

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1802

To direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a fund for the conduct of collaborative defense projects between the United States and Israel in emerging technologies, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 1, 2023

Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. BUDD, and Ms. ROSEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a fund for the conduct of collaborative defense projects between the United States and Israel in emerging technologies, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “United States-Israel
5 Future of Warfare Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. FUND FOR CONDUCT OF COLLABORATIVE DEFENSE**
2 **PROJECTS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES**
3 **AND ISRAEL IN EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
5 ings:

6 (1) The strategic partnership between the
7 United States and Israel is mutually beneficial, rein-
8 forcing shared moral values and security interests
9 while promoting peace and regional stability.

10 (2) A strong strategic relationship between the
11 United States and Israel, and enhanced bilateral co-
12 operation between such countries in defense, home-
13 land security, cybersecurity, space, and other key
14 areas, ensure that both countries can confront cur-
15 rent and future emerging defense challenges.

16 (3) Israel is a global leader and innovator in
17 the development of defense technology and is one of
18 the closest foreign defense partners of the United
19 States.

20 (4) On September 14, 2016, the United States
21 and Israel signed a 10-year memorandum of under-
22 standing reaffirming the importance of continuing
23 annual United States military assistance to Israel
24 (and other defense programs in areas such as missile
25 defense, counter tunneling, and counter-unmanned
26 aircraft systems) in a way that enhances the security

1 of Israel and strengthens the bilateral relationship
2 between the two countries.

3 (5) On July 12, 2022, President Joe Biden and
4 former Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid committed
5 to elevating the strategic partnership between the
6 United States and Israel to new heights by launch-
7 ing the Strategic High-Level Dialogue on Tech-
8 nology, tasked with establishing a technological part-
9 nership between the United States and Israel with
10 respect to critical and emerging technologies and so-
11 lutions to global challenges.

12 (6) On July 14, 2022, President Joe Biden and
13 former Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid signed a
14 joint declaration, entitled the “Jerusalem U.S.-Israel
15 Strategic Partnership Joint Declaration”, that reaf-
16 firms the steadfast commitment of the United States
17 to strengthening the self-defense capability of Israel
18 and to moving forward “the U.S.-Israel defense
19 partnership through cooperation in cutting-edge de-
20 fense technologies such as high energy laser weapons
21 systems to defend the skies of Israel and in the fu-
22 ture those of other U.S. and Israel security part-
23 ners”.

24 (7) Since 2016, Congress has appropriated
25 \$320,000,000 for counter-tunneling cooperation be-

1 tween the United States (specifically the Irregular
2 Warfare Technical Support Directorate of the De-
3 partment of Defense) and Israel, which has resulted
4 in the development of counter-tunnel technology that
5 enhances the capability of the United States and
6 Israel to deal with tunnel threats at the borders of
7 such countries and elsewhere.

8 (8) Since 2020, Congress has appropriated
9 \$88,000,000 for counter-unmanned aircraft systems
10 cooperation between the United States (specifically
11 the Irregular Warfare Technical Support Directorate
12 of the Department of Defense) and Israel, which has
13 resulted in the co-development of counter-unmanned
14 aircraft systems for use by the United States Armed
15 Forces, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the
16 United States Secret Service.

17 (9) In January 2023, the Irregular Warfare
18 Technical Support Directorate of the Department of
19 Defense awarded Israel Aerospace Industries a
20 multi-million dollar contract to rapidly develop and
21 deliver a loitering munition known as “ROC-X” to
22 provide ground-based tactical forces with more pre-
23 cise capabilities and to improve the safety and secu-
24 rity of United States warfighters.

1 (10) Over the last few years, the Irregular War-
2 fare Technical Support Directorate of the Depart-
3 ment of Defense and the Directorate of Defense Re-
4 search and Engineering of the Ministry of Defense
5 of Israel have hosted a competition known as the
6 “MOSAIC Challenge” for the purpose of identifying
7 cutting-edge hardware and software solutions to ad-
8 dress challenging and longstanding technological
9 gaps relating to remote autonomous indoor maneu-
10 verability.

11 (b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the
12 United States to support and encourage further defense
13 collaboration with Israel in areas of emerging technologies
14 that may enable the development of the warfare capabili-
15 ties of the United States and Israel so as to meet emerging
16 defense challenges, including with respect to the areas of
17 artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, directed energy, and
18 automation.

19 (c) UNITED STATES-ISRAEL WARFARE RESEARCH
20 AND DEVELOPMENT FUND.—

21 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of De-
22 fense shall establish a fund, to be known as the
23 “United States-Israel Future of Warfare Research
24 and Development Fund” (in this section referred to
25 as the “Fund”).

1 (2) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts in the Fund
2 shall be available for the conduct of collaborative de-
3 fense projects between the United States and Israel
4 in areas of emerging technologies, including artificial
5 intelligence, automation, cybersecurity, and directed
6 energy, for the purpose of enabling the United
7 States Armed Forces and the military forces of
8 Israel to meet emerging defense challenges.

9 (3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
10 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Fund
11 \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 through
12 2028.

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