

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 985

To require annual reports on allied contributions to the common defense,
and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 2, 2019

Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. BRAUN) introduced the following
bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To require annual reports on allied contributions to the
common defense, 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 “Allied Burden Sharing
5 Report Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDING; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 (a) FINDING.—Congress finds that section 1003 of
8 the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1985 (Pub-
9 lic Law 98–525; 63 Stat. 2241)—

1 (1) expresses the sense of Congress that, due to
 2 threats that are ever-changing, Congress must be in-
 3 formed with respect to allied contributions to the
 4 common defense to properly assess the readiness of
 5 the United States and the countries described in sec-
 6 tion 3(b) for threats; and

7 (2) requires the Secretary of Defense to submit
 8 to Congress an annual report on the contributions of
 9 allies to the common defense.

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

12 (1) the threats facing the United States—

13 (A) extend beyond the global war on ter-
 14 ror; and

15 (B) include near-peer threats; and

16 (2) the President should seek from each coun-
 17 try described in section 3(b) acceptance of inter-
 18 national security responsibilities and agreements to
 19 make contributions to the common defense in ac-
 20 cordance with the collective defense agreements or
 21 treaties to which such country is a party.

22 **SEC. 3. REPORTS ON ALLIED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE**
 23 **COMMON DEFENSE.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than March 1 each year,
 25 the Secretary, in coordination with the heads of other Fed-

1 eral agencies, as the Secretary determines to be necessary,
2 shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress
3 a report containing a description of—

4 (1) the annual defense spending by each coun-
5 try described in subsection (b), including available
6 data on nominal budget figures and defense spend-
7 ing as a percentage of the gross domestic products
8 of each such country for the fiscal year immediately
9 preceding the fiscal year in which the report is sub-
10 mitted;

11 (2) the activities of each such country to con-
12 tribute to military or stability operations in which
13 the Armed Forces of the United States are a partici-
14 pant or may be called upon in accordance with a co-
15 operative defense agreement to which the United
16 States is a party;

17 (3) any limitations placed by any such country
18 on the use of such contributions; and

19 (4) any actions undertaken by the United
20 States or by other countries to minimize such limita-
21 tions.

22 (b) COUNTRIES DESCRIBED.—The countries de-
23 scribed in this subsection are the following:

24 (1) Each member state of the North Atlantic
25 Treaty Organization.

1 (2) Each member state of the Gulf Cooperation
2 Council.

3 (3) Each country party to the Inter-American
4 Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance (Rio Treaty), done
5 at Rio de Janeiro September 2, 1947, and entered
6 into force December 3, 1948 (TIAS 1838).

7 (4) Australia.

8 (5) Japan.

9 (6) New Zealand.

10 (7) The Philippines.

11 (8) South Korea.

12 (9) Thailand.

13 (c) FORM.—Each report under subsection (a) shall
14 be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain a clas-
15 sified annex.

16 (d) AVAILABILITY.—A report submitted under sub-
17 section (a) shall be made available on request to any Mem-
18 ber of Congress.

19 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

20 In this Act:

21 (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
22 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-
23 gress” means—

1 (A) the Committee on Armed Services, the
2 Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Com-
3 mittee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

4 (B) the Committee on Armed Services, the
5 Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Com-
6 mittee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-
7 resentatives.

8 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
9 the Secretary of Defense.

○