

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4703

To establish a joint United States-Canada customs inspection pilot project.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 9, 2002

Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mr. CAMP) introduced the following bill; which
was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To establish a joint United States-Canada customs inspection
pilot project.

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. PILOT PROJECT FOR JOINT UNITED STATES-**
4 **CANADA CUSTOMS INSPECTION.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
6 ings:

7 (1) The increased security and safety concerns
8 that developed in the aftermath of the terrorist at-
9 tacks in the United States on September 11, 2001,
10 need to be addressed.

1 (2) One concern that has come to light is the
2 vulnerability of the international bridges and tunnels
3 along the United States-Canada Border.

4 (3) It is necessary to ensure that potentially
5 dangerous vehicles are inspected prior to crossing
6 those bridges and tunnels, however, currently, these
7 vehicles are not inspected until after they have
8 crossed into the United States.

9 (4) Establishing a joint inspection site would
10 address these concerns by inspecting vehicles before
11 they gained access to the infrastructure of inter-
12 national bridges and tunnels leading into the United
13 States.

14 (b) JOINT PILOT PROGRAM.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner of Cus-
16 toms, in consultation and partnership with the Ca-
17 nadian Customs Service, shall seek to establish a
18 pilot program to provide for joint inspection of vehi-
19 cles at the United States-Canada Border.

20 (2) LOCATION.—The Commissioner shall locate
21 the pilot program at a bridge or tunnel on the
22 Northern Border that has high traffic volume, sig-
23 nificant commercial activity, and has experienced
24 backups and delays since September 11, 2001.

1 (3) PILOT EVALUATION REPORT.—The Com-
2 missioner shall prepare and submit a report evalu-
3 ating the pilot program to the appropriate commit-
4 tees by September 30, 2003.

5 (4) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term
6 “appropriate committees” means the Committee on
7 Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on
8 Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

9 (c) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out
10 the pilot program, the Commissioner—

11 (1) shall seek to involve the utilization of joint
12 customs inspection facilities, inspection and commer-
13 cial transaction technologies, and personnel, con-
14 sistent with the agreements that are developed and
15 implemented between the United States Customs
16 Service and the Canadian Customs Service; and

17 (2) shall ensure that the program is carried out
18 with special sensitivity to sovereignty issues affecting
19 both countries and is consistent with Canadian laws
20 and customs.

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