

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2183

To direct the Director of the CIA to cease lethal drone operations, and
for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 23, 2013

Ms. LEE of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Intelligence (Permanent Select) and the Judiciary, 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 direct the Director of the CIA to cease lethal drone
operations, 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 “Drones Accountability
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DRONES OUT OF CIA.**

7 (a) The Central Intelligence Agency shall not own,
8 operate, command, or control any armed unmanned aerial
9 vehicle or any combat aircraft.

1 (b) No member of the Armed Forces, and no other
2 employee or contractor of the Department of Defense, may
3 carry out any order or authorization from any employee
4 or contractor of the Central Intelligence Agency to use le-
5 thal force.

6 **SEC. 3. REPORT REQUIREMENT AND LEGAL OPINION DIS-**
7 **CLOSURE.**

8 (a) The Department of Defense shall report to Con-
9 gress on:

10 (1) The existence and sufficiency of civilian pro-
11 tection mechanisms in accordance with international
12 law binding to the United States via treaty including
13 the 1949 Geneva Conventions for armed operations
14 using unmanned aerial vehicle operations, including
15 civilian casualty mitigation processes and post-strike
16 investigatory procedures.

17 (2) The methodology used to distinguish com-
18 batants from civilians prior to armed operations and
19 after a strike has occurred.

20 (3) The existence and sufficiency of standards
21 for the identification of targets, including the reli-
22 ability of “signatures”, and the sufficiency of intel-
23 ligence sources and analysis where there is limited
24 U.S. ground presence.

1 (4) The existence and sufficiency of processes
2 for recognizing the immediate and long-term effects
3 of drones strikes on the organization being targeted
4 and on the country or region in which the strike
5 takes place.

6 (b) Legal opinions provide to Congress: Not later
7 than thirty days after the date of the enactment of this
8 Act, and once every three months thereafter, the Depart-
9 ment of Defense, the Department of Justice, and the Cen-
10 tral Intelligence Agency shall provide all legal opinions
11 providing advice regarding the authority to use lethal force
12 to justify operations.

13 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING MORATORIUM**
14 **ON LETHAL DRONES UNTIL SAFEGUARDS IN**
15 **PLACE AND LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS**
16 **USED TO TARGET INDIVIDUALS NOT IN-**
17 **VOLVED IN IMMINENT ATTACK AGAINST U.S.**

18 (a) It is the sense of Congress that a moratorium
19 must be enforced against the lethal use of armed un-
20 manned aerial vehicles until the Administration has pre-
21 sented and Congress has approved sufficient safeguards
22 and sufficient oversight addressing highlighted in section
23 3(a)(i).

24 (b) Until such safeguards are in place, no funds avail-
25 able for the United States Armed Forces or the Central

1 Intelligence Agency may be obligated or expended for the
2 purpose of using lethal force against an individual unless
3 the individual presents an imminent threat to the United
4 States, lethal force is the last resort, and the harm caused
5 to civilians or civilian property is proportional and does
6 not violate international humanitarian law adopted by the
7 United States via treaty including the 1949 Geneva Con-
8 ventions.

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