

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1616

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the National
Computer Forensics Institute, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2017

Mr. RATCLIFFE (for himself and Mr. PALMER) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition
to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently
determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provi-
sions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize
the National Computer Forensics Institute, 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 “Strengthening State
5 and Local Cyber Crime Fighting Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF THE NATIONAL COMPUTER**
2 **FORENSICS INSTITUTE OF THE DEPARTMENT**
3 **OF HOMELAND SECURITY.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle C of title VIII of the
5 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 381 et seq.)
6 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

7 **“SEC. 822. NATIONAL COMPUTER FORENSICS INSTITUTE.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There is in the Department a
9 National Computer Forensics Institute (in this section re-
10 ferred to as the ‘Institute’), to be operated by the United
11 States Secret Service. The Institute shall disseminate
12 homeland security information related to the investigation
13 and prevention of cyber and electronic crime and related
14 threats, and educate, train, and equip State, local, tribal,
15 and territorial law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and
16 judges.

17 “(b) FUNCTIONS.—The functions of the Institute
18 shall include the following:

19 “(1) Educating State, local, tribal, and terri-
20 torial law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and
21 judges on current—

22 “(A) cyber and electronic crimes and re-
23 lated threats;

24 “(B) methods for investigating cyber and
25 electronic crime and related threats and con-

1 ducting computer and mobile device forensic ex-
2 aminations; and

3 “(C) prosecutorial and judicial challenges
4 related to cyber and electronic crime and re-
5 lated threats, and computer and mobile device
6 forensic examinations.

7 “(2) Training State, local, tribal, and territorial
8 law enforcement officers to—

9 “(A) conduct cyber and electronic crime
10 and related threat investigations;

11 “(B) conduct computer and mobile device
12 forensic examinations; and

13 “(C) respond to network intrusion inci-
14 dents.

15 “(3) Training State, local, tribal, and territorial
16 law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and judges on
17 methods to obtain, process, store, and admit digital
18 evidence in court.

19 “(c) PRINCIPLES.—In carrying out the functions
20 specified in subsection (b), the Institute shall ensure, to
21 the extent practicable, that timely, actionable, and rel-
22 evant expertise and homeland security information related
23 to cyber and electronic crime and related threats is shared
24 with State, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement
25 officers and prosecutors.

1 “(d) EQUIPMENT.—The Institute may provide State,
2 local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement officers with
3 computer equipment, hardware, software, manuals, and
4 tools necessary to conduct cyber and electronic crime and
5 related threat investigations and computer and mobile de-
6 vice forensic examinations.

7 “(e) ELECTRONIC CRIME TASK FORCES.—The Insti-
8 tute shall facilitate the expansion of the network of Elec-
9 tronic Crime Task Forces of the United States Secret
10 Service through the addition of State, local, tribal, and
11 territorial law enforcement officers educated and trained
12 at the Institute.

13 “(f) SAVINGS PROVISION.—All activities and func-
14 tions carried out by the Institute at any location as of
15 the day before the date of the enactment of this section
16 are authorized to continue to be carried out at any such
17 location on and after such date.”.

18 (b) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDING.—No additional funds
19 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act
20 and the amendments made by this Act. This Act and such
21 amendments shall be carried out using amounts otherwise
22 available for such purposes.

23 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
24 in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6

- 1 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the item
- 2 relating to section 821 the following new item:

“Sec. 822. National Computer Forensics Institute.”.

