

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8119

To establish in U.S. Customs and Border Protection a pilot program to adopt dogs from local animal shelters to be trained as therapy dogs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 23, 2024

Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas (for himself, Mr. CORREA, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. D’ESPOSITO, Mr. LUTTRELL, Mr. MCCAUL, Ms. MACE, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. SALAZAR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To establish in U.S. Customs and Border Protection a pilot program to adopt dogs from local animal shelters to be trained as therapy dogs, 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 “Providing Emotional
5 Assistance with Relief and Love Act” or the “PEARL
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CBP THERAPY DOG PILOT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the
3 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Home-
4 land Security, acting through the Commissioner of U.S.
5 Customs and Border Protection (CBP), shall establish in
6 CBP a pilot program to adopt dogs from local animal shel-
7 ters to be trained as therapy dogs.

8 (b) FUNDING.—The Secretary of Homeland Security
9 shall reimburse the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and
10 Border Protection for any costs associated with the pilot
11 program under subsection (a).

12 (c) DURATION.— The pilot program under subsection
13 (a) shall terminate three years after the date of its estab-
14 lishment.

15 **SEC. 3. CBP SUPPORT CANINE PROGRAM.**

16 There is authorized to be appropriated to U.S. Cus-
17 toms and Border Protection \$1,000,000 for CBP's Sup-
18 port Canine Program.

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