

113TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4263

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Department of Homeland Security to establish a social media working group, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 14, 2014

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana (for herself, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PALAZZO, and Mr. SWALWELL of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

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## A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Department of Homeland Security to establish a social media working group, 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 “Social Media Working  
5 Group Act of 2014”.

6 **SEC. 2. SOCIAL MEDIA WORKING GROUP.**

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

1 **“SEC. 318. SOCIAL MEDIA WORKING GROUP.**

2       “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall estab-  
3 lish within the Department a social media working group  
4 (in this section referred to as the ‘Group’).

5       “(b) PURPOSE.—In order to enhance information  
6 sharing between the Department and appropriate stake-  
7 holders, the Group shall provide guidance and best prac-  
8 tices to the emergency preparedness and response commu-  
9 nity on the use of social media technologies before, during,  
10 and after a terrorist attack.

11       “(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

12           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary for  
13 Science and Technology shall serve as the permanent  
14 chairperson of the Group, and shall designate, on a  
15 rotating basis, a representative from a State or local  
16 government who is a member of the Group to serve  
17 as co-chairperson. Membership of the Group shall be  
18 composed of a cross section of subject matter ex-  
19 perts from Federal, State, local, tribal, and non-  
20 governmental organization practitioners, including  
21 representatives from the following entities:

22           “(A) The Office of Public Affairs of the  
23 Department.

24           “(B) The Office of the Chief Information  
25 Officer of the Department.

1           “(C) The Privacy Office of the Depart-  
2           ment.

3           “(D) The Federal Emergency Management  
4           Agency.

5           “(E) The American Red Cross.

6           “(F) The United States Forest Service.

7           “(G) The Centers for Disease Control and  
8           Prevention.

9           “(H) The United States Geological Survey.

10          “(I) The National Oceanic and Atmos-  
11          pheric Administration.

12          “(2) ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.—The Under Sec-  
13          retary for Science and Technology shall appoint, on  
14          a rotating basis, qualified individuals to the Group.  
15          The total number of such additional members  
16          shall—

17                 “(A) be equal to or greater than the total  
18          number of regular members under paragraph  
19          (1); and

20                 “(B) include—

21                         “(i) not fewer than three representa-  
22                         tives from the private sector; and

23                         “(ii) representatives from—

24                                 “(I) State, local, and tribal enti-  
25                                 ties, including from—

1                                   “(aa) law enforcement;  
2                                   “(bb) fire services;  
3                                   “(cc) emergency manage-  
4                                   ment services; and  
5                                   “(dd) public health entities;  
6                                   “(II) universities and academia;  
7                                   and  
8                                   “(III) non-profit disaster relief  
9                                   organizations.

10           “(d) CONSULTATION WITH NON-MEMBERS.—To the  
11 extent practicable, the Group shall work with existing bod-  
12 ies in the public and private sectors to carry out subsection  
13 (b).

14           “(e) MEETINGS.—

15                   “(1) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 90  
16 days after the date of the enactment of this section,  
17 the Group shall hold its initial meeting. Such initial  
18 meeting may be held virtually.

19                   “(2) SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS.—After the initial  
20 meeting under paragraph (1), the Group shall meet  
21 at least twice each year, or at the call of the Chair-  
22 person. Such subsequent meetings may be held vir-  
23 tually.

1       “(f) NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACA.—The Federal  
2 Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply  
3 to the Group.

4       “(g) REPORTS.—Not later than March 30 of each  
5 year, the Group shall submit to the appropriate congres-  
6 sional committees a report that includes the following:

7           “(1) A review of current and emerging social  
8 media technologies being used to support prepared-  
9 ness and response activities related to terrorist at-  
10 tacks.

11           “(2) A review of best practices and lessons  
12 learned on the use of social media during the re-  
13 sponse to terrorist attacks that occurred during the  
14 period covered by the report at issue.

15           “(3) Recommendations to improve the Depart-  
16 ment’s use of social media.

17           “(4) Recommendations to improve information  
18 sharing among the Department and its components.

19           “(5) Recommendations to improve information  
20 sharing among State and local governments.

21           “(6) A review of available training for Federal,  
22 State, local, and tribal officials on the use of social  
23 media in response to a terrorist attack.

1           “(7) A summary of coordination efforts with  
2           the private sector to discuss and resolve legal, oper-  
3           ational, technical, privacy, and security concerns.”.

4           (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
5           in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is  
6           amended by inserting after the item relating to section  
7           317 the following new item:

“Sec. 318. Social media working group.”.

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