

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4726

To require the Secretary of Defense to submit annual reports on allied contributions to the common defense, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 11 (legislative day, JULY 10), 2024

Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. RUBIO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense to submit annual reports on allied contributions to the common defense, 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 “NATO Burden Shar-
5 ing Report Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REPORT ON ALLIED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COM-**
2 **MON DEFENSE.**

3 (a) FINDING.—Congress finds that section 1003 of
4 the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1985 (Pub-
5 lic Law 98–525; 63 Stat. 2241)—

6 (1) expresses the sense of Congress that, due to
7 threats that are ever-changing, Congress must be in-
8 formed with respect to allied contributions to the
9 common defense to properly assess the readiness of
10 the United States and the countries described in
11 subsection (c)(2) for threats; and

12 (2) requires the Secretary of Defense to submit
13 to Congress an annual report on the contributions of
14 allies to the common defense.

15 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
16 gress that—

17 (1) the threats facing the United States—

18 (A) include near-peer threats; and

19 (B) require the United States to prioritize
20 military assets and resources in accordance with
21 the most recent National Defense Strategy;

22 (2) the United States should not continue to
23 shoulder a disproportionate share of the burden for
24 European security while current and prospective
25 members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization
26 neglect to meet defense spending guidelines; and

1 (3) the President should seek from each mem-
2 ber country of the North Atlantic Treaty Organiza-
3 tion acceptance of international security responsibil-
4 ities and agreements to make contributions to the
5 common defense in accordance with the collective de-
6 fense treaty to which such country is a party.

7 (c) REPORTS ON ALLIED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
8 COMMON DEFENSE.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than March 1 each
10 year, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with
11 the heads of other Federal agencies, as the Sec-
12 retary determines to be necessary, shall submit to
13 the appropriate committees of Congress a report
14 containing a description of—

15 (A) the annual defense spending by each
16 country described in paragraph (2), including
17 available data on nominal budget figures and
18 defense spending as a percentage of the gross
19 domestic products of each such country for the
20 fiscal year immediately preceding the fiscal year
21 in which the report is submitted;

22 (B) the activities of each such country to
23 contribute to military or stability operations in
24 which the Armed Forces of the United States
25 are a participant or may be called upon in ac-

1 cordance with a cooperative defense agreement
2 to which the United States is a party;

3 (C) any limitations placed by any such
4 country on the use of such contributions;

5 (D) any actions undertaken by the United
6 States or by other countries to minimize such
7 limitations; and

8 (E) with respect to each such country—

9 (i) the contributions made by the
10 country to Ukraine, including an indication
11 of whether such contributions relate to
12 hard or soft power;

13 (ii) an assessment of the health of the
14 defense industrial base of the country;

15 (iii) the comparative advantages of
16 the defense industrial base of the country;

17 (iv) the size and structure of the mili-
18 tary forces of the country, including an es-
19 timate of the amount of time required for
20 such forces to achieve full military mobili-
21 zation;

22 (v) any area in which the country
23 would be fully dependent on allied military
24 assets;

1 (vi) any delivery received or contract
2 entered into by the country through the
3 Foreign Military Sales or the Foreign Military
4 Financing program during the pre-
5 ceding year;

6 (vii) any change in defense spending
7 during the preceding year; and

8 (viii) the amount defense spending an-
9 ticipated in the subsequent year.

10 (2) COUNTRIES DESCRIBED.—The countries de-
11 scribed in this paragraph are the following:

12 (A) Each member country of the North At-
13 lantic Treaty Organization.

14 (B) Each country participating in a North
15 Atlantic Treaty Organization Membership Ac-
16 tion Plan.

17 (3) FORM.—Each report under paragraph (1)
18 shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may
19 contain a classified annex.

20 (4) AVAILABILITY.—A report submitted under
21 paragraph (1) shall be made available on request to
22 any Member of Congress.

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

1 (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the
2 Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee
3 on Appropriations of the Senate; and

4 (2) the Committee on Armed Services, the
5 Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee
6 on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

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