

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2956

To require the Secretary of Defense to commence the reduction of the number of United States Armed Forces in Iraq to a limited presence by April 1, 2008, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 10, 2007

Mr. SKELTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense to commence the reduction of the number of United States Armed Forces in Iraq to a limited presence by April 1, 2008, 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 “Responsible Redeploy-
5 ment from Iraq Act”.

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

7 It is the sense of Congress that—

1 (1) the Authorization for Use of Military Force
2 Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107–
3 243), enacted into law on October 16, 2002, author-
4 ized the President to use the Armed Forces as the
5 President determined necessary and appropriate in
6 order to defend the national security of the United
7 States against the continuing threat posed by the
8 Government of Iraq at that time;

9 (2) the Government of Iraq which was in power
10 at the time the Authorization for Use of Military
11 Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 was enacted
12 into law has been removed from power and its leader
13 indicted, tried, convicted, and executed by the new
14 freely-elected democratic Government of Iraq;

15 (3) the current Government of Iraq does not
16 pose a threat to the United States or its interests;
17 and

18 (4) after more than four years of valiant efforts
19 by members of the Armed Forces and United States
20 civilians, the Government of Iraq must now be re-
21 sponsible for Iraq’s future course.

1 **SEC. 3. REQUIREMENT TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF**
2 **ARMED FORCES IN IRAQ AND TRANSITION TO**
3 **A LIMITED PRESENCE OF THE ARMED**
4 **FORCES IN IRAQ.**

5 (a) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Defense shall
6 commence the reduction of the number of Armed Forces
7 in Iraq beginning not later than 120 days after the date
8 of the enactment of this Act and shall complete the reduc-
9 tion and transition to a limited presence of the Armed
10 Forces in Iraq by not later than April 1, 2008.

11 (b) REDUCTION AND TRANSITION TO BE CARRIED
12 OUT IN A SAFE AND ORDERLY MANNER.—The reduction
13 of the number of Armed Forces in Iraq and transition to
14 a limited presence of the Armed Forces in Iraq required
15 by subsection (a) shall be implemented in a safe and or-
16 derly manner, with maximum attention paid to protection
17 of the Armed Forces that are being redeployed from Iraq.

18 (c) REDUCTION AND TRANSITION TO FURTHER COM-
19 PREHENSIVE STRATEGY.—The reduction of the number of
20 Armed Forces in Iraq and transition to a limited presence
21 of the Armed Forces in Iraq required by subsection (a)
22 shall further be implemented as part of the comprehensive
23 United States strategy for Iraq required by section 4 of
24 this Act.

1 **SEC. 4. COMPREHENSIVE UNITED STATES STRATEGY FOR**
2 **IRAQ.**

3 (a) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than January
4 1, 2008, the President shall transmit to the appropriate
5 congressional committees a comprehensive United States
6 strategy for Iraq.

7 (b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The strategy re-
8 quired by subsection (a) shall include the following:

9 (1) A discussion of United States national secu-
10 rity interests in Iraq and the broader Middle East
11 region and the diplomatic, political, economic, and
12 military components of a comprehensive strategy to
13 maintain and advance such interests as the Armed
14 Forces are redeployed from Iraq pursuant to section
15 3 of this Act.

16 (2) A justification of the minimum force levels
17 required to protect United States national security
18 interests in Iraq after April 1, 2008, including a de-
19 scription of the specific missions of the Armed
20 Forces to be undertaken. The justification shall in-
21 clude—

22 (A) the projected number of Armed Forces
23 necessary to carry out the missions;

24 (B) the projected annual cost of the mis-
25 sions; and

26 (C) the expected duration of the missions.

1 (3) As part of the justification required by
2 paragraph (2), the President shall, at a minimum,
3 address whether it is necessary for the Armed
4 Forces to carry out the following missions:

5 (A) Protecting United States diplomatic
6 facilities and United States citizens, including
7 members of the Armed Forces who are engaged
8 in carrying out other missions.

9 (B) Serving in roles consistent with cus-
10 tomary diplomatic positions.

11 (C) Engaging in actions to disrupt and
12 eliminate al-Qaeda and its affiliated organiza-
13 tions in Iraq.

14 (D) Training and equipping members of
15 the Iraqi Security Forces.

16 (4) Specific plans for diplomatic initiatives to
17 engage United States allies and others in the region
18 to bring stability to Iraq.

19 (c) UPDATE OF STRATEGY.—Not later than July 1,
20 2008, and every 90 days thereafter, the President shall
21 transmit to the appropriate congressional committees an
22 update of the strategy required by subsection (a), includ-
23 ing a description of the number of Armed Forces deployed
24 to Iraq and the missions for which such Armed Forces
25 are so deployed.

1 (d) FORM.—The strategy required by subsection (a)
2 and each update of the strategy required by subsection
3 (c) shall be transmitted in unclassified form, but may con-
4 tain a classified annex, if necessary.

5 (e) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
6 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
7 sional committees” means—

8 (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the
9 Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on
10 Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;
11 and

12 (2) the Committee on Armed Services, the
13 Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on
14 Foreign Relations of the Senate.

15 **SEC. 5. ARMED FORCES DEFINED.**

16 In this Act, the term “Armed Forces” has the mean-
17 ing given the term in section 101 of title 10, United States
18 Code.

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