

.....
(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To strengthen partnerships between historically Black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions and the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To strengthen partnerships between historically Black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions and 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 “Historically Black Col-
5 leges and Universities (HBCUs) Homeland Security Part-
6 nerships Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT-WIDE STRATEGY FOR ENHANCED**
2 **PARTNERSHIPS WITH HISTORICALLY BLACK**
3 **COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND MINOR-**
4 **ITY-SERVING INSTITUTIONS.**

5 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-
6 ment of this Act, the Secretary, acting through the Under
7 Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans of the Depart-
8 ment, shall—

9 (1) issue a Department-wide strategy to en-
10 hance partnerships with historically Black colleges
11 and universities and minority-serving institutions
12 that includes yearly goals through fiscal year 2023;
13 and

14 (2) require the head of each component of the
15 Department to—

16 (A) not later than 150 days after the date
17 of the issuance under paragraph (1) of the De-
18 partment-wide strategy, develop a component-
19 specific action plan to implement such strategy;
20 and

21 (B) beginning on the date that is one year
22 after the date of such issuance, monitor and re-
23 port to the Secretary regarding progress on
24 such implementation.

1 **SEC. 3. ENHANCEMENT OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**
2 **PARTNERSHIPS.**

3 The Under Secretary for Science and Technology of
4 the Department shall seek to enhance partnerships with
5 historically Black colleges and universities and minority-
6 serving institutions with respect to administering the pri-
7 mary research and development activities of the Depart-
8 ment by, among other things—

9 (1) encouraging the participation of such col-
10 leges, universities, and institutions in the research,
11 development, testing, and evaluation programs and
12 activities of the Department;

13 (2) facilitating partnerships between such col-
14 leges, universities, and institutions and private sec-
15 tor stakeholders, national laboratories, and other
16 academic institutions in areas important to home-
17 land security; and

18 (3) distributing funds through Science and
19 Technology Directorate grants, cooperative agree-
20 ments, and contracts to such colleges, universities,
21 and institutions for enhancements in areas impor-
22 tant to homeland security.

23 **SEC. 4. CAREER OPPORTUNITIES PARTNERSHIPS.**

24 Not later than 120 days after the date of the enact-
25 ment of this Act, the Secretary, acting through the Chief
26 Human Capitol Officer of the Department, shall make

1 available to historically Black colleges and universities and
2 minority-serving institutions a current list of internship,
3 fellowship, scholarship, and recruitment opportunities
4 within the Department for students and recent graduates
5 of such colleges, universities, and institutions.

6 **SEC. 5. OPPORTUNITIES FOR 8(A) PROGRAM PARTNER-**
7 **SHIPS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
9 date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of
10 the Small Business Administration shall publish eligibility
11 criteria on how historically Black colleges and universities
12 and minority-serving institutions may qualify to partici-
13 pate in Federal acquisitions authorized pursuant to sec-
14 tion 8(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(a);
15 Public Law 85–536).

16 (b) DEPARTMENT ACTIONS.—Upon publication of
17 eligibility criteria in accordance with subsection (a), the
18 Secretary shall disseminate information to historically
19 Black colleges and universities and minority-serving insti-
20 tutions regarding—

- 21 (1) how to establish such eligibility; and
- 22 (2) current and future opportunities to partici-
23 pate in Federal acquisitions authorized pursuant to
24 section 8(a) of the Small Business Act.

1 **SEC. 6. ANNUAL REPORT.**

2 (a) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than December 31,
3 2019, and annually thereafter through 2025, the Sec-
4 retary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Secu-
5 rity of the House of Representatives and the Committee
6 on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the
7 Senate a report on the efforts of the Department to part-
8 ner with historically Black colleges and universities and
9 minority-serving institutions to carry out this Act.

10 (b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The annual re-
11 ports required under subsection (a) shall include the fol-
12 lowing:

13 (1) A list of awards, including the cor-
14 responding monetary value for each such award, to
15 historically Black colleges and universities and mi-
16 nority-serving institutions, disaggregated by grant,
17 contract, cooperative agreement, and other research
18 development test and evaluation activity, initiative,
19 and program.

20 (2) A description of how the Department is
21 partnering with historically Black colleges and uni-
22 versities and minority-serving institutions under the
23 programs referred to in sections 3 and 5, and how
24 such programs have helped such colleges, univer-
25 sities, and institutions participate in acquisitions
26 with the Department.

1 (3) A summary of outreach efforts to histori-
2 cally Black colleges and universities and minority-
3 serving institutions, and an identification of any De-
4 partment programs and initiatives in which such col-
5 leges, universities, and institutions are under-rep-
6 resented among institutions of higher education.

7 (4) A description of the status of efforts made
8 by the Department pursuant to sections 2 and 4, in-
9 cluding—

10 (A) for section 2, Department-wide goals
11 pursuant to the Department-wide strategy to
12 enhance partnerships with historically Black
13 colleges and universities and minority-serving
14 institutions under such section, and the status
15 of efforts to implement action plans throughout
16 the Department to carry out such strategy; and

17 (B) for section 4, participation rates in
18 each internship, fellowship, scholarship, and re-
19 cruitment opportunity referred to in such sec-
20 tion, listed by historically Black college and uni-
21 versity and minority-serving institution so par-
22 ticipating.

23 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

24 In this Act:

1 (1) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”
2 means the Department of Homeland Security.

3 (2) HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNI-
4 VERSITIES.—The term “historically Black colleges
5 and universities” means a part B institution de-
6 scribed in section 322(2) of the Higher Education
7 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061(2)).

8 (3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
9 term “institution of higher education” has the
10 meaning given such term in section 101 of the High-
11 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

12 (4) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTIONS.—The
13 term “minority-serving institutions” means an insti-
14 tution of higher education described in section
15 371(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
16 U.S.C. 1067q(a)).

17 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
18 Secretary of Homeland Security.