

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2454

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a data framework to provide access for appropriate personnel to law enforcement and other information of the Department, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 16, 2017

Mr. HURD (for himself and Mr. McCAUL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a data framework to provide access for appropriate personnel to law enforcement and other information of the Department, 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 “Department of Home-
5 land Security Data Framework Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) The Department of Homeland Security was
2 established pursuant to the Homeland Security Act
3 of 2002 (Public Law 107–296) and has the statu-
4 tory mission to prevent terrorist attacks and reduce
5 the vulnerability of the United States to terrorism,
6 among other critical functions.

7 (2) The Department is comprised of more than
8 22 component agencies and offices with different
9 legal mandates and restrictions regarding collecting,
10 storing, and sharing information.

11 (3) In November 2013, the Department issued
12 a privacy impact assessment for the Department of
13 Homeland Security Data Framework, which is in-
14 tended to be a scalable information technology pro-
15 gram to connect numerous databases located in dif-
16 ferent Department component agencies.

17 (4) The privacy impact assessment referred to
18 in paragraph (3) stated that such Framework “will
19 enable the implementation of efficient and cost-effec-
20 tive search and analysis across DHS databases in
21 both classified and unclassified domains.”.

22 (5) Given the size and purpose of such Frame-
23 work, it is essential that the Department appro-
24 priately manages the timeline, budget, privacy, and
25 security requirements for the system, as well as en-

1 sures the Department has the specialized and
2 trained personnel to fully utilize the Framework.

3 **SEC. 3. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY DATA**
4 **FRAMEWORK.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
6 rity shall develop a data framework to integrate existing
7 Department of Homeland Security datasets and systems,
8 as appropriate, for access by authorized personnel in a
9 manner consistent with relevant legal authorities and pri-
10 vacy, civil rights, and civil liberties policies and protec-
11 tions. In developing such framework, the Secretary shall
12 ensure, in accordance with all applicable statutory and
13 regulatory requirements, the following information is in-
14 cluded:

15 (1) All information acquired, held, or obtained
16 by an office or component of the Department that
17 falls within the scope of the information sharing en-
18 vironment, including homeland security information,
19 terrorism information, weapons of mass destruction
20 information, and national intelligence.

21 (2) Any information or intelligence relevant to
22 priority mission needs and capability requirements of
23 the homeland security enterprise, as determined ap-
24 propriate by the Secretary.

25 (b) DATA FRAMEWORK ACCESS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland
2 Security shall ensure that the data framework re-
3 quired under this section is accessible to employees
4 of the Department of Homeland Security who the
5 Secretary determines—

6 (A) have an appropriate security clearance;

7 (B) are assigned to perform a function
8 that requires access to information in such
9 framework; and

10 (C) are trained in applicable standards for
11 safeguarding and using such information.

12 (2) GUIDANCE.—The Secretary of Homeland
13 Security shall—

14 (A) issue guidance for Department of
15 Homeland Security employees authorized to ac-
16 cess and contribute to the data framework pur-
17 suant to paragraph (1); and

18 (B) ensure that such guidance enforces a
19 duty to share between offices and components
20 of the Department when accessing or contrib-
21 uting to such framework for mission needs.

22 (3) EFFICIENCY.—The Secretary of Homeland
23 Security shall instruct components of the Depart-
24 ment of Homeland Security to make available infor-
25 mation through the data framework under this sec-

1 tion in a machine-readable format, to the greatest
2 extent practicable.

3 (c) EXCLUSION OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary of
4 Homeland Security may exclude from the data framework
5 information that the Secretary determines access to or the
6 confirmation of the existence of could—

7 (1) jeopardize the protection of sources, meth-
8 ods, or activities;

9 (2) compromise a criminal or national security
10 investigation;

11 (3) be inconsistent with the other Federal laws
12 or regulations; or

13 (4) be duplicative or not serve an operational
14 purpose if included in such framework.

15 (d) SAFEGUARDS.—The Secretary of Homeland Se-
16 curity shall incorporate into the data framework systems
17 capabilities for auditing and ensuring the security of infor-
18 mation included in such framework. Such capabilities shall
19 include the following:

20 (1) Mechanisms for identifying insider threats.

21 (2) Mechanisms for identifying security risks.

22 (3) Safeguards for privacy, civil rights, and civil
23 liberties.

24 (e) DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later
25 than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act,

1 the Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure the com-
2 pletion of the data framework required under this section
3 and that such framework includes all appropriate informa-
4 tion in existence within the Department of Homeland Se-
5 curity.

6 (f) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—

7 (1) OPERATIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Not later
8 than 60 days after the date on which the data
9 framework required under this section is fully oper-
10 ational, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall
11 provide notice to the Committee on Homeland Secu-
12 rity of the House of Representatives and the Com-
13 mittee on Homeland Security and Governmental Af-
14 fairs of the Senate of such.

15 (2) REGULAR STATUS.—The Secretary shall
16 submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of
17 the House of Representatives and the Committee on
18 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the
19 Senate regular updates on the status of the data
20 framework required under this section.

21 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 (1) FINISHED ANALYSIS.—The term “finished
23 analysis” means any document, briefing, report, or
24 presentation for which an analyst has evaluated, in-
25 terpreted, integrated, or placed into context informa-

1 tion that falls within the scope of the information
2 sharing environment, including homeland security
3 information, terrorism information, weapons of mass
4 destruction information, and national intelligence.

5 (2) INTELLIGENCE COMPONENT OF THE DE-
6 PARTMENT.—The term “intelligence component of
7 the Department” has the meaning given such term
8 in section 2(11) of the Homeland Security Act of
9 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101(11)).

10 (3) NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.—The term “na-
11 tional intelligence” has the meaning given such term
12 in section 3(5) of the National Security Act of 1947
13 (50 U.S.C. 3003(5)).

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