

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 119–8
OFFERED BY MR. STRONG OF ALABAMA

Add at the end of subtitle A of title XVII of division
A the following:

1 SEC. 1703. DHS UTILIZATION OF DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
2 NATIONAL LABORATORIES AND SITES FOR
3 CERTAIN BIODETECTION RESEARCH AND DE-
4 VELOPMENT RELATING TO THE MISSIONS OF
5 THE DHS.

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
7 rity shall conduct an assessment of how the Department
8 of Homeland Security has utilized Department of Energy
9 national laboratories and sites regarding research and de-
10 velopment in carrying out the missions of the Department
11 of Homeland Security, in accordance with section 309 of
12 the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 189).

13 (b) STRATEGY ON BIODETECTION RESEARCH AND
14 DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
15 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland
16 Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Se-
17 curity of the House of Representatives and the Committee
18 on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the
19 Senate the assessment required under subsection (a), to-

1 gether with a strategy for how the Department of Home-
2 land Security will conduct research and development in co-
3 ordination with Department of Energy national labora-
4 tories and sites to address biodetection research and devel-
5 opment of the Department of Homeland Security, includ-
6 ing the following:

7 (1) Identifying biodetection technologies that
8 can, either individually or together, meet the bio-
9 detection mission needs as outlined in Department
10 of Homeland Security capabilities analysis and re-
11 quirements documents and informed by studies pro-
12 duced by the Comptroller General of the United
13 States, such as the National Re-Assessment of the
14 BioWatch Collector Network to Increase the Frac-
15 tion of Population Covered, as developed by the
16 Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office of
17 the Department in November 2021, and other such
18 future studies as applicable.

19 (2) Developing an acquisition and procurement
20 plan to acquire and provide, in accordance with Fed-
21 eral law, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, and
22 Department of Homeland Security acquisition and
23 procurement management directives, the biodetection
24 technologies referred to in paragraph (1) to existing
25 BioWatch jurisdictions.

1 (3) Conducting periodic external evaluations to
2 identify gaps and potential failure points with re-
3 spect to such biodetection technologies, and recom-
4 mending contingency plans in the event such bio-
5 detection technologies do not perform as expected or
6 intended.

7 (4) Assisting, as appropriate and in partnership
8 with Federal, State, local, and Tribal governments,
9 institutions of higher education (as such term is de-
10 fined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of
11 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)), and the private sector, with
12 the development of clearly defined program and
13 technical requirements for future Department of
14 Homeland Security environmental biodetection pro-
15 grams, including any related transformational pro-
16 gram of research and development.

17 (c) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than one
18 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
19 retary of Homeland Security shall provide to the Com-
20 mittee on Homeland Security of the House of Representa-
21 tives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-
22 ernmental Affairs of the Senate an update of the assess-
23 ment and strategy required under this section, including
24 any challenges to implementing such strategy.

