

(1) develop a program to increase the utilization of the public alert and warning system lab of the Agency by State, Tribal, and local governments to test incident management and warning tools and train emergency management professionals on alert origination protocols and procedures; and

(2) submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report describing—

(A) the impact on utilization of the public alert and warning system lab by State, Tribal, and local governments, with particular attention given to the impact on utilization in rural areas, resulting from the program developed under paragraph (1); and

(B) any further recommendations that the Administrator would make for additional statutory or appropriations authority necessary to increase the utilization of the public alert and warning system lab by State, Tribal, and local governments.

(h) Awareness of alerts and warnings

Not later than 1 year after December 20, 2019, the Administrator shall—

(1) conduct a review of the National Watch Center and each Regional Watch Center of the Agency; and

(2) submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the review conducted under paragraph (1), which shall include—

(A) an assessment of the technical capability of the National and Regional Watch Centers described in paragraph (1) to be notified of alerts and warnings issued by a State through the public alert and warning system;

(B) a determination of which State alerts and warnings the National and Regional Watch Centers described in paragraph (1) should be aware of; and

(C) recommendations for improving the ability of the National and Regional Watch Centers described in paragraph (1) to receive any State alerts and warnings that the Administrator determines are appropriate.

(i) Reporting false alerts

Not later than 15 days after the date on which a State, Tribal, or local government official transmits a false alert under the public alert and warning system, the Administrator shall report to the appropriate congressional committees on—

(1) the circumstances surrounding the false alert;

(2) the content, cause, and population impacted by the false alert; and

(3) any efforts to mitigate any negative impacts of the false alert.

(j) Reporting participation rates

The Administrator shall, on an annual basis, report to the appropriate congressional committees on—

(1) participation rates in the public alert and warning system; and

(2) any efforts to expand alert, warning, and interoperable communications to rural and underserved areas.

(k) Timeline for compliance

Each State shall be given a reasonable amount of time to comply with any new rules, regula-

tions, or requirements imposed under this section.

(Pub. L. 116–92, div. A, title XVII, § 1756, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1855.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 2(b)(7)(B) of the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System Modernization Act of 2015, referred to in subsec. (b)(2), is section 2(b)(7)(B) of Pub. L. 114–143, Apr. 11, 2016, 130 Stat. 332, which relates to submission of reports by the National Advisory Council and is not classified to the Code.

The Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(4), is Pub. L. 92–463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 770, which is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, and not as part of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 which comprises this chapter.

§ 321p. National planning and education

The Secretary shall, to the extent practicable—

(1) include in national planning frameworks the threat of an EMP or GMD event; and

(2) conduct outreach to educate owners and operators of critical infrastructure, emergency planners, and emergency response providers at all levels of government regarding threats of EMP and GMD.

(Pub. L. 107–296, title V, § 527, as added Pub. L. 114–328, div. A, title XIX, § 1913(a)(4), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2686.)

§ 321q. Coordination of Department of Homeland Security efforts related to food, agriculture, and veterinary defense against terrorism

(a) Program required

The Secretary, acting through the Assistant Secretary for the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office, shall carry out a program to coordinate the Department's efforts related to defending the food, agriculture, and veterinary systems of the United States against terrorism and other high-consequence events that pose a high risk to homeland security.

(b) Program elements

The coordination program required by subsection (a) shall include, at a minimum, the following:

(1) Providing oversight and management of the Department's responsibilities pursuant to Homeland Security Presidential Directive 9–Defense of United States Agriculture and Food.

(2) Providing oversight and integration of the Department's activities related to veterinary public health, food defense, and agricultural security.

(3) Leading the Department's policy initiatives relating to food, animal, and agricultural incidents, and the impact of such incidents on animal and public health.

(4) Leading the Department's policy initiatives relating to overall domestic preparedness for and collective response to agricultural terrorism.