

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2062

To authorize assistance, upon request of the Government of Israel, for the development, maintenance, enhancement, and sustainment, and procurement of anti-missile defense systems.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 6, 2017

Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. LAMBORN) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To authorize assistance, upon request of the Government of Israel, for the development, maintenance, enhancement, and sustainment, and procurement of anti-missile defense systems.

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 “Defend Israel Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6 Congress finds the following:

7 (1) The Jewish State of Israel, as a close and
8 indispensable ally of the United States, with whom

1 the United States enjoys mutually beneficial mili-
2 tary, intelligence, homeland security, scientific, tech-
3 nological, and other cooperation, deserves all nec-
4 essary assistance to defend itself and its citizens
5 from the many threats that it continues to face.

6 (2) The State of Israel has been under grave
7 threat and frequent attack from missiles, rockets,
8 and mortar shells fired at Israeli civilian targets by
9 militants from the foreign terrorist organization
10 Hamas on its southern border and by the foreign
11 terrorist organization Hezbollah on its northern bor-
12 der, which have killed, wounded, or inflicted psycho-
13 logical trauma on countless Israelis.

14 (3) On February 27, 2017, Hamas launched
15 several high-trajectory rocket attacks on the Western
16 Negev. This followed numerous rocket launches over
17 the last two-and-a-half years since Operation Protec-
18 tive Edge.

19 (4) Experts estimate that Hamas has thou-
20 sands of rockets in its arsenal.

21 (5) Hezbollah has a missile arsenal of 120,000
22 to 150,000 short- and medium-range rockets, along
23 with approximately 20,000 active duty forces, many
24 of whom gained combat experience in Syria.

1 (6) Hezbollah also possesses anti-aircraft and
2 anti-ship missiles, thousands of anti-tank missiles,
3 and an increasing fleet of unmanned aerial vehicles.

4 (7) Iran continues to test ballistic missile tech-
5 nology in violation of United Nations Security Coun-
6 cil Resolution 2231 (2015).

7 (8) The United States remains committed to
8 Israel's qualitative military edge, including its ad-
9 vantage over non-state actors such as Hamas and
10 Hezbollah and against enemies like Iran.

11 (9) The United States can help to advance its
12 own vital national security interests and the cause of
13 peace by supporting Israel's ability to defend itself
14 against rocket, missile, and other threats.

15 (10) In the face of threats from its neighbors
16 and non-state actors, Israel historically has sought
17 the means to defend itself, by itself.

18 (11) The United States signed the largest as-
19 sistance agreement ever with the State of Israel in
20 2016, which will provide up to \$38 billion to Israel
21 over a ten-year period. Such agreement applies to
22 funding in 2019.

1 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL FOR**
2 **ANTI-MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEMS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President, acting through the
4 Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State, is author-
5 ized to provide assistance, upon request of the Government
6 of Israel, for the development, maintenance, enhancement,
7 and sustainment, and procurement of anti-missile defense
8 systems.

9 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
10 authorized to be appropriated to the President to carry
11 out this section \$705,800,000 for fiscal year 2018.

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