

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3833

To require a regional strategy to address the threat posed by Boko Haram.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 26, 2015

Ms. WILSON of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Select Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), 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

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## A BILL

To require a regional strategy to address the threat posed  
by Boko Haram.

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. REGIONAL STRATEGY TO ADDRESS THE**  
4 **THREAT POSED BY BOKO HARAM.**

5 (a) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
7 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
8 retary of State and the Secretary of Defense shall  
9 jointly develop and submit to the appropriate com-

1       mittees of Congress a 5-year strategy to help enable  
2       the Government of Nigeria, members of the Multi-  
3       national Joint Task Force to Combat Boko Haram  
4       (MNJTF) authorized by the African Union, and rel-  
5       evant partners to counter the regional threat of  
6       Boko Haram and assist the Government of Nigeria  
7       and its neighbors to accept and address legitimate  
8       grievances of vulnerable populations in areas af-  
9       fected by Boko Haram.

10           (2) ELEMENTS.—At a minimum, the strategy  
11       shall address the following elements:

12           (A) Enhance, pursuant to existing authori-  
13       ties and restrictions, the institutional capacity,  
14       including military capabilities, of the Govern-  
15       ment of Nigeria and partner nations in the re-  
16       gion, as appropriate, to counter the threat  
17       posed by Boko Haram.

18           (B) Provide humanitarian support to civil-  
19       ian populations impacted by Boko Haram’s ac-  
20       tivity.

21           (C) Specific activities through which the  
22       United States Government intends to improve  
23       and enhance the capacity of MNJTF member  
24       nations to investigate and prosecute human

1 rights abuses by security forces and promote re-  
2 spect for the rule of law within the military.

3 (D) A means for assisting Nigeria, and as  
4 appropriate, MNJTF member nations, to  
5 counter violent extremism, including efforts to  
6 address underlying societal factors shown to  
7 contribute to the ability of Boko Haram to  
8 radicalize and recruit individuals.

9 (E) A plan to strengthen and promote the  
10 rule of law, including by improving the capacity  
11 of the civilian police and judicial system in Ni-  
12 geria, enhancing public safety, and responding  
13 to crime (including gender-based violence),  
14 while respecting human rights and strength-  
15 ening accountability measures, including meas-  
16 ures to prevent corruption.

17 (F) Strengthen the long-term capacity of  
18 the Government of Nigeria to enhance security  
19 for schools such that children are safer and  
20 girls seeking an education are better protected,  
21 and to combat gender-based violence and gen-  
22 der inequality.

23 (G) Identify and develop mechanisms for  
24 coordinating the implementation of the strategy  
25 across the interagency and with the Govern-

1           ment of Nigeria, regional partners, and other  
2           relevant foreign partners.

3           (H) Identify the resources required to  
4           achieve the strategy's objectives.

5           (b) ASSESSMENT.—The Director of National Intel-  
6           ligence shall submit, to the appropriate committees of  
7           Congress, an assessment regarding—

8           (1) the willingness and capability of the Govern-  
9           ment of Nigeria and regional partners to implement  
10          the strategy developed under subsection (a), includ-  
11          ing the capability gaps, if any, of the Government  
12          and military forces of Nigeria that would need to be  
13          addressed to enable the Government of Nigeria and  
14          the governments of its partner countries in the re-  
15          gion—

16                 (A) to counter the threat of Boko Haram;  
17                 and

18                 (B) to address the legitimate grievances of  
19                 vulnerable populations in areas affected by  
20                 Boko Haram; and

21          (2) significant United States intelligence gaps  
22          concerning Boko Haram or on the willingness and  
23          capacity of the Government of Nigeria and regional  
24          partners to implement the strategy developed under  
25          subsection (a).

1           (c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
2 gress that lack of economic opportunity and access to edu-  
3 cation, justice, and other social services contributes to the  
4 ability of Boko Haram to radicalize and recruit individ-  
5 uals.

6           (d) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-  
7 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate commit-  
8 tees of Congress” means—

9                   (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the  
10           Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on  
11           Appropriations, and the Select Committee on Intel-  
12           ligence of the Senate; and

13                   (2) the Committee on Armed Services, the  
14           Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on  
15           Appropriations, and the Permanent Select Com-  
16           mittee on Intelligence of the House of Representa-  
17           tives.

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