To direct the Secretary of Defense to make publicly available on a website of the Department of Defense the cost to each United States taxpayer of certain contingency operations conducted by the United States Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 17, 2022

Ms. Williams of Georgia (for herself, Mr. Meijer, and Ms. Jacobs of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to make publicly available on a website of the Department of Defense the cost to each United States taxpayer of certain contingency operations conducted by the United States Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-

tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Cost of War Act of 2022”.

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SEC. 2. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF COST OF CERTAIN MILITARY OPERATIONS TO EACH UNITED STATES TAXPAYER.

Section 1090 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328) is amended—

(1) by inserting “(a) PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION.—” before “The Secretary of Defense”;

(2) by striking “of each of the wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria.” and inserting “of any overseas contingency operation conducted by the United States Armed Forces on or after September 18, 2001.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

“(b) DISPLAY OF INFORMATION.—The information required to be posted under subsection (a) shall—

“(1) be posted directly on the website of the Department of Defense, in an accessible and clear format;

“(2) include corresponding documentation as links or attachments; and

“(3) include, for each overseas contingency operation—

“(A) both the total cost to each taxpayer,

and the cost to each taxpayer for each fiscal
year, of conducting the overseas contingency op-
eration;

“(B) a list of countries where the overseas
contingency operation has taken place; and

“(C) for each such country, both the total
cost to each taxpayer, and the cost to each tax-
payer for each fiscal year, of conducting the
overseas contingency operation in that country.

“(e) UPDATES.—The Secretary shall ensure that all
the information required to be posted under subsection (a)
is updated by not later than 90 days after the last day
of each fiscal year.

“(d) CONTINGENCY OPERATION DEFINED.—In this
section, the term ‘contingency operation’ has the meaning
given such term in section 101(a)(13) of title 10, United
States Code.”.