

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1735

To require the President to transmit to Congress a plan with timeframe and completion date and reports with status updates on the transition of United States military and security operations in Afghanistan to the Government of Afghanistan.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 5, 2011

Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself, Mr. JONES, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. PAUL, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. AMASH, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. MORAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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 require the President to transmit to Congress a plan with timeframe and completion date and reports with status updates on the transition of United States military and security operations in Afghanistan to the Government of Afghanistan.

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 “Afghanistan Exit and
3 Accountability Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) On November 29, 2009, in the Final Orders
7 for Afghanistan/Pakistan Strategy, President
8 Barack Obama wrote that sending significant addi-
9 tional United States troops in early 2010 would set
10 the conditions for an “accelerated transition to Af-
11 ghan authorities beginning in July 2011”.

12 (2) Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghani-
13 stan is America’s longest conflict, with October 7,
14 2011, marking the 10-year anniversary of the start
15 of United States military operations in Afghanistan.

16 (3) Military operations in Afghanistan have cost
17 United States taxpayers \$336,000,000,000 in deficit
18 spending from October 2001 through fiscal year
19 2010, with an additional \$100,000,000,000 appro-
20 priated in deficit spending for fiscal year 2011.

21 (4) As of March 15, 2011, over 1,500 members
22 of the United States Armed Forces have lost their
23 lives in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in
24 Afghanistan and over 10,000 have been wounded.

25 (5) In November 2010, the Department of De-
26 fense reported that suicide rates are soaring among

1 veterans, and the backlog at the Department of Vet-
2 erans Affairs had reached more than 700,000 dis-
3 ability cases, including cases involving post trau-
4 matic stress disorder.

5 (6) The combined costs of the wars in Iraq and
6 Afghanistan are currently estimated to account for
7 23 percent of the United States deficit for the period
8 2003 to 2010.

9 (7) Nobel Prize-winning economist and Colum-
10 bia University Professor Joseph Stiglitz estimates
11 that the costs of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan,
12 including interest payments on the money borrowed
13 for these wars and care for wounded soldiers and
14 veterans, are likely to total \$4,000,000,000,000 to
15 \$6,000,000,000,000.

16 (8) On December 1, 2009, at a speech at the
17 United States Military Academy at West Point,
18 President Barack Obama stated that the United
19 States would begin withdrawing United States
20 Armed Forces from Afghanistan in July 2011.

1 **SEC. 3. PLAN WITH TIMEFRAME AND COMPLETION DATE**
2 **AND REPORTS WITH STATUS UPDATES ON**
3 **TRANSITION OF UNITED STATES MILITARY**
4 **AND SECURITY OPERATIONS IN AFGHANI-**
5 **STAN TO THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANI-**
6 **STAN.**

7 (a) PLAN WITH TIMEFRAME AND COMPLETION
8 DATE REQUIRED.—Not later than 60 days after the date
9 of the enactment of this Act, the President shall transmit
10 to Congress a plan with a timeframe and completion date
11 for the accelerated transition of United States military
12 and security operations (including operations involving
13 military and security-related contractors) in Afghanistan
14 to the Government of Afghanistan.

15 (b) REPORT WITH STATUS UPDATES REQUIRED.—
16 Not later than 90 days after the date of transmission of
17 the plan required by subsection (a), and every 90 days
18 thereafter, the President shall transmit to Congress a re-
19 port setting forth the current status of such plan, includ-
20 ing the following information:

21 (1) Progress on completing the redeployment of
22 United States Armed Forces from Afghanistan and
23 the accelerated transition of military and security
24 operations to the Government of Afghanistan.

25 (2) The total number of United States Armed
26 Forces deployed in Afghanistan over the reporting

1 period, including military and security-related con-
2 tractors, logistical support, and maintenance for
3 bases and facilities utilized by the Armed Forces.

4 (3) The total number of United States Armed
5 Forces permanently withdrawn and redeployed from
6 Afghanistan during the reporting period, including
7 Guard and Reserves, that will not be replenished or
8 replaced by new deployments or by military and se-
9 curity-related contractors.

10 (4) The total financial costs of maintaining
11 United States Armed Forces in Afghanistan over the
12 reporting period, including military and security-re-
13 lated contractors.

14 (5) The number of members of the United
15 States Armed Forces killed or wounded in Afghani-
16 stan during each reporting period.

17 (6) The number of United States military per-
18 sonnel (active duty, Guard, Reserves, and veterans)
19 who were or had been deployed to Afghanistan that
20 committed suicide during the reporting period.

21 (7) The cost of providing care and benefits to
22 Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) veterans and
23 members of the United States Armed Forces de-
24 ployed in Afghanistan during each reporting period.

1 (8) The estimated amount of increased deficit
2 and increased public debt attributed to continuing
3 military operations in Afghanistan accrued during
4 the reporting period and projected through 2020, in-
5 cluding interest payments on money borrowed for
6 OEF and the care and benefits for wounded soldiers
7 and veterans.

8 (9) Information on variables that could advance
9 the timetable and increase the rate of redeployment
10 of United States Armed Forces from Afghanistan.

11 (c) SAVINGS FROM ACCELERATED REDEPLOY-
12 MENT.—Each report required under subsection (b) shall
13 include the estimated savings, immediate and over 5-year,
14 10-year, and 20-year time periods, were United States
15 military and security operations to be concluded and
16 United States Armed Forces redeployed from Afghanistan
17 within 180 days of the date of each report.

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