

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10108

To require the Secretary of Defense to develop, in cooperation with allies and partners in the Middle East, an integrated space and satellite security capability, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 8, 2024

Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mr. TRONE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, 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 Secretary of Defense to develop, in cooperation with allies and partners in the Middle East, an integrated space and satellite security capability, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Space Technology and
5 Regional Security Act of 2024” or “STARS Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. MIDDLE EAST INTEGRATED SPACE AND SATELLITE**
2 **SECURITY CAPABILITY.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense, in con-
4 sultation with the Secretary of State, shall seek to build
5 upon the historic opportunities created by the Abraham
6 Accords and the incorporation of Israel into the area of
7 responsibility of the United States Central Command to
8 develop a Middle East integrated space and satellite secu-
9 rity strategy and a multilateral data-sharing agreement
10 for the purpose of protecting the people, infrastructure,
11 and territory of ally and partner countries in the Middle
12 East from hostile activities conducted by adversaries
13 against space systems of the United States or such coun-
14 tries.

15 (b) STRATEGY.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after
17 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
18 of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of
19 State, shall submit to the appropriate committees of
20 Congress a strategy for the cooperation described in
21 subsection (a).

22 (2) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The strategy
23 required by paragraph (1) shall include the fol-
24 lowing:

25 (A) An assessment of the threats posed to
26 the United States and ally or partner countries

1 in the Middle East by adversaries conducting
2 hostile activities—

3 (i) against space systems of the
4 United States or such countries; and

5 (ii) using capabilities positioned or
6 transiting through space.

7 (B) A description of progress made in—

8 (i) advancing the integration of Israel
9 into existing multilateral space and sat-
10 ellite security partnerships; or

11 (ii) establishing such partnerships
12 with Israel.

13 (C) A description of efforts among ally and
14 partner countries in the Middle East to coordi-
15 nate intelligence, reconnaissance, and surveil-
16 lance capabilities and indicators and warnings
17 with respect to the threats described in sub-
18 paragraph (A), and a description of any impedi-
19 ment to optimizing such efforts.

20 (D) An assessment of any current capa-
21 bility gaps in the ability of the Department of
22 Defense to provide space situational awareness
23 in the Middle East.

1 (E) A description of the current Depart-
2 ment of Defense systems that provide aware-
3 ness of and defend against such threats.

4 (F) An explanation of the manner in which
5 a multilateral space situational awareness data-
6 sharing agreement and an integrated space and
7 satellite security architecture would improve col-
8 lective security in the Middle East.

9 (G) A description of existing and planned
10 efforts to engage ally and partner countries in
11 the Middle East in establishing such a multilat-
12 eral space situational awareness data-sharing
13 agreement and an integrated space and satellite
14 security architecture.

15 (H) An identification of the elements of
16 such an integrated space and satellite security
17 architecture that may be acquired and operated
18 by ally and partner countries in the Middle
19 East, and a list of such elements for each such
20 ally and partner.

21 (I) An identification of the elements of
22 such an integrated space and satellite security
23 architecture that may only be provided and op-
24 erated by members of the United States Armed
25 Forces.

1 (J) An identification of any challenge to
2 optimizing such a multilateral space situational
3 awareness data-sharing agreement and inte-
4 grated space and satellite security architecture
5 in the Middle East.

6 (K) An assessment of progress and key
7 challenges in the implementation of the strategy
8 required by paragraph (1) using the metrics
9 identified in accordance with paragraph (3).

10 (L) Recommendations for improvements in
11 the implementation of an integrated space and
12 satellite security strategy based on such
13 metrics.

14 (M) A cost estimate of establishing an in-
15 tegrated space and satellite security strategy,
16 and an assessment of the resources that could
17 be contributed by ally and partner countries of
18 the United States to establish and strengthen
19 such capabilities.

20 (N) Any other matter the Secretary of De-
21 fense considers relevant.

22 (3) METRICS.—The Secretary of Defense shall
23 identify metrics to assess progress in the implemen-
24 tation of the strategy required by paragraph (1).

1 (4) FORM.—The strategy required by para-
2 graph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but
3 may include a classified annex.

4 (c) PROTECTION OF SENSITIVE INFORMATION.—Any
5 activity carried out under this section shall be conducted
6 in a manner that appropriately protects sensitive informa-
7 tion and the national security interests of the United
8 States.

9 (d) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-
10 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate commit-
11 tees of Congress” means—

12 (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the
13 Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on
14 Foreign Relations, and the Select Committee on In-
15 telligence of the Senate; and

16 (2) the Committee on Armed Services, the
17 Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on
18 Foreign Affairs, and the Permanent Select Com-
19 mittee on Intelligence of the House of Representa-
20 tives.

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