

[H.R. 2770, Keeping Our Travelers Safe and Secure Act, as amended](#)

FLOOR SITUATION

On Monday, July 27, 2015, the House will consider [H.R. 2770](#), *the Keeping Our Travelers Safe and Secure Act, as amended*, under suspension of the rules. H.R. 2770 was introduced on June 15, 2015, by Rep. Kathleen Rice (D-NY) and was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, which ordered the bill reported by voice vote on June 25, 2015.

SUMMARY

H.R. 2770 requires the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to develop and implement a preventive maintenance validation process for security-related technology deployed to airports not later than 180 days after enactment. The process must include specific maintenance schedules, guidance for TSA personnel and contractors on how to conduct and document maintenance actions, mechanisms to ensure compliance, and penalties for noncompliance.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Transportation Security Administration (TSA) was created "to strengthen the security of the nation's transportation systems and ensure the freedom of movement for people and commerce."¹ TSA seeks to provide the "most effective transportation security in the most efficient way as a high performing counterterrorism organization."²

On May 6, 2015, the DHS Office of Inspector General (OIG) released a [report](#) finding that that TSA "is not properly managing the maintenance of its airport screening equipment."³ The report further found that TSA "has not issued adequate policies and procedures to airports for carrying out equipment maintenance-related responsibilities," and as a result, "cannot be assured that routine preventive maintenance is performed or that equipment is repaired and ready for operational use."⁴ The report

¹ <http://www.tsa.gov/about-tsa>

² Id.

³ See DHS OIG report—"The Transportation Security Administration Does Not Properly Manage Its Airport Screening Equipment Maintenance Program," May 6, 2015 at 1.

⁴ Id.

recommended that TSA develop, implement, and enforce policies and procedures to ensure its screening equipment is maintained as required and is fully operational while in service.⁵

According to the bill's sponsor, "the security of our airports and the safety of travelers depend on sophisticated technology, and TSA has to be more aggressive and proactive in ensuring that this technology is regularly maintained and kept fully operational."⁶

COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing H.R. 2770 would have no significant effect on the federal budget. Enacting H.R. 2770 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information please contact [Jerry White](#) with the House Republican Policy Committee by email or at 5-0190.

⁵ Id.

⁶ See Press Release—"[Rep. Rice Introduces Bipartisan Bill to Require Regular Maintenance of Airport Screening Technology](#)," June 16, 2015.