

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1218

To require the Secretary of the Air Force to provide training to members of the air force of Israel on the operation of KC-46 aircraft, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2023

Mr. PFLUGER (for himself, Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. ELLZEY, and Mr. TRONE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Air Force to provide training to members of the air force of Israel on the operation of KC-46 aircraft, 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 “Expediting Israeli Aer-
5 ial Refueling Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. TRAINING ISRAELI PILOTS TO OPERATE KC-46 AIR-**
2 **CRAFT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the
5 Air Force shall—

6 (1) make available sufficient resources and ac-
7 commodations within the United States to train
8 members of the air force of Israel on the operation
9 of KC-46 aircraft; and

10 (2) conduct training for members of the air
11 force of Israel, including—

12 (A) training for pilots and crew on the op-
13 eration of the KC-46 aircraft in accordance
14 with standards considered sufficient to conduct
15 coalition operations of the United States Air
16 Force and the air force of Israel; and

17 (B) training for ground personnel on the
18 maintenance and sustainment requirements of
19 the KC-46 aircraft considered sufficient for
20 such operations.

21 (b) UNITED STATES AIR FORCE MILITARY PER-
22 SONNEL EXCHANGE PROGRAM.—The Secretary of De-
23 fense shall, with respect to members of the air force of
24 Israel associated with the operation of KC-46 aircraft—

25 (1) before the completion of the training re-
26 quired by subsection (a)(2), authorize the participa-

1 tion of such members of the air force of Israel in the
2 United States Air Force Military Personnel Ex-
3 change Program;

4 (2) make the United States Air Force Military
5 Personnel Exchange Program available to such
6 members of the air force of Israel; and

7 (3) to the extent practicable, ensure that such
8 members of the air force of Israel may participate
9 in the United States Air Force Military Personnel
10 Exchange Program immediately after such members
11 complete such training.

12 (c) TERMINATION.—This section shall cease to have
13 effect on the date that is ten years after the date of the
14 enactment of this Act.

15 **SEC. 3. FORWARD DEPLOYMENT OF UNITED STATES KC-46**

16 **AIRCRAFT TO ISRAEL.**

17 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date
18 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense
19 shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the
20 Senate and the House of Representatives a report that
21 describes the capacity of and requirements for the United
22 States Air Force to forward deploy KC-46 aircraft to
23 Israel on a rotational basis until the date on which not
24 fewer than four KC-46 aircraft procured by the military

1 forces of Israel are commissioned into such military forces
2 and achieve full combat capability.

3 (b) ROTATIONAL FORCES.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
5 the Secretary of Defense shall rotationally deploy
6 one or more KC-46 aircraft to Israel until the ear-
7 lier of—

8 (A) the date on which a KC-46 aircraft
9 procured by the military forces of Israel is com-
10 missioned into such military forces and achieves
11 full combat capability; or

12 (B) five years after the date of the enact-
13 ment of this Act.

14 (2) DESCRIPTION.—The one or more KC-46
15 aircraft deployed under paragraph (1)—

16 (A) may vary in size and number, as the
17 Secretary of Defense considers appropriate; and

18 (B) beginning in the year that is one year
19 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and
20 in each year thereafter until the applicable date
21 described in that paragraph, shall remain in
22 Israel for a period not less than 270 days.

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