

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3224

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to extend the authorization of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 11, 2023

Mr. D'ESPOSITO (for himself, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to extend the authorization of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office of the Department of Homeland Security, 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 “Countering Weapons
5 of Mass Destruction Extension Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF THE COUN-**
2 **TERING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION**
3 **OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND**
4 **SECURITY.**

5 (a) **EXTENSION.**—

6 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subsection (e) of section
7 1901 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6
8 U.S.C. 591) is amended by striking “5 years after
9 the date of the enactment of the Countering Weap-
10 ons of Mass Destruction Act of 2018” and inserting
11 “seven years after the date of the enactment of the
12 Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Extension
13 Act of 2023”.

14 (2) **EXCEPTION.**—Subsection (a) shall not
15 apply to sections 1931 and 1932 of the Homeland
16 Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 597 and 597a; relat-
17 ing to the Chief Medical Officer and the medical
18 countermeasures program of the Department of
19 Homeland Security).

20 (b) **ORGANIZATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY.**—

21 (1) **EMPLOYEE MORALE.**—Not later than 180
22 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
23 Assistant Secretary for the Countering Weapons of
24 Mass Destruction Office of the Department of
25 Homeland Security shall submit a report to and
26 brief the Committee on Homeland Security of the

1 House of Representatives and the Committee on
2 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the
3 Senate regarding an employee engagement action
4 plan and strategy to continuously improve morale
5 within the Office.

6 (2) COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—Not later than
7 one year after the date of the enactment of this Act,
8 the Comptroller General of the United States shall
9 conduct a review of and brief the Committee on
10 Homeland Security of the House of Representatives
11 and the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-
12 ernmental Affairs of the Senate regarding the fol-
13 lowing with respect to the Countering Weapons of
14 Mass Destruction Office of the Department of
15 Homeland Security:

16 (A) The efforts of the Office to prioritize
17 the programs and activities that carry out the
18 mission of the Office, including research and
19 development.

20 (B) The consistency and effectiveness of
21 the Office's stakeholder coordination across the
22 mission of the Department, including oper-
23 ational and support components of the Depart-
24 ment and State and local entities.

1 (C) The efforts of the Office to manage
2 and coordinate the lifecycle of research and de-
3 velopment within the Office and with other
4 components of the Department, including the
5 Science and Technology Directorate.

○