

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2359

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a Joint Requirements Council in the Department of Homeland Security.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 30, 2018

Mrs. MCCASKILL introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a Joint Requirements Council in the Department of Homeland Security.

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 “DHS Joint Require-
5 ments Council Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. JOINT REQUIREMENTS COUNCIL.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title VII of the Homeland Secu-
8 rity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341 et seq.) is amended by
9 adding at the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 710. JOINT REQUIREMENTS COUNCIL.**

2 “(a) DEFINITION OF JOINT REQUIREMENT.—In this
3 section, the term ‘joint requirement’ means a condition or
4 capability of multiple operating components of the Depart-
5 ment that is required to be met or possessed by a system,
6 product, service, result, or component to satisfy a contract,
7 standard, specification, or other formally imposed docu-
8 ment.

9 “(b) DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP COUNCILS.—

10 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary may es-
11 tablish such Department leadership councils as the
12 Secretary determines necessary to ensure coordina-
13 tion and improve programs and activities of the De-
14 partment.

15 “(2) FUNCTION.—A Department leadership
16 council shall—

17 “(A) serve as a coordinating forum;

18 “(B) advise the Secretary and Deputy Sec-
19 retary on Department strategy, operations, and
20 guidance;

21 “(C) establish policies to reduce duplica-
22 tion in programs; and

23 “(D) consider and report on such other
24 matters as the Secretary or Deputy Secretary
25 may direct.

1 “(3) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FORUMS.—The
2 Secretary or Deputy Secretary may delegate the au-
3 thority to direct the implementation of any decision
4 or guidance resulting from the action of a Depart-
5 ment leadership council to any office, component, co-
6 ordinator, or other senior official of the Department.

7 “(c) JOINT REQUIREMENTS COUNCIL.—

8 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There Secretary shall
9 establish within the Department a Joint Require-
10 ments Council.

11 “(2) MISSION.—In addition to other matters
12 assigned to it by the Secretary and Deputy Sec-
13 retary, the Joint Requirements Council shall—

14 “(A) identify, assess, and validate joint re-
15 quirements (including existing systems and as-
16 sociated capability gaps) to meet mission needs
17 of the Department;

18 “(B) ensure that appropriate efficiencies
19 are made among life-cycle cost, schedule, and
20 performance objectives, and procurement quan-
21 tity objectives, in the establishment and ap-
22 proval of joint requirements; and

23 “(C) make prioritized capability rec-
24 ommendations for the joint requirements vali-
25 dated under subparagraph (A) to the Secretary,

1 the Deputy Secretary, or the chairperson of a
2 Department leadership council designated by
3 the Secretary to review decisions of the Joint
4 Requirements Council.

5 “(3) CHAIRPERSON.—The Secretary shall ap-
6 point a chairperson of the Joint Requirements Coun-
7 cil, for a term of not more than 2 years, from among
8 senior officials of the Department as designated by
9 the Secretary.

10 “(4) COMPOSITION.—The Joint Requirements
11 Council shall be composed of senior officials rep-
12 resenting components of the Department and other
13 senior officials as designated by the Secretary.

14 “(5) RELATIONSHIP TO FUTURE YEARS HOME-
15 LAND SECURITY PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall en-
16 sure that the Future Years Homeland Security Pro-
17 gram required under section 874 is consistent with
18 the recommendations of the Joint Requirements
19 Council required under paragraph (2)(C), as af-
20 firmed by the Secretary, the Deputy Secretary, or
21 the chairperson of a Department leadership council
22 designated by the Secretary under that paragraph.”.

23 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—
24 The table of sections in section 1(b) of the Homeland Se-
25 curity Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 116 Stat. 2135)

- 1 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section
- 2 709 the following:

“Sec. 710. Joint Requirements Council.”.

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