

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

116TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. _____

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to carry out a study on the funding of domestic terrorism, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M. _____ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to carry out a study on the funding of domestic terrorism, 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. FINDINGS.**

4 The Congress finds the following:

5 (1) There has been a sharp rise in domestic ter-
6 rorism incidents. The Federal Bureau of Investiga-
7 tions has acknowledged that racially-motivated vio-
8 lent extremists are responsible for the majority of le-

1 thal attacks and fatalities perpetrated in the United
2 States by domestic terrorists since 2000.

3 (2) The Anti-Defamation League’s (ADL) Cen-
4 ter on Extremism (COE), determined that, “in
5 2018, domestic extremists killed at least 50 people
6 in the U.S., a sharp increase from the 37 extremist-
7 related murders documented in 2017 [and] the
8 fourth-deadliest year on record for domestic extrem-
9 ist-related killings since 1970”.

10 (3) More information on the funding of domes-
11 tic terrorism is required to understand how financial
12 data and analytical tools can be effectively used to
13 confront this problem.

14 (4) Any assessment of the options for tracking
15 domestic terrorist funding must also consider the
16 implications for First Amendment rights.

17 **SEC. 2. GAO STUDY ON THE FUNDING OF DOMESTIC TER-**
18 **RORISM.**

19 (a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United
20 States shall carry out a study of—

21 (1) how the Government assesses the nature of
22 the domestic terrorism threat, including ties to for-
23 eign extremist and terror organizations;

1 (2) how the Government assesses the funding
2 mechanisms employed by individuals and groups en-
3 gaging in domestic terrorism;

4 (3) the Federal agencies responsible for detect-
5 ing and deterring the funding of domestic terrorism,
6 the extent that these agencies have taken steps to
7 combat such funding, and the authorities and re-
8 sources by which they do so;

9 (4) interagency coordination, or lack thereof, to
10 support the efforts described in paragraph (3);

11 (5) the data and analytical tools available to de-
12 tect and deter the funding of domestic terrorism and
13 how civil liberties oversight is exercised in their use;

14 (6) the effectiveness of the tools described in
15 paragraph (5), or lack thereof, in detecting and de-
16 terring the funding of domestic terrorism;

17 (7) the current legal framework for combating
18 the funding of domestic terrorism, and how agencies
19 see the potential advantages and disadvantages of
20 making domestic terrorism a separate Federal crime;

21 (8) civil rights and civil liberties protections
22 currently included in law and challenges associated
23 with any potential changes to the legal framework;
24 and

1 (9) any other issues that Comptroller General
2 determines appropriate to support congressional
3 oversight of the funding of domestic terrorism.

4 (b) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 15-
5 month period beginning on the date of enactment of this
6 Act, the Comptroller General shall issue a report to the
7 Congress containing all findings and determinations made
8 in carrying out the study required under subsection (a).