communicable diseases.

13 (B) A description of the Federal Govern-
14 ment’s capacity for testing such persons for
15 COVID–19 and other communicable diseases.

16 (C) A description of the protocols to pre-
17 vent the spread of, and to treat, communicable
18 diseases (other than COVID–19) in connection
19 with an influx of persons described in para-
20 graph (1).

21 (D) A description of the protocols to be
22 implemented to protect Federal employees
23 working with or near such persons from poten-
24 tial exposure to COVID–19 and other commu-
25 nicable diseases.

1 (E) The process for screening such persons
2 for controlled substances, including fentanyl,
3 being imported illicitly.

4 (F) A specification of how long, and with
5 respect to how many such persons, the Federal
6 Government has the capacity to carry out the
7 activities referred to in subparagraphs (A)
8 through (E).

9 (G) A specification of the circumstances
10 under which a request will be submitted for ad-
11 ditional such capacity.

12 (4) FAILURE TO SUBMIT.—If a plan under
13 paragraph (1) is not submitted to the appropriate
14 committees of Congress within the 30-day period de-
15 scribed in such paragraph—

16 (A) not later than 7 days after the expira-
17 tion of such 30-day period, the Secretary of
18 Health and Human Services shall notify the ap-
19 propriate committees of Congress, in writing, of
20 the status of preparing such a plan and the
21 timing for submission as required under para-
22 graph (1); and

23 (B) the termination of an order of suspen-
24 sion pursuant to such plan shall be delayed
25 until a date that is at least 30 days after the

1 date on which such plan is submitted to such
2 committees.

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