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(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To prohibit the use of funds to withdraw the United States from the North
Atlantic Treaty Organization, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. PANETTA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To prohibit the use of funds to withdraw the United States
from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, 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 “No NATO Withdrawal
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that:

1 (1) The North Atlantic Treaty Organization
2 (NATO), which came into being through the North
3 Atlantic Treaty, which entered into force on April 4,
4 1949, between the United States of America and the
5 other founding members of the North American
6 Treaty Organization, has served as a pillar of inter-
7 national peace and stability, a critical component of
8 United States security, and a deterrent against ad-
9 versaries and external threats.

10 (2) The House of Representatives affirmed in
11 H. Res. 397, ~~offered by the Speaker of the House,~~
12 ~~Paul Ryan~~, on June 27, 2017, that—

13 (A) “NATO is one of the most successful
14 military alliances in history, deterring the out-
15 break of another world war, protecting the ter-
16 ritorial integrity of its members, and seeing the
17 Cold War through to a peaceful conclusion”;

18 (B) NATO remains the foundation of
19 United States foreign policy to promote a Eu-
20 rope that is whole, free, and at peace;

21 (C) the United States is solemnly com-
22 mitted to the North Atlantic Treaty Organiza-
23 tion’s principle of collective defense as enumer-
24 ated in Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty;
25 and

1 (D) the House of Representatives—

2 (i) strongly supports the decision at
3 the NATO Wales Summit in 2014 that
4 each alliance member would aim to spend
5 at least 2 percent of its nation's gross do-
6 mestic product on defense by 2024;

7 (ii) condemns any threat to the sov-
8 ereignty, territorial integrity, freedom and
9 democracy of any NATO ally; and

10 (iii) welcomes the Republic of Monte-
11 negro as the 29th member of the NATO
12 Alliance.

13 (3) On July 12, 2018, Speaker Ryan stated
14 that “NATO is indispensable. It is as important
15 today as it ever has been.”.

16 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

17 It is the sense of Congress that—

18 (1) the President shall not unilaterally with-
19 draw the United States from NATO; and

20 (2) the case *Goldwater v. Carter* is not control-
21 ling legal precedent with respect to the unilateral
22 withdrawal of the United States from a treaty.

23 **SEC. 4. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

24 It is the policy of the United States—

1 (1) to remain a member in good standing of
2 NATO;

3 (2) to reject any efforts to withdraw the United
4 States from NATO, either directly or through con-
5 demnation of the organization; and

6 (3) to continue to work with NATO members to
7 ensure each country spends at least 2 percent of its
8 gross domestic product on defense spending, at least
9 20 percent of which should be for procurement.

10 **SEC. 5. PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF FUNDS TO WITH-**
11 **DRAW FROM NATO.**

12 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds
13 are authorized to be appropriated, obligated, or expended
14 to take any action to withdraw the United States from
15 the North Atlantic Treaty, done at Washington, D.C. on
16 April 4, 1949, between the United States of America and
17 the other founding members of the North American Trea-
18 ty Organization.

19 **SEC. 6. REPORT ON THE MILITARY AND SECURITY RAMI-**
20 **FICATIONS OF NATO.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
22 date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter,
23 the Secretary of Defense, in concurrence with the Sec-
24 retary of State, shall submit to the appropriate congres-

1 sional committees a report that includes each of the fol-
2 lowing:

3 (1) The number of NATO forces committed to
4 operations in which the United States participates.

5 (2) The number of NATO forces killed in the
6 previous year during the course of such operations.

7 (3) An assessment of the impact on United
8 States readiness in the event that the Armed Forces
9 were required to fill positions vacated by NATO as
10 a result of the withdrawal of the United States from
11 that organization.

12 (4) A description of defense spending levels of
13 NATO member states *including the trajectory over the last*

14 (b) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a)
15 shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain
16 a classified annex.

*five years and
future
projections.*

17 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—
18 In this section, the term “appropriate congressional com-
19 mittees” means—

20 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the
21 Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on
22 Appropriations, and the Permanent Select Com-
23 mittee on Intelligence of the House of Representa-
24 tives; and

1 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the
2 Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on
3 Appropriations, and the Select Committee on Intel-
4 ligence of the Senate.