

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 708

To improve the ability of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to interdict fentanyl, other synthetic opioids, and other narcotics and psychoactive substances that are illegally imported into the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 23, 2017

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BROWN, and Mrs. CAPITO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To improve the ability of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to interdict fentanyl, other synthetic opioids, and other narcotics and psychoactive substances that are illegally imported into the United States, 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 “International Narcotics
5 Trafficking Emergency Response by Detecting Incoming
6 Contraband with Technology Act” or the “INTERDICT
7 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) **CHEMICAL SCREENING DEVICE.**—The term
4 “chemical screening device” means an infrared spec-
5 trophotometer, mass spectrometer, nuclear magnetic
6 resonance spectrometer, Raman spectrophotometer,
7 or other scientific instrumentation able to collect
8 data that can be interpreted to determine the pres-
9 ence of fentanyl, other synthetic opioids, and other
10 narcotics and psychoactive substances.

11 (2) **EXPRESS CONSIGNMENT OPERATOR OR CAR-**
12 **RIER.**—The term “express consignment operator or
13 carrier” has the meaning given that term in section
14 128.1 of title 19, Code of Federal Regulations (or
15 any similar successor regulation).

16 (3) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means
17 the Secretary of Homeland Security.

18 **SEC. 3. INTERDICTION OF FENTANYL, OTHER SYNTHETIC**
19 **OPIOIDS, AND OTHER NARCOTICS AND**
20 **PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES.**

21 (a) **CHEMICAL SCREENING DEVICES.**—The Secretary
22 of Homeland Security shall—

23 (1) increase the number of chemical screening
24 devices available to U.S. Customs and Border Pro-
25 tection over the number of such devices that are

1 available on the date of the enactment of this Act;
2 and

3 (2) make such additional chemical screening de-
4 vices available to U.S. Customs and Border Protec-
5 tion as the Secretary determines are necessary for
6 U.S. Customs and Border Protection to carry out
7 activities to interdict fentanyl, other synthetic
8 opioids, and other narcotics and psychoactive sub-
9 stances that are illegally imported into the United
10 States, including such substances that are imported
11 through the mail or by an express consignment oper-
12 ator or carrier.

13 (b) PERSONNEL TO INTERPRET DATA.—The Sec-
14 retary shall dedicate the appropriate number of personnel,
15 including scientists, to U.S. Customs and Border Protec-
16 tion so that personnel are available during all operational
17 hours to interpret data collected by chemical screening de-
18 vices.

19 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

20 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
21 retary \$15,000,000 to ensure that U.S. Customs and Bor-
22 der Protection—

23 (1) has sufficient resources and personnel, in-
24 cluding scientists, available during all operational
25 hours to prevent the unlawful importation of

1 fentanyl, other synthetic opioids, and other narcotics
2 and psychoactive substances; and

3 (2) is provided with sufficient chemical screen-
4 ing devices to facilitate the effective and efficient de-
5 tection and identification of such substances.

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