

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 744

To establish a Caribbean Basin Port Assistance Program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 11, 2005

Mr. NELSON of Florida introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To establish a Caribbean Basin Port Assistance Program.

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. ASSISTANCE TO FOREIGN PORTS.**

4 Section 70109 of title 46, United States Code, is
5 amended by adding at the end the following:

6 “(c) CARIBBEAN BASIN PORT ASSISTANCE PRO-
7 GRAM.—

8 “(1) The Administrator of the Maritime Admin-
9 istration, in coordination with the Secretary of
10 State, shall identify foreign assistance programs that
11 could facilitate implementation of port security
12 antiterrorism measures at ports in a country in the

1 Caribbean Basin. The Administrator and the Sec-
 2 retary, in consultation with the Organization of
 3 American States, shall establish a program to utilize
 4 those programs that are capable of implementing
 5 port security antiterrorism measures at ports in a
 6 country in the Caribbean Basin that the Secretary
 7 finds, under section 70108, to lack effective
 8 antiterrorism measures.

9 “(2) In this subsection, the term ‘country in the
 10 Caribbean Basin’ means a country listed in section
 11 212(b) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery
 12 Act (19 U.S.C. 2702(b)).”.

13 **SEC. 2. REPORT ON SECURITY AT PORTS IN THE CARIB-**
 14 **BEAN BASIN.**

15 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the
 16 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland
 17 Security shall submit to the Committee on Commerce,
 18 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and Committee
 19 on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of
 20 Representatives a report on the security of ports in a
 21 country in the Caribbean Basin.

22 (b) CONTENT.—The report required by paragraph
 23 (1) shall include the following:

24 (1) An assessment of the vulnerability of ports
 25 in a country in the Caribbean Basin.

1 (2) An assessment of the willingness of officials
2 at ports in a country in the Caribbean Basin to uti-
3 lize screening equipment to screen cargo at such
4 ports and of the effectiveness of the use of such
5 equipment, including the number of cargo containers
6 that have been screened at each such port.

7 (3) An analysis of which countries in the Carib-
8 bean Basin utilize screening equipment to screen
9 cargo at ports in such countries that will be im-
10 ported into the United States and the recommenda-
11 tion of the Secretary as to whether, and to what ex-
12 tent, such equipment from the United States should
13 be stationed at such ports.

14 (4) An estimate of the number of ports in a
15 country in the Caribbean Basin that will not be se-
16 cured by July, 2005, and an estimate of the finan-
17 cial impact in the United States of any action taken
18 pursuant to section 70110 of title 46, United States
19 Code, that affects trade between such ports and the
20 United States.

21 (5) An assessment of the additional resources
22 and program changes that are necessary to maxi-
23 mize screening of cargo at ports in a country in the
24 Caribbean Basin.

- 1 (c) COUNTRY IN THE CARIBBEAN BASIN DEFINED.—
2 In this section, the term “country in the Caribbean Basin”
3 means a country listed in section 212(b) of the Caribbean
4 Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2702(b)).

