H. R. 1392

To require inspection of all cargo on commercial trucks and vessels entering the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 20, 2003

Mr. Hunter (for himself, Mrs. Jo Ann Davis of Virginia, Mr. Otter, Mr. Walden of Oregon, Mrs. Myrick, Mr. Bartlett of Maryland, Mr. Doolittle, and Mr. Coble) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require inspection of all cargo on commercial trucks and vessels entering the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MANDATORY INSPECTION OF CARGO.

(a) MANDATORY INSPECTIONS.—No cargo transported by a commercial motor vehicle may enter the United States from Canada or Mexico, and no cargo transported by vessel may be unloaded in the United States, unless an appropriate officer or employee of the Direc-
torate of Border and Transportation Security or other ap-
propriate officer or employee of the United States has in-
spected the cargo to ensure that it complies with the laws
of the United States.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CARGO.—The term “cargo” means prop-
erty, or mail, or both.

(2) COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term
“commercial motor vehicle” means a commercial
motor vehicle as defined in section 31101(1) of title
49, United States Code, that is used principally to
transport cargo.

(3) UNITED STATES; VESSEL.—The terms
“United States” and “vessel” have the meanings
given those terms in section 401 of the Tariff Act

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect 6 months after the date
of the enactment of this Act.