

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 907

To improve defense cooperation between the United States and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 12, 2015

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. DEUTCH, and Mrs. LOWEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To improve defense cooperation between the United States and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

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 “United States-Jordan
5 Defense Cooperation Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) As of January 22, 2015, the United States
9 Government has provided \$3,046,343,000 in assist-
10 ance to the Syria humanitarian response, of which

1 nearly \$467,000,000 has been to the Hashemite
2 Kingdom of Jordan.

3 (2) As of January 2015, according to the
4 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
5 (UNHCR), there are 621,937 registered Syrian ref-
6 ugees in Jordan and 83.8 percent of those refugees
7 live outside refugee camps.

8 (3) In 2000, the United States and Jordan
9 signed a free-trade agreement that went into force
10 in 2001.

11 (4) In 1996, the United States granted Jordan
12 major non-NATO ally status.

13 (5) Jordan is suffering from the Syrian refugee
14 crisis and the threat of the Islamic State of Iraq and
15 the Levant (ISIL).

16 (6) The Government of Jordan was elected as
17 a non-permanent member of the United Nations Se-
18 curity Council beginning in January 2014 and ter-
19 minating in December 2015.

20 (7) Enhanced support for defense cooperation
21 with Jordan is important to the national security of
22 the United States, including through creation of a
23 status in law for Jordan similar to the countries in
24 the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Japan,
25 Australia, the Republic of Korea, Israel, and New

1 Zealand, with respect to consideration by Congress
2 of foreign military sales to Jordan.

3 (8) Jordanian pilot Moaz al-Kasasbeh was bru-
4 tally murdered by ISIL.

5 (9) On February 3, 2015, Secretary of State
6 John Kerry and Jordanian Foreign Minister Nasser
7 Judeh signed a new Memorandum of Understanding
8 that reflects the intention to increase United States
9 assistance to the Government of Jordan from
10 \$660,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000 per year for the
11 years 2015 through 2017.

12 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

13 It should be the policy of the United States to sup-
14 port the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in its response
15 to the Syrian refugee crisis, provide necessary assistance
16 to alleviate the domestic burden to provide basic needs for
17 the assimilated Syrian refugees, cooperate with Jordan to
18 combat the terrorist threat from the Islamic State of Iraq
19 and the Levant (ISIL) or other terrorist organizations,
20 and help secure the border between Jordan and its neigh-
21 bors Syria and Iraq.

22 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

23 It is the sense of Congress that expeditious consider-
24 ation of certifications of letters of offer to sell defense arti-
25 cles, defense services, design and construction services,

1 and major defense equipment to the Hashemite Kingdom
2 of Jordan under section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control
3 Act (22 U.S.C. 2776(b)) is fully consistent with United
4 States security and foreign policy interests and the objec-
5 tives of world peace and security.

6 **SEC. 5. AMENDMENTS TO ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT.**

7 The Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et
8 seq.) is amended—

9 (1) in section 3 (22 U.S.C. 2753)—

10 (A) in subsection (b)(2), by inserting “the
11 Government of Jordan,” before “or the Govern-
12 ment of New Zealand”; and

13 (B) in subsection (d)—

14 (i) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting
15 “Jordan,” before “or New Zealand”;

16 (ii) in paragraph (3)(A)(i), by insert-
17 ing “Jordan,” before “or New Zealand”;
18 and

19 (iii) in paragraph (5), by inserting
20 “Jordan,” before “or New Zealand”;

21 (2) in section 21 (22 U.S.C. 2761)—

22 (A) in subsection (e)(2)(A), by inserting
23 “Jordan,” before “or New Zealand”; and

24 (B) in subsection (h)—

1 (i) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting
2 “Jordan,” before “or Israel”; and

3 (ii) in paragraph (2), by inserting
4 “Jordan,” before “or Israel” both places it
5 appears;

6 (3) in section 36 (22 U.S.C. 2776)—

7 (A) in subsection (b)—

8 (i) in paragraph (1), by inserting
9 “Jordan,” before “or New Zealand”;

10 (ii) in paragraph (2), by inserting
11 “Jordan,” before “or New Zealand”; and

12 (iii) in paragraph (6), by inserting
13 “Jordan,” before “or New Zealand”;

14 (B) in subsection (c), by inserting “Jor-
15 dan,” before “or New Zealand” both places it
16 appears; and

17 (C) in subsection (d)(2)(A), by inserting
18 “Jordan,” before “or New Zealand”;

19 (4) in section 62(e)(1) (22 U.S.C. 2796a(c)(1)),
20 by inserting “Jordan,” before “or New Zealand”;
21 and

22 (5) in section 63(a)(2) (22 U.S.C.
23 2796b(a)(2)), by inserting “Jordan,” before “or
24 New Zealand”.

1 **SEC. 6. AMENDMENTS TO FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF**
2 **1961.**

3 Section 656(a)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of
4 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2416(a)(2)) is amended by inserting
5 “Jordan,” before “or New Zealand”.

6 **SEC. 7. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.**

7 The Secretary of State is authorized, subject to the
8 availability of appropriations, to enter into a Memo-
9 randum of Understanding with Jordan to increase eco-
10 nomic support funds, military cooperation, including joint
11 military exercises, personnel exchanges, support for inter-
12 national peacekeeping missions, and enhanced strategic
13 dialogue.

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