

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1169

To provide for benchmarks to evaluate progress being made toward the goal of transitioning security responsibilities in Afghanistan to the Government of Afghanistan.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 9, 2011

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To provide for benchmarks to evaluate progress being made toward the goal of transitioning security responsibilities 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Afghan Responsibility
5 for Afghan Security Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) October 7, 2011, will mark the 10-year an-
2 niversary of the start of Operation Enduring Free-
3 dom in Afghanistan.

4 (2) Military operations in Afghanistan have cost
5 United States taxpayers more than
6 \$300,000,000,000 to date.

7 (3) As of June 6, 2011, 1,599 members of the
8 United States Armed Forces have lost their lives in
9 support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghani-
10 stan and more than 11,000 have been wounded.

11 (4) On December 1, 2009, at a speech at the
12 United States Military Academy at West Point, New
13 York, President Barack Obama stated that the
14 United States would begin the transfer of United
15 States Armed Forces out of Afghanistan in July
16 2011 with the pace of reductions to be based upon
17 conditions on the ground.

18 (5) In the December 2010 Afghanistan-Paki-
19 stan Annual Review, President Obama reaffirmed
20 that the core goal of the United States strategy in
21 Afghanistan is to disrupt, dismantle, and defeat al
22 Qaeda.

23 (6) In January 2010, participants at the Lon-
24 don Conference pledged to develop a plan for phased
25 transition to Afghan security lead. The North Atlan-

1 tic Treaty Organization (NATO) and foreign min-
2 isters of the constituent elements of the Inter-
3 national Security Assistance Force (ISAF) endorsed
4 the Joint Framework for Transition in April 2010,
5 and President Obama and President Karzai of Af-
6 ghanistan committed to the process in a May 2010
7 joint statement.

8 (7) At the Kabul Conference in July 2010, the
9 international community expressed its support for
10 the objective of President Karzai that the Afghani-
11 stan National Security Forces (ANSF) should lead
12 and conduct all military operations in all provinces
13 in Afghanistan by the end of 2014, support that was
14 later re-affirmed by North Atlantic Treaty Organiza-
15 tion and International Security Assistance Force
16 member nations at the Lisbon Summit in November
17 2010.

18 (8) On May 1, 2011, in support of the goal to
19 disrupt, dismantle, and defeat al Qaeda, President
20 Obama authorized a United States operation that
21 killed Osama bin Laden, leader of al Qaeda. While
22 the impact of his death on al Qaeda remains to be
23 seen, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates called the
24 death of bin Laden a “game changer” in a speech
25 on May 6, 2011.

1 **SEC. 3. BENCHMARKS TO EVALUATE THE PROGRESS BEING**
2 **MADE TOWARD THE TRANSITION OF SECU-**
3 **RITY RESPONSIBILITIES FOR AFGHANISTAN**
4 **TO THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN.**

5 (a) BENCHMARKS REQUIRED.—The President shall
6 establish, and may update from time to time, a com-
7 prehensive set of benchmarks to evaluate progress being
8 made toward the transition of security responsibilities in
9 Afghanistan to the Government of Afghanistan.

10 (b) SUBMITTAL TO CONGRESS.—The President shall
11 include the most current set of benchmarks established
12 pursuant to subsection (a) with each report on progress
13 toward security and stability in Afghanistan that is sub-
14 mitted to Congress under sections 1230 and 1231 of the
15 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008
16 (Public Law 110–181; 122 Stat. 385, 390).

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