

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3146

To direct the United States Trade Representative to initiate negotiations with the Government of the Republic of Turkey to seek to enter into a bilateral free trade agreement with Turkey.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 29, 2017

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To direct the United States Trade Representative to initiate negotiations with the Government of the Republic of Turkey to seek to enter into a bilateral free trade agreement with Turkey.

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 cited as the “United States-Turkey
5 Free Trade Promotion Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The friendship between the United States
2 and the Republic of Turkey dates back to 1831,
3 when the United States formed diplomatic ties with
4 the Ottoman Empire.

5 (2) Modern diplomatic relations between the
6 United States and Turkey date back nearly a cen-
7 tury to 1927.

8 (3) Turkey has been a member country of the
9 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) since
10 1952.

11 (4) Turkey is a democratic, secular, unitary,
12 constitutional republic, with an ancient cultural her-
13 itage and westward-looking future.

14 (5) Turkey is the 18th largest economy in the
15 world and a founding member of the Organisation
16 for Economic Co-operation and Development
17 (OECD), World Trade Organization (WTO), and
18 the Group of Twenty (G-20).

19 (6) Turkey continues to be a critical strategic
20 ally to the United States as a Western Eurasian
21 country adjacent to Iran, Iraq, and Syria.

22 (7) The economic viability of Turkey brings es-
23 sential strength and stability to the region.

24 (8) Turkey is currently a party to 18 free trade
25 agreements, 16 of them entered into force over the

1 past 15 years, during which time Turkey's Gross
2 Domestic Product has more than tripled.

3 (9) Turkey's trade volume with the European
4 Union is \$150 billion as of 2014 while Turkey's
5 trade volume with the United States is only \$19.4
6 billion, reflecting a tremendous growth opportunity.

7 (10) From 2001 to 2014, Turkey's imports
8 posted a 584-percent increase and imports from free
9 trade agreement countries increased by 537 percent.

10 (11) Turkey is in negotiations to enter into free
11 trade agreements with several additional partners,
12 including Japan, Mexico, Singapore, MERCOSUR,
13 and the Gulf Cooperation Council.

14 (12) United States exports account for 5.3 per-
15 cent of goods that enter Turkey.

16 (13) There is significant opportunity to improve
17 the free flow of goods and services between the
18 United States and Turkey.

19 (14) Closer relations with Turkey through free
20 trade agreements would encourage further privatiza-
21 tion in Turkey's economy.

22 (15) A free trade agreement between the
23 United States and Turkey will foster economic and
24 commercial cooperation and strengthen ties with

1 Turkey, increase bilateral investment opportunities,
2 and contribute to jobs created for American workers.

3 **SEC. 3. NEGOTIATIONS TO SEEK TO ENTER INTO A BILAT-**
4 **ERAL FREE TRADE AGREEMENT WITH THE**
5 **REPUBLIC OF TURKEY.**

6 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
7 ment of this Act, the United States Trade Representative
8 shall initiate negotiations with the Government of the Re-
9 public of Turkey to seek to enter into a bilateral free trade
10 agreement with Turkey that, among other things, pro-
11 motes the exportation and importation of natural re-
12 sources, including coal, between the United States and
13 Turkey.

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