

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4020

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require the deployment of law enforcement personnel at airport screening locations at very large airports, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 25, 2019

Mr. ENGEL (for himself, Ms. MENG, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Miss RICE of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require the deployment of law enforcement personnel at airport screening locations at very large airports, 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 “Checkpoint Safety Act
5 of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEPLOYMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL**
2 **AT AIRPORT SCREENING LOCATIONS AT**
3 **VERY LARGE AIRPORTS.**

4 Section 44901(h)(2) of title 49, United States Code,
5 is amended to read as follows:

6 “(2) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—

7 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except at airports re-
8 quired to enter into agreements under sub-
9 section (c), the Administrator shall order the
10 deployment of at least one law enforcement offi-
11 cer authorized to carry firearms within 300 feet
12 of each airport security screening location and
13 within the terminal during operating hours at
14 each airport at which the number of annual
15 enplanements for the most recent calendar year
16 for which data are available is 8 million or more
17 or the number of international enplanements is
18 1 million or more. The Administrator shall
19 order the deployment of additional law enforce-
20 ment officers authorized to carry firearms at
21 such airports if the Administrator determines
22 that such additional deployment is necessary to
23 ensure airport security.

24 “(B) WAIVER.—The Administrator may
25 waive the application of all or part of the re-
26 quirements of subparagraph (A) only if the rel-

evant law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over an airport described in such subparagraph certifies in a written application to the Administrator that adherence to all or part of such requirements would—

“(i) make provision of adequate security for such airport impossible; and

“(ii) cause extreme hardship to such law enforcement agency that would severely impair its ability to perform its duties.”.

SEC. 3. LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE IN FEDERAL AIRPORT SECURITY.

Section 44903 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “passengers” and inserting “persons”; and

(2) in subsection (c)(1)—

(A) in the first sentence, as amended by paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “The Administrator” and inserting “(A) The Administrator”; and

1 (ii) by striking “passengers” and in-
2 serting “all persons and property”; and

3 (B) by adding at the end the following new
4 subparagraph:

5 “(B) Any air transportation security program estab-
6 lished pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall be adequate to
7 ensure—

8 “(i) close cooperation between all relevant par-
9 ties in ensuring airport security;

10 “(ii) high training standards for all security
11 and law enforcement personnel;

12 “(iii) prompt notification of and law enforce-
13 ment response to any security incidents which may
14 arise at the airport, including detention of persons
15 who may attempt to evade transportation security
16 screening; and

17 “(iv) multiple means for Transportation Secu-
18 rity Officers or members of the public to request
19 prompt law enforcement assistance in the airport.”.

20 **SEC. 4. STATIONING OF DEPUTIZED LAW ENFORCEMENT**
21 **OFFICERS.**

22 Section 44922 of title 49, United States Code, is
23 amended by striking subsection (f).

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