

**Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H. R. 240, With an Amendment****(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)**115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**H. R. 240**

To encourage engagement between the Department of Homeland Security and technology innovators, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

JANUARY 4, 2017

Mr. RATCLIFFE (for himself, Mr. McCAUL, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

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**A BILL**

To encourage engagement between the Department of Homeland Security and technology innovators, 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 “Leveraging Emerging  
5 Technologies Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. INNOVATION ENGAGEMENT.**

7 (a) INNOVATION ENGAGEMENT.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland  
2 Security—

3           (A) shall engage with innovative and  
4 emerging technology developers and firms, in-  
5 cluding technology-based small businesses and  
6 startup ventures, to address homeland security  
7 needs; and

8           (B) may identify geographic areas in the  
9 United States with high concentrations of such  
10 innovative and emerging technology developers  
11 and firms, and may establish personnel and of-  
12 fice space in such areas, as appropriate.

13          (2) ENGAGEMENT.—Engagement under para-  
14 graph (1) may include innovative and emerging tech-  
15 nology developers or firms with proven technologies,  
16 supported with outside investment, with potential  
17 applications for the Department of Homeland Secu-  
18 rity.

19          (3) CO-LOCATION.—If the Secretary of Home-  
20 land Security determines that it is appropriate to es-  
21 tablish personnel and office space in a specific geo-  
22 graphic area in the United States pursuant to para-  
23 graph (1)(B), the Secretary shall co-locate such per-  
24 sonnel and office space with other existing assets  
25 of—

1 (A) the Department of Homeland Security,  
2 where possible; or

3 (B) Federal facilities, where appropriate.

4 (4) OVERSIGHT.—Not later than 30 days after  
5 establishing personnel and office space in a specific  
6 geographic area in the United States pursuant to  
7 paragraph (1)(B), the Secretary of Homeland Secu-  
8 rity shall inform Congress about the rationale for  
9 such establishment, the anticipated costs associated  
10 with such establishment, and the specific goals for  
11 such establishment.

12 (b) STRATEGIC PLAN.—Not later than six months  
13 after the date of the enactment of this section, the Sec-  
14 retary of Homeland Security shall develop, implement, and  
15 submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the  
16 House of Representatives and the Committee on Home-  
17 land Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a  
18 Department of Homeland Security-wide strategy to  
19 proactively engage with innovative and emerging tech-  
20 nology developers and firms, including technology-based  
21 small businesses and startup ventures, in accordance with  
22 subsection (a). Such strategy shall—

23 (1) focus on sustainable methods and guidance  
24 to build relationships, including with such innovative  
25 and emerging technology developers and firms in ge-

1       ographic areas in the United States with high con-  
2       centrations of such innovative and emerging tech-  
3       nology developers and firms, and in geographic areas  
4       outside such areas, to establish, develop, and en-  
5       hance departmental capabilities to address homeland  
6       security needs;

7               (2) include efforts to—

8                       (A) ensure proven innovative and emerging  
9                       technologies can be included in existing and fu-  
10                      ture acquisition contracts;

11                     (B) coordinate with organizations that pro-  
12                     vide venture capital to businesses, particularly  
13                     small businesses and startup ventures, as ap-  
14                     propriate, to assist the commercialization of in-  
15                     novative and emerging technologies that are ex-  
16                     pected to be ready for commercialization in the  
17                     near term and within 36 months; and

18                     (C) address barriers to the utilization of  
19                     innovative and emerging technologies and the  
20                     engagement of small businesses and startup  
21                     ventures in the acquisition process;

22               (3) include a description of how the Depart-  
23       ment plans to leverage proven innovative and emerg-  
24       ing technologies to address homeland security needs;  
25       and

1           (4) include the criteria the Secretary plans to  
2           use to determine an innovation or technology is  
3           proven.

4           (c) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.—No addi-  
5           tional funds are authorized to carry out the requirements  
6           of this Act. Such requirements shall be carried out using  
7           amounts otherwise authorized.