

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5431

To prohibit the use of materials that use the term “West Bank”, and
for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 5, 2024

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

A BILL

To prohibit the use of materials that use the term “West
Bank”, 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 “Retiring the Egregious
5 Confusion Over the Genuine Name of Israel’s Zone of In-
6 fluence by Necessitating Government-use of Judea and
7 Samaria Act” or the “RECOGNIZING Judea and Sama-
8 ria Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

2 It is the sense of Congress that the United States
3 Government—

4 (1) should refer to the land annexed by Israel
5 from Jordan during the 1967 Six-Day War by its
6 historical names of “Judea and Samaria”, with the
7 land south of Jerusalem being considered “Judea”
8 and the land north of Jerusalem being considered
9 “Samaria”; and

10 (2) should no longer use the term “West Bank”
11 in official government materials.

12 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON USE OF MATERIALS THAT USE**
13 **THE TERM “WEST BANK”.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
15 sion of law, none of the funds authorized to be appro-
16 priated or otherwise made available after the date of the
17 enactment of this Act may be obligated or expended to
18 prepare or promulgate any policy, guidance, regulation,
19 notice, Executive order, materials, briefing, press release,
20 communications, or other work product that refers to
21 Judea and Samaria as the “West Bank”.

22 (b) EXCEPTION.—The prohibition in this section
23 shall not apply with respect to the obligation or expendi-
24 ture of funds relating to obligations of the United States
25 under international treaties or other agreements.

1 (c) WAIVER.—The Secretary of State may waive the
2 prohibition in this section if the Secretary—

3 (1) determines that is in the interests of the
4 United States to do so; and

5 (2) submits to Congress an explanation for the
6 waiver not later than 30 days after the date on
7 which the Secretary makes the determination.

8 **SEC. 4. CONFORMING CHANGES TO UNITED STATES LAW.**

9 (a) FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.—The For-
10 eign Assistance Act of 1961 is amended as follows:

11 (1) In section 620K(f)(3) (22 U.S.C.
12 2378b(f)(3)), by striking “the West Bank” and in-
13 serting “Judea and Samaria”.

14 (2) In section 620L (22 U.S.C. 2378c)—

15 (A) in the section heading, by striking
16 “**THE WEST BANK**” and inserting “**JUDEA**
17 **AND SAMARIA**”; and

18 (B) by striking “the West Bank” each
19 place it appears and inserting “Judea and Sa-
20 maria”.

21 (b) TAYLOR FORCE ACT.—Section 1004 of the Tay-
22 lor Force Act (22 U.S.C. 2378c–1) is amended—

23 (1) in the section heading, by striking “**THE**
24 **WEST BANK**” and inserting “**JUDEA AND SAMA-**
25 **RIA**”; and

1 (2) by striking “the West Bank” each place it
2 appears and inserting “Judea and Samaria”.

3 (c) MULTINATIONAL FORCE AND OBSERVERS PAR-
4 TICIPATION RESOLUTION.—Section 2 of the Multinational
5 Force and Observers Participation Resolution (22 U.S.C.
6 3421) is amended by striking “the West Bank” and in-
7 serting “Judea and Samaria”.

8 (d) OMNIBUS DIPLOMATIC SECURITY AND
9 ANTITERRORISM ACT OF 1986.—Section 414 of the Om-
10 nibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986
11 (22 U.S.C. 4862) is amended—

12 (1) in the section heading, by striking “**WEST**
13 **BANK**” and inserting “**JUDEA AND SAMARIA**”;
14 and

15 (2) by striking “the West Bank” and inserting
16 “Judea and Samaria”.

17 (e) UNITED STATES-ISRAEL FREE TRADE AREA IM-
18 PLEMENTATION ACT OF 1985.—Section 9 of the United
19 States-Israel Free Trade Area Implementation Act of
20 1985 (Public Law 99–47; 19 U.S.C. 2112 note) is amend-
21 ed by striking “the West Bank” each place it appears and
22 inserting “Judea and Samaria”.

23 (f) IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 9/11
24 COMMISSION ACT OF 2007.—Section 2021(i) of the Im-
25 plementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act

1 of 2007 (22 U.S.C. 2151 note) is amended by striking
 2 “the West Bank” and inserting “Judea and Samaria”.

3 (g) FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FIS-
 4 CAL YEAR 2003.—Section 699 of the Foreign Relations
 5 Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107–
 6 228; 22 U.S.C. 2301 note) is amended—

7 (1) in the section heading, by striking “**WEST**
 8 **BANK**” and inserting “**JUDEA AND SAMARIA**”;
 9 and

10 (2) in subsection (a), by striking “the West
 11 Bank” and inserting “Judea and Samaria”.

12 (h) NITA M. LOWEY MIDDLE EAST PARTNERSHIP
 13 FOR PEACE ACT.—Section 8005 of the Nita M. Lowey
 14 Middle East Partnership for Peace Act (division K of Pub-
 15 lic Law 116–260) is amended by striking “the West
 16 Bank” each place it appears and inserting “Judea and
 17 Samaria”.

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