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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To support remediation of illicit cross-border tunnels, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. LESKO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To support remediation of illicit cross-border tunnels, 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 “DHS Illicit Cross-Bor-  
5 der Tunnel Defense Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. COUNTER ILLICIT CROSS-BORDER TUNNEL OPER-**  
7 **ATIONS.**

8 (a) REPORT ON OPERATIONS.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year  
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act and an-  
3 nually thereafter, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs  
4 and Border Protection shall submit to the Com-  
5 mittee on Homeland Security of the House of Rep-  
6 resentatives and the Committee on Homeland Secu-  
7 rity and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report  
8 on operations carried out to identify, breach, assess,  
9 and remediate illicit cross-border tunnels, including  
10 performance measures.

11           (2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—  
12 There is authorized to be appropriated \$1,000,000  
13 for each of fiscal years 2021 and 2022 to carry out  
14 remediation operations described in paragraph (1).

15           (b) COUNTER ILLICIT CROSS-BORDER TUNNEL OP-  
16 ERATIONS STRATEGIC PLAN.—

17           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
18 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
19 Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protec-  
20 tion shall develop a strategic plan to address the fol-  
21 lowing:

22                   (A) Risk-based criteria to be used to  
23 prioritize the identification, breach, assessment,  
24 and remediation of illicit cross-border tunnels.

1 (B) Promote the use of innovative tech-  
2 nologies to identify, breach, assess, and reme-  
3 diate illicit cross-border tunnels in a manner  
4 that, among other considerations, reduces the  
5 impact of such activities on surrounding com-  
6 munities.

7 (C) Processes to share relevant illicit cross-  
8 border tunnel location, operations, and technical  
9 information.

10 (D) Indicators of specific types of illicit  
11 cross-border tunnels found in each U.S. Border  
12 Patrol sector identified through operations to be  
13 periodically disseminated to U.S. Border Patrol  
14 sector chiefs to educate field personnel.

15 (E) A counter illicit cross-border tunnel  
16 operations resource needs assessment that in-  
17 cludes consideration of the following:

18 (i) Technology needs.

19 (ii) Staffing needs, including the fol-  
20 lowing::

21 (I) A position description for  
22 counter illicit cross-border tunnel op-  
23 erations personnel.

24 (II) Any specialized skills re-  
25 quired of such personnel.

1 (III) The number of such full  
2 time personnel, disaggregated by U.S.  
3 Border Patrol sector.

4 (2) REPORT TO CONGRESS ON STRATEGIC  
5 PLAN.—Not later than one year after the issuance of  
6 the strategic plan required under paragraph (1), the  
7 Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protec-  
8 tion shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Se-  
9 curity of the House of Representatives and the Com-  
10 mittee on Homeland Security and Governmental Af-  
11 fairs of the Senate a report on the implementation  
12 of paragraph (1).