COMMITTEE ACTION

The Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency met, pursuant to notice, in open markup session, a quorum being present, on Wednesday, May 13, 2015, in 311 Cannon House Office Building to consider the following measures:

H.R. 1615. (Mr. Carter of Georgia), To direct the Chief FOIA Officer of the Department of Homeland Security to make certain improvements in the implementation of section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other purposes. The “DHS FOIA Efficiency Act of 2015”.

H.R. 1626. (Mr. Hurd of Texas), To reduce duplication of information technology at the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes. The “DHS IT Duplication Reduction Act of 2015”.

H.R. 1633. (Mr. Loudermilk), To provide for certain improvements relating to the tracking and reporting of employees of the Department of Homeland Security placed on administrative leave, or any other type of paid non-duty status without charge to leave, for personnel matters, and for other purposes. The “DHS Paid Administrative Leave Accountability Act of 2015”.

H.R. 1640. (Mr. Walker), To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit to Congress a report on the Department of Homeland Security headquarters consolidation project in the National Capital Region, and for other purposes. The “Department of Homeland Security Headquarters Consolidation Accountability Act of 2015”.

H.R. 1646. (Mrs. Watson Coleman), To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to research how small and medium sized unmanned aerial systems could be used in an attack, how to prevent or mitigate the effects of such an attack, and for other purposes. The “Homeland Security Drone Assessment and Analysis Act”.

The Committee took the following actions:

H.R. 1615. (Mr. Carter of Georgia), To direct the Chief FOIA Officer of the Department of Homeland Security to make certain improvements in the implementation of section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other
purposes.; was ordered to be forwarded to the Full Committee for consideration, amended, by voice vote.

The Committee adopted H.R. 1615, as amended by voice vote.

The following amendment was offered:

An en bloc amendment offered by Mrs. Watson Coleman (#1); consisting of the following amendments:

An amendment: Page 2, line 11, strike subsection (c) and insert a new subsection entitled “(c) Cost Savings.”;

An amendment: Page 5, after line 8, insert the following:
(C) An assessment of whether the Department has adequate staffing and other resources to address the backlog goals pursuant to subsection (e) for processing requests made under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of section 552(a) of title 5, United States Code.;

An amendment: Page 5, after line 15, insert a new subsection entitled “(g) Duplicative Action Defined.”; was AGREED TO by voice vote.

A unanimous consent request by Mrs. Watson Coleman to consider her amendment considered en bloc, was not objected to.

H.R. 1626. (Mr. Hurd of Texas), To reduce duplication of information technology at the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.; was ordered to be forwarded to the Full Committee for consideration, amended, by voice vote.

The Committee adopted H.R. 1626, as amended by voice vote.

The following amendment was offered:

An amendment offered by Mrs. Watson Coleman (#1); Page 2, line 13, strike “that are duplicative” and insert “exhibiting duplication or fragmentation”.
Page 2, line 18 strike subsection (b) and insert a new subsection entitled “(b) Definitions.”; was AGREED TO by voice vote.

H.R. 1633. (Mr. Loudermilk), To provide for certain improvements relating to the tracking and reporting of employees of the Department of Homeland Security placed on administrative leave, or any other type of paid non-duty status without charge to leave, for personnel matters, and for other purposes.; was ordered to be forwarded to the Full Committee for consideration, amended, by voice vote.
The Committee adopted H.R. 1633, as amended by voice vote.

The following amendment was offered:

An amendment offered by Mrs. Watson Coleman (#1); Page 3, line 3, strike “monitor” and insert “maintain records of”.
Page 3, line 12, insert insert “objectively, appropriately, and” before “expeditiously”.
Page 3, line 13, strike “eliminate or”.
Page 4, line 19, after the period insert the following:
“Such policy shall provide guidance on expediting the resolution of a personnel matter for which an employee has been on administrative leave or any other type of paid non-duty status without charge to leave for a period of six consecutive months or longer in an objective and appropriate manner.”.; was AGREED TO by voice vote.

H.R. 1640. (Mr. Walker), To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit to Congress a report on the Department of Homeland Security headquarters consolidation project in the National Capital Region, and for other purposes.; was ordered to be forwarded to the Full Committee for consideration, amended, by voice vote.

The Committee adopted H.R. 1640, as amended by voice vote.

The following amendment was offered:

An amendment offered by Mrs. Watson Coleman (#1); Page 3, line 24, strike “90” and insert “180”; was AGREED TO by voice vote.

H.R. 1646. (Mrs. Watson Coleman), To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to research how small and medium sized unmanned aerial systems could be used in an attack, how to prevent or mitigate the effects of such an attack, and for other purposes.; was ordered to be forwarded to the Full Committee for consideration, amended, by voice vote.

The Committee adopted H.R. 1646, as amended by voice vote.

The following amendments were offered:

An amendment offered by Mrs. Watson Coleman (#1); In subsection (a) of section 2, strike “and the Secretary of Energy,” and insert “the Secretary of Energy, and the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission’.”.
In subsection (b) of section 2, insert “and State and major urban area fusion centers, as appropriate,” after “officials”.

In subsection (c) of section 2, strike “threat” and insert “risk”.

In subsection (c) of section 2, strike “the commercial availability of” and insert “commercially available”; was AGREED TO by voice vote.

An amendment offered by Mr. Perry (#2); In subsection (a) of section 2, insert “, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Energy, and the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission” before “research”.

In subsection (a) of section 2, strike “aerial systems” and insert “aircraft, excluding aircraft over 1,300 pounds”.

In subsection (a) of section 2, strike “in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Transportation, and the Secretary of Energy,” and insert “, based on such research, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall”.

In subsection (a) of section 2, strike “Federal”.

In subsection (a) of section 2, strike “effects” and insert “risk”.

In subsection (a) of section 2, add at the end the following new sentence: “Not later than 180 days after the completion of the research required under this subsection, the Secretary of Homeland Security may provide, as appropriate, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Energy, and the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission advice, based on such research, regarding how to best prevent and mitigate the risk of such an attack.”.

In subsection (b) of section 2, strike “aerial systems” and insert “aircraft, excluding aircraft over 1,300 pounds”.

In subsection (c) of section 2, in the first sentence, insert “and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure” before “of the House of Representatives”.

In subsection (c) of section 2, in the first sentence, insert “and the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation” before “of the Senate”.

In subsection (c) of section 2, in the first sentence, strike “aerial systems” and insert “aircraft, excluding aircraft over 1,300 pounds”.

In subsection (c) of section 2, in the second sentence, insert “, shall contain recommendations, if applicable, to prevent and mitigate the risk of an unmanned aircraft system attack,” after “in accordance with subsection (a)”.

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Amend the long title to read as follows: ‘‘To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to research how certain commercially-available small and medium sized unmanned aircraft systems could be used in an attack, how to prevent or mitigate the risk of such an attack, and for other purposes.’’; was AGREED TO by voice vote.