

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish in the Department of Homeland Security an Unmanned Aircraft Systems Coordinator, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. PETERS, and Ms. HASSAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish in the Department of Homeland Security an Unmanned Aircraft Systems Coordinator, 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 “DHS Countering Un-
5 manned Aircraft Systems Coordinator Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COUNTERING UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS CO-**
2 **ORDINATOR.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Homeland Secu-
4 rity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) is amended by
5 adding at the end the following new section:

6 **“SEC. 321. COUNTERING UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS**
7 **COORDINATOR.**

8 “(a) COORDINATOR.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall des-
10 ignate a senior official of the Department within the
11 Office of Strategy, Policy, and Plans as the Coun-
12 tering Unmanned Aircraft Systems Coordinator (in
13 this section referred to as the ‘Coordinator’) and
14 provide appropriate staff to carry out the respon-
15 sibilities of the Coordinator.

16 “(2) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Coordinator
17 shall—

18 “(A) oversee and coordinate with relevant
19 Department offices and components, including
20 the Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
21 and the Privacy Office, on the development of
22 guidance and regulations to counter threats as-
23 sociated with unmanned aircraft systems (in
24 this section referred to as ‘UAS’) as described
25 in section 210G;

1 “(B) promote research and development of
2 counter UAS technologies in coordination with
3 the Office of Science and Technology;

4 “(C) coordinate with the relevant compo-
5 nents and offices of the Department, including
6 the Office of Intelligence and Analysis, to en-
7 sure the sharing of information, guidance, and
8 intelligence relating to countering UAS threats,
9 counter UAS threat assessments, and counter
10 UAS technology, including the retention of
11 UAS and counter UAS incidents within the De-
12 partment;

13 “(D) serve as the Department liaison, in
14 coordination with relevant components and of-
15 fices of the Department, to Federal, State,
16 local, and Tribal law enforcement entities and
17 the private sector regarding the activities of the
18 Department relating to countering UAS;

19 “(E) maintain the information required
20 under section 210G(g)(3); and

21 “(F) carry out other related counter UAS
22 authorities and activities under section 210G,
23 as directed by the Secretary.

24 “(b) COORDINATION WITH APPLICABLE FEDERAL
25 LAWS.—The Coordinator shall, in addition to other as-

1 signed duties, coordinate with relevant Department com-
2 ponents and offices to ensure testing, evaluation, or de-
3 ployment of a system used to identify, assess, or defeat
4 a UAS is carried out in accordance with applicable Fed-
5 eral laws.

6 “(c) COORDINATION WITH PRIVATE SECTOR.—The
7 Coordinator shall, among other assigned duties, working
8 with the Office of Partnership and Engagement and other
9 relevant Department offices and components, or other
10 Federal agencies, as appropriate, serve as the principal
11 Department official responsible for sharing to the private
12 sector information regarding counter UAS technology,
13 particularly information regarding instances in which
14 counter UAS technology may impact lawful private sector
15 services or systems.

16 “(d) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority
17 to carry out this section shall terminate on the date de-
18 scribed in section 210G(i).”.

19 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—
20 The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Se-
21 curity Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 116 Stat. 2135)
22 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section
23 320 the following:

“Sec. 321. Countering Unmanned Aircraft Systems Coordinator.”.