

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9460

To authorize the Joint Task Forces of the Department of Homeland Security,
and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 6, 2024

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. SUOZZI) introduced the
following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To authorize the Joint Task Forces 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 “DHS Joint Task
5 Forces Reauthorization Act of 2024”.

6 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO SECTION 708 OF THE HOMELAND**

7 **SECURITY ACT OF 2002.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 708(b) of the Homeland
9 Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 348(b)) is amended—

10 (1) in paragraph (9)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

2 (i) in clause (ii), by striking “and” at
3 the end;

4 (ii) in clause (iii)(II), by adding “and”
5 at the end; and

6 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(iv) a staffing plan for each Joint
9 Task Force;”; and

10 (B) by amending subparagraph (C) to read
11 as follows:

12 “(C) not later than December 23, 2024,
13 and annually thereafter, submit to the commit-
14 tees specified in subparagraph (B) a report con-
15 taining information regarding—

16 “(i) the progress in implementing the
17 outcome-based and other appropriate per-
18 formance metrics established pursuant to
19 subparagraph (A)(iii);

20 “(ii) the staffing plan developed for
21 each Joint Task Force pursuant to sub-
22 paragraph (A)(iv); and

23 “(iii) any modification to the mission,
24 strategic goals, and objectives of each
25 Joint Task Force, and a description of,

1 and rationale for, any such modifica-
2 tions.”; and

3 (2) in paragraph (13), by striking “2024” and
4 inserting “2026”.

5 (b) ANNUAL BRIEFING.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
7 the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually
8 thereafter, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall
9 brief—

10 (A) the Committee on Homeland Security
11 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

12 (B) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
13 and Transportation of the Senate;

14 (C) the Committee on Homeland Security
15 of the House of Representatives; and

16 (D) the Committee on Transportation and
17 Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

18 (2) TOPICS.—Each briefing required under
19 paragraph (1) shall cover the latest staffing and re-
20 source assessment at Joint Task Force-East, includ-
21 ing—

22 (A)(i) a determination of whether the cur-
23 rent staffing levels of Joint Task Force-East
24 are sufficient to successfully advance the mis-

1 sion, strategic goals, and objectives of such
2 Joint Task Force; and

3 (ii) if such determination reveals insuffi-
4 cient staffing levels, the cost, timeline, and
5 strategy for increasing such staffing levels; and

6 (B)(i) a determination of whether suffi-
7 cient resources are being provided for Joint
8 Task Force-East in accordance with section
9 708(b)(7)(a) of the Homeland Security Act of
10 2002 (6 U.S.C. 348(b)(7)(a)); and

11 (ii) if such determination reveals insuffi-
12 cient resource levels, the cost, timeline, and
13 strategy for providing any remaining resource
14 requirements.

15 (c) REPORT ON JOINT TASK FORCE-EAST HEAD-
16 QUARTERS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the
17 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
18 rity, in consultation with the Commandant of the United
19 States Coast Guard, the Commissioner for U.S. Customs
20 and Border Protection, the Director of U.S. Immigration
21 and Customs Enforcement, and the Administrator of Gen-
22 eral Services, shall submit a report to the congressional
23 committees listed in subsection (b)(1) that analyzes the
24 cost and effectiveness of hosting the Joint Task Force-

- 1 East headquarters in Portsmouth, Virginia compared to
- 2 alternative headquarters locations.

