



## **H.RES. 1150 – EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION SHOULD, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL MANDATE PROVIDED FOR IN THE IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 9/11 COMMISSION ACT OF 2007, ENHANCE SECURITY AGAINST TERRORIST ATTACK AND OTHER SECURITY THREATS TO OUR NATION'S RAIL AND MASS TRANSIT LINES**

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### FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1150 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-TX) on April 24, 2008. The resolution was ordered to be reported, as amended, by voice vote of the Committee on Homeland Security on May 20, 2008.

H.Res. 1150 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on June 18, 2008.

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### SUMMARY

H.Res. 1150 expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that the Transportation Security Administration should:

- Continue to enhance security against terrorist attack and other security threats to our Nation's rail and mass transit lines, as well as school transportation systems, including as provided for in the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-53);
- Continue development of the National Explosives Detection Canine Team Program, which has proven to be an effective tool in securing against explosives threats to our Nation's rail and mass transit lines, with particular attention to the application of its training standards and the establishment of a reliable source of domestically-bred canines;
- Improve upon the success of the Online Learning Center by providing increased person-to-person professional development programs to ensure those responsible for securing against terrorist attacks on our transportation systems are highly trained in both securing against terrorist attacks and professional relations with the traveling public; and
- Continue to secure our Nation's mass transit and rail lines against terrorist attack and other security threats, so as to ensure the security of commuters on our Nation's mass transit lines and prevent the disruption of rail lines critical to our Nation's economy, and to give special attention to school transportation systems by working with school administrators, State and local law enforcement, and other representatives in the school transportation industry to keep children safe from terrorist attack.

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### BACKGROUND

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) was formed in 2001 by the enactment of the Aviation and Transportation Security Act (P.L. 107-71). TSA is a component agency of the Department of Homeland Security, which employs about 50,000 people. The mission of the agency is to protect the Nation's transportation systems (including rail and mass transit lines) to ensure freedom of movement for people and commerce. The current TSA Administrator is Kip Hawley.

In recent years there have been several terrorist attacks on mass transit lines abroad, including the 2004 attack on the commuter train system in Madrid, Spain, and the 2005 attack on the London public transport system in the United Kingdom. It is estimated that each weekday over 11 million Americans rely upon mass transit lines as a means of transportation. In addition, approximately 25 million children use school transportation systems, such as buses, daily to commute to and from school.



# LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

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