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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish in the Department of Homeland Security a medical countermeasures program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish in the Department of Homeland Security a medical countermeasures program, 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 Medical Counter-
5 measures Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES PROGRAM.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle C of title XIX of the
3 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 311 et seq.)
4 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

5 **“SEC. 1932. MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a
7 medical countermeasures program to facilitate personnel
8 readiness, and protection for the Department’s employees
9 and working animals in the event of a chemical, biological,
10 radiological, nuclear, or explosives attack, naturally occur-
11 ring disease outbreak, or pandemic, and to support De-
12 partment mission continuity.

13 “(b) OVERSIGHT.—The Chief Medical Officer of the
14 Department shall provide programmatic oversight of the
15 medical countermeasures program established pursuant to
16 subsection (a), and shall—

17 “(1) develop Department-wide standards for
18 medical countermeasure storage, security, dis-
19 pensing, and documentation;

20 “(2) maintain a stockpile of medical counter-
21 measures, including antibiotics, antivirals, and radio-
22 logical countermeasures, as appropriate;

23 “(3) preposition appropriate medical counter-
24 measures in strategic locations nationwide, based on
25 threat and employee density, in accordance with ap-
26 plicable Federal statutes and regulations;

1 “(4) provide oversight and guidance regarding
2 the dispensing of stockpiled medical counter-
3 measures;

4 “(5) ensure rapid deployment and dispensing of
5 medical countermeasures in a chemical, biological,
6 radiological, nuclear, or explosives attack, naturally
7 occurring disease outbreak, or pandemic;

8 “(6) provide training to Department employees
9 on medical countermeasure dispensing; and

10 “(7) support dispensing exercises.

11 “(c) MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES WORKING
12 GROUP.—The Chief Medical Officer shall establish a med-
13 ical countermeasures working group comprised of rep-
14 resentatives from appropriate components and offices of
15 the Department to ensure that medical countermeasures
16 standards are maintained and guidance is consistent.

17 “(d) MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES MANAGE-
18 MENT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the en-
19 actment of this section, the Chief Medical Officer shall de-
20 velop and submit to the Secretary an integrated logistics
21 support plan for medical countermeasures, including—

22 “(1) a methodology for determining the ideal
23 types and quantities of medical countermeasures to
24 stockpile and how frequently such methodology shall
25 be reevaluated;

1 “(2) a replenishment plan; and

2 “(3) inventory tracking, reporting, and rec-
3 conciliation procedures for existing stockpiles and
4 new medical countermeasure purchases.

5 “(e) STOCKPILE ELEMENTS.—In determining the
6 types and quantities of medical countermeasures to stock-
7 pile under subsection (d), the Chief Medical Officer shall
8 utilize, if available—

9 “(1) Department chemical, biological, radio-
10 logical, and nuclear risk assessments; and

11 “(2) Centers for Disease Control and Preven-
12 tion guidance on medical countermeasures.

13 “(f) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the
14 date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall
15 submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the
16 House of Representatives and the Committee on Home-
17 land Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate the
18 plan developed in accordance with subsection (d) and brief
19 such Committees regarding implementing the require-
20 ments of this section.

21 “(g) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘medical
22 countermeasures’ means antibiotics, antivirals, radio-
23 logical countermeasures, and other countermeasures that
24 may be deployed to protect the Department’s employees
25 and working animals in the event of a chemical, biological,

1 radiological, nuclear, or explosives attack, naturally occur-
2 ring disease outbreak, or pandemic.”.

3 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
4 in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is
5 amended by adding after the item relating to section 1931
6 the following new item:

“Sec. 1932. Medical countermeasures.”.