

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1619

To authorize assistance and training to increase maritime security and domain awareness of foreign countries bordering the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Sea, or the Mediterranean Sea in order to deter and counter illicit smuggling and related maritime activity by Iran, including illicit Iranian weapons shipments.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2017

Mr. RUIZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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 authorize assistance and training to increase maritime security and domain awareness of foreign countries bordering the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Sea, or the Mediterranean Sea in order to deter and counter illicit smuggling and related maritime activity by Iran, including illicit Iranian weapons shipments.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Stop Iran From Smug-
3 gling Weapons to Terrorists Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AND TRAIN-**
5 **ING TO INCREASE MARITIME SECURITY AND**
6 **DOMAIN AWARENESS OF FOREIGN COUN-**
7 **TRIES BORDERING THE PERSIAN GULF, ARA-**
8 **BIAN SEA, OR MEDITERRANEAN SEA.**

9 (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to au-
10 thorize assistance and training to increase maritime secu-
11 rity and domain awareness of foreign countries bordering
12 the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Sea, or the Mediterranean
13 Sea in order to deter and counter illicit smuggling and
14 related maritime activity by Iran, including illicit Iranian
15 weapons shipments.

16 (b) AUTHORITY.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—To carry out the purpose of
18 this section as described in subsection (a), the Sec-
19 retary of Defense, with the concurrence of the Sec-
20 retary of State, is authorized—

21 (A) to provide training to the national mili-
22 tary or other security forces of Israel, Bahrain,
23 Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates,
24 Oman, Kuwait, and Qatar that have among
25 their functional responsibilities maritime secu-
26 rity missions; and

1 (B) to provide training to ministry, agency,
2 and headquarters level organizations for such
3 forces.

4 (2) DESIGNATION.—The provision of assistance
5 and training under this section may be referred to
6 as the “Counter Iran Maritime Initiative”.

7 (c) TYPES OF TRAINING.—

8 (1) AUTHORIZED ELEMENTS OF TRAINING.—
9 Training provided under subsection (b)(1)(A) may
10 include the provision of de minimis equipment, sup-
11 plies, and small-scale military construction.

12 (2) REQUIRED ELEMENTS OF TRAINING.—
13 Training provided under subsection (b) shall include
14 elements that promote the following:

15 (A) Observance of and respect for human
16 rights and fundamental freedoms.

17 (B) Respect for legitimate civilian author-
18 ity within the country to which the assistance
19 is provided.

20 (d) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Of the amount au-
21 thorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2018 and avail-
22 able for operation and maintenance for Defense-wide ac-
23 tivities, \$50,000,000 shall be available only for the provi-
24 sion of assistance and training under subsection (b).

25 (e) COST SHARING.—

1 (1) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of
2 Congress that, given income parity among recipient
3 countries, the Secretary of Defense, with the concur-
4 rence of the Secretary of State, should seek, through
5 appropriate bilateral and multilateral arrangements,
6 payments sufficient in amount to offset any training
7 costs associated with implementation of subsection
8 (b).

9 (2) COST-SHARING AGREEMENT.—The Sec-
10 retary of Defense, with the concurrence of the Sec-
11 retary of State, shall negotiate a cost-sharing agree-
12 ment with a recipient country regarding the cost of
13 any training provided pursuant to subsection (b).
14 The agreement shall set forth the terms of cost
15 sharing that the Secretary of Defense determines
16 are necessary and appropriate, but such terms shall
17 not be less than 50 percent of the overall cost of the
18 training.

19 (3) CREDIT TO APPROPRIATIONS.—The portion
20 of such cost sharing received by the Secretary of De-
21 fense pursuant to this subsection may be credited to-
22 wards appropriations available for operation and
23 maintenance for Defense-wide activities.

24 (f) NOTICE TO CONGRESS ON TRAINING.—Not later
25 than 15 days before exercising the authority under sub-

1 section (b) with respect to a recipient country, the Sec-
2 retary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate congres-
3 sional committees a notification containing the following:

4 (1) An identification of the recipient country.

5 (2) A detailed justification of the program for
6 the provision of the training concerned, and its rela-
7 tionship to United States security interests.

8 (3) The budget for the program, including a
9 timetable of planned expenditures of funds to imple-
10 ment the program, an implementation timeline for
11 the program with milestones (including anticipated
12 delivery schedules for any assistance and training
13 under the program), the military department or
14 component responsible for management of the pro-
15 gram, and the anticipated completion date for the
16 program.

17 (4) A description of the arrangements, if any,
18 to support recipient country sustainment of any ca-
19 pability developed pursuant to the program, and the
20 source of funds to support sustainment efforts and
21 performance outcomes to be achieved under the pro-
22 gram beyond its completion date, if applicable.

23 (5) A description of the program objectives and
24 an assessment framework to be used to develop ca-

1 pability and performance metrics associated with
2 operational outcomes for the recipient force.

3 (6) Such other matters as the Secretary con-
4 siders appropriate.

5 (g) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “appro-
6 priate congressional committees” means—

7 (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the
8 Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee
9 on Appropriations of the Senate; and

10 (2) the Committee on Armed Services, the
11 Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee
12 on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

13 (h) TERMINATION.—Assistance and training may not
14 be provided under this section after September 30, 2021.

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