

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 676

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 23 (legislative day, JANUARY 22), 2019

Received

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## AN ACT

To reiterate the support of the Congress of the United States for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “NATO Support Act”.

3 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds that:

5 (1) The North Atlantic Treaty Organization  
6 (NATO), which came into being through the North  
7 Atlantic Treaty, which entered into force on April 4,  
8 1949, between the United States of America and the  
9 other founding members of the North Atlantic Trea-  
10 ty Organization, has served as a pillar of inter-  
11 national peace and stability, a critical component of  
12 United States security, and a deterrent against ad-  
13 versaries and external threats.

14 (2) The House of Representatives affirmed in  
15 H. Res. 397, on June 27, 2017, that—

16 (A) NATO is one of the most successful  
17 military alliances in history, deterring the out-  
18 break of another world war, protecting the ter-  
19 ritorial integrity of its members, and seeing the  
20 Cold War through to a peaceful conclusion;

21 (B) NATO remains the foundation of  
22 United States foreign policy to promote a Eu-  
23 rope that is whole, free, and at peace;

24 (C) the United States is solemnly com-  
25 mitted to the North Atlantic Treaty Organiza-  
26 tion’s principle of collective defense as enumer-

1           ated in Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty;  
2           and

3           (D) the House of Representatives—

4                 (i) strongly supports the decision at  
5                 the NATO Wales Summit in 2014 that  
6                 each alliance member would aim to spend  
7                 at least 2 percent of its nation’s gross do-  
8                 mestic product on defense by 2024;

9                 (ii) condemns any threat to the sov-  
10                ereignty, territorial integrity, freedom and  
11                democracy of any NATO ally; and

12                (iii) welcomes the Republic of Monte-  
13                negro as the 29th member of the NATO  
14                Alliance.

15 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

16           It is the sense of Congress that—

17                (1) the President shall not withdraw the United  
18                States from NATO; and

19                (2) the case *Goldwater v. Carter* is not control-  
20                ling legal precedent with respect to the withdrawal  
21                of the United States from a treaty.

22 **SEC. 4. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

23           It is the policy of the United States—

24                (1) to remain a member in good standing of  
25                NATO;

1           (2) to reject any efforts to withdraw the United  
2 States from NATO, or to indirectly withdraw from  
3 NATO by condemning or reducing contributions to  
4 NATO structures, activities, or operations, in a  
5 manner that creates a de facto withdrawal;

6           (3) to continue to work with NATO members to  
7 meet their 2014 Wales Defense Investment Pledge  
8 commitments; and

9           (4) to support robust United States funding for  
10 the European Deterrence Initiative, which increases  
11 the ability of the United States and its allies to  
12 deter and defend against Russian aggression.

13 **SEC. 5. PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF FUNDS TO WITH-**  
14 **DRAW FROM NATO.**

15       Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds  
16 are authorized to be appropriated, obligated, or expended  
17 to take any action to withdraw the United States from  
18 the North Atlantic Treaty, done at Washington, DC on  
19 April 4, 1949, between the United States of America and

- 1 the other founding members of the North Atlantic Treaty
- 2 Organization.

Passed the House of Representatives January 22,  
2019.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,

*Clerk.*