

S.L.C.
John K. Ernst

117TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. _____

To require the Secretary of Defense shall seek to cooperate with allies and partners in the Middle East to identify an architecture and develop an acquisition approach for certain countries in the Middle East to implement an integrated air and missile defense capability to protect the people, infrastructure, and territory of such countries from cruise and ballistic missiles, manned and unmanned aerial systems, and rocket attacks from Iran, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. ERNST (for herself, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. BOOKER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense shall seek to cooperate with allies and partners in the Middle East to identify an architecture and develop an acquisition approach for certain countries in the Middle East to implement an integrated air and missile defense capability to protect the people, infrastructure, and territory of such countries from cruise and ballistic missiles, manned and unmanned aerial systems, and rocket attacks from Iran, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Deterring Enemy
3 Forces and Enabling National Defenses Act of 2022” or
4 the “DEFEND Act of 2022”.

5 **SEC. 2. MIDDLE EAST INTEGRATED AIR AND MISSILE DE-**
6 **FENSE.**

7 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Defense shall
8 seek to cooperate with allies and partners in the Middle
9 East to identify an architecture and develop an acquisition
10 approach for the countries specified in subsection (b) to
11 implement an integrated air and missile defense capability
12 to protect the people, infrastructure, and territory of such
13 countries from cruise and ballistic missiles, manned and
14 unmanned aerial systems, and rocket attacks from Iran
15 and groups linked to Iran.

16 (b) **COUNTRIES SPECIFIED.**—The countries specified
17 in this subsection are as follows:

18 (1) Countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

19 (2) Iraq.

20 (3) Israel.

21 (4) Jordan.

22 (5) Egypt.

23 (6) Such other regional allies or partners of the
24 United States as the Secretary may identify.

25 (c) **STRATEGY.**—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
3 retary shall submit to the congressional defense com-
4 mittees a strategy on cooperation with allies and
5 partners in the Middle East to identify an architec-
6 ture and develop an acquisition approach for the
7 countries specified in subsection (b) to implement an
8 integrated air and missile defense capability to pro-
9 tect the people, infrastructure, and territory of such
10 countries from cruise and ballistic missiles, manned
11 and unmanned aerial systems, and rocket attacks
12 from Iran and groups linked to Iran.

13 (2) CONTENTS.—The strategy submitted under
14 paragraph (1) shall include the following:

15 (A) An assessment of the threat of ballistic
16 and cruise missiles, manned and unnamed aer-
17 ial systems, and rocket attacks from Iran and
18 groups linked to Iran to the countries specified
19 in subsection (b).

20 (B) A description of current efforts to co-
21 ordinate indicators and warnings from such at-
22 tacks with the countries specified in subsection
23 (b).

1 (C) A description of current systems to de-
2 fend against attacks in coordination with the
3 countries specified in subsection (b).

4 (D) An explanation of how an integrated
5 air and missile defense architecture would im-
6 prove collective security in the region covered by
7 the countries specified in subsection (b).

8 (E) A description of efforts to engage spec-
9 ified foreign partners in establishing such an
10 architecture.

11 (F) An identification of elements of the in-
12 tegrated air and missile defense architecture
13 that—

14 (i) can be acquired and operated by
15 specified foreign partners; and

16 (ii) can only be provided and operated
17 by members of the Armed Forces.

18 (G) An identification of any challenges in
19 establishing an integrated air and missile de-
20 fense architecture with specified foreign part-
21 ners.

22 (H) An assessment of progress, and key
23 challenges, in the implementation of the strat-
24 egy using such metrics identified under para-
25 graph (4).

1 (I) Recommendations for improvements in
2 the implementation of the strategy based on the
3 metrics identified under paragraph (4).

4 (J) Such other matters as the Secretary
5 considers relevant.

6 (3) PROTECTION OF SENSITIVE INFORMA-
7 TION.—Any activity carried out under paragraph (1)
8 shall be conducted in a manner that appropriately
9 protects sensitive information and the national secu-
10 rity interests of the United States.

11 (4) METRICS.—The Secretary shall identify
12 metrics to assess progress in the implementation of
13 the strategy required in paragraph (1).

14 (5) FORMAT.—The strategy submitted under
15 paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified
16 form, but may include a classified annex.

17 (d) FEASIBILITY STUDY.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
19 after the date of the enactment of this act, the Sec-
20 retary of Defense shall—

21 (A) complete a study on the feasibility and
22 advisability of establishing a fund for an inte-
23 grated air and missile defense system to
24 counter the threats from cruise and ballistic
25 missiles, manned and unmanned aerial systems,

1 and rocket attacks for the countries specified in
2 subsection (b) from Iran and groups linked with
3 Iran; and

4 (B) submit to the congressional defense
5 committees the findings of the Secretary with
6 respect to the study completed under subpara-
7 graph (A).

8 (2) ASSESSMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS.—The
9 study completed under paragraph (1)(A) shall in-
10 clude an assessment of funds that could be contrib-
11 uted by allies and of the United States and countries
12 that are partners with the United States.

13 (e) CONGRESSIONAL DEFENSE COMMITTEES DE-
14 FINED.—In this section, the term “congressional defense
15 committees” has the meaning given such term in section
16 101(a) of title 10, United States Code.