

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To require a report on United States policy in Syria.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—116th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. 1

To make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriation of funds to Israel, to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and to halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. TOOMEY

Viz:

1 At the end of subtitle D of title III, add the following:

2 **SEC. 336. REPORT ON UNITED STATES POLICY IN SYRIA.**

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

5 (1) The regime of Bashar al Assad has com-
6 mitted gross atrocities against the people of Syria.

7 (2) The commission of these atrocities led to
8 the eruption, and continuation, of the Syrian civil
9 war.

1 (3) The ensuing conflict has resulted in the
2 death of over 400,000 Syrian civilians.

3 (4) The Syrian civil war has caused over
4 5,500,000 Syrians to flee their country as refugees
5 and over 6,000,000 others to be displaced from their
6 homes inside Syria.

7 (5) The Assad regime has repeatedly used
8 chemical weapons against its own people.

9 (6) In 2011 the Assad regime released from its
10 prisons many of the terrorists who would subse-
11 quently lead the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria
12 (ISIS).

13 (7) ISIS has organized, executed, and inspired
14 countless terror attacks throughout the world since
15 its emergence, including in the United States.

16 (8) By the end of 2014, ISIS controlled one
17 third of the territory of Syria and one third of the
18 territory of Iraq.

19 (9) Since 2014, the United States has led Oper-
20 ation Inherent Resolve, with the help of allies, to de-
21 grade and destroy ISIS.

22 (10) Approximately 2,000 members of the
23 United States Armed Forces are deployed to Syria
24 under Operation Inherent Resolve.

1 (11) The United States and its allies have suc-
2 ceeded in seizing back nearly all the physical terri-
3 tory held by ISIS in 2014.

4 (12) Tens of thousands of ISIS terrorists re-
5 main in Syria and Iraq despite having lost much of
6 their territorial “Caliphate”.

7 (13) The Islamic State continues to pose a
8 threat to the security of the United States and that
9 of its allies.

10 (14) Syrian Kurdish fighters in the People’s
11 Protection Units, or YPG, have served as effective
12 and trustworthy allies in the fight against ISIS.

13 (15) The Government of Turkey views these
14 Kurdish forces as an enemy and has expressed its
15 intention to destroy them.

16 (16) The support of the Russian and Iranian
17 regimes in Syria has been invaluable to the rein-
18 forcement of the Assad government.

19 (17) Russian-backed forces have directly as-
20 saulted United States Armed Forces deployed in
21 Syria on at least one occasion.

22 (18) The Government of Iran seeks to entrench
23 its presence in Syria as a means of supporting its
24 terrorist proxies, like Hezbollah and Hamas, and
25 harming its enemies, like Israel.

1 (19) Ensuring the existence of Israel, America's
2 most important ally in the Middle East, remains a
3 key United States interest in the region.

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

6 (1) the pursuit of a clear, publicly-articulated
7 strategy will guide any withdrawal of United States
8 Armed Forces in Syria;

9 (2) such a strategy recognizes that ISIS and al
10 Qaeda terrorists in Syria continue to pose a threat
11 to the United States and its allies;

12 (3) such a strategy includes among its objec-
13 tives the complete degradation and long-term de-
14 struction of ISIS;

15 (4) such a strategy will seek to prevent the
16 emergence of another terrorist group in Syria capa-
17 ble of threatening the security of the United States
18 once ISIS is defeated;

19 (5) such a strategy includes the consideration of
20 and planning for the security interests of the Syrian
21 Kurdish allies of the United States;

22 (6) such a strategy recognizes the destabilizing
23 impact of Iran in Syria;

1 (7) such a strategy aims to ensure that Iranian-
2 commanded forces in Syria do not benefit from the
3 withdrawal of the United States Armed Forces; and

4 (8) such a strategy aims to ensure that the Syr-
5 ian civil war ends through peaceful, political means.

6 (c) REPORT.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after
8 the date of the enactment of this Act, the President
9 shall submit to Congress a report detailing United
10 States policy in Syria.

11 (2) FORM.—The report required under para-
12 graph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but
13 may contain a classified annex.

14 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
15 tion may be construed as an authorization for the use of
16 military force in Syria or elsewhere.