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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To provide for congressional oversight of proposed changes to arms sales
to Israel.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. MCCAUL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To provide for congressional oversight of proposed changes
to arms sales to Israel.

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 “Maintaining Our Iron-
5 clad Commitment to Israel’s Security Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) In 2016 the Obama Administration con-
9 cluded negotiations with Israel for a 10-year Memo-

1 random of Understanding covering security assist-
2 ance for fiscal years 2019 to 2028 that affirmed
3 “the unshakeable commitment of the United States
4 to Israel’s security”.

5 (2) In May 2024, the Biden Administration de-
6 layed shipment of 1,800 2,000-pound bombs and
7 1,700 500-pound bombs to Israel in an effort to
8 place political pressure on the Government of Israel.

9 (3) This decision of the Biden Administration
10 was made without consulting or notifying Congress
11 and despite repeated public assurances that the
12 United States-Israel relationship was “ironclad” and
13 that there was “no change in policy”.

14 (4) On May 8, 2024, President Biden stated re-
15 garding Israel, “We’re not going to supply the weap-
16 ons and artillery shells.”.

17 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

18 It is the sense of Congress that—

19 (1) Israel has a right to defend itself, which in-
20 cludes the need for offensive capabilities in order to
21 deter and defeat threats, including those posed by
22 Iran and its terrorist proxies Hamas, Hezbollah, and
23 the Houthis;

24 (2) previously negotiated and approved United
25 States arms sales to Israel should proceed, and all

1 pauses should be lifted, to ensure that Israel is prop-
2 erly equipped to defend itself and defeat threats, in-
3 cluding those posed by Iran and its terrorist proxies
4 Hamas, Hezbollah, and the Houthis; and

5 (3) limiting or otherwise delaying the sale or
6 delivery of United States-made defense articles to
7 Israel runs counter to the commitments the United
8 States made to Israel as part of the 2016 Memo-
9 randum of Understanding and undermines regional
10 security, including prospective advances in Israel-
11 Saudi normalization.

12 **SEC. 4. CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT OF PROPOSED**
13 **CHANGES TO ARMS SALES TO ISRAEL.**

14 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President may not take any
15 action to pause, suspend, delay, or abrogate the delivery
16 of covered defense articles or defense services to Israel,
17 including as part of a policy review, unless, not less than
18 15 days prior to such action, the President provides the
19 notification described in (b) relating to such pause, sus-
20 pension, delay, or abrogation in unclassified form, with a
21 classified annex as necessary, to the appropriate congres-
22 sional committees.

23 (b) **NOTIFICATION DESCRIBED.**—The notification re-
24 lating to a pause, suspension, delay, or abrogation to the

1 delivery of covered defense articles or defense services
2 shall include the following:

3 (1) An identification of the end user of the arti-
4 cles or services.

5 (2) A detailed description of the type of articles
6 or services to include the date on which Congress
7 was notified of the transfer of the articles or serv-
8 ices.

9 (3) A policy justification for the pause, suspen-
10 sion, delay, or abrogation and a description of the
11 potential impact such action may have on United
12 States national security interests.

13 (4) An identification of conditions for lifting the
14 pause, suspension, delay, or abrogation and whether
15 such conditions will be communicated to the Govern-
16 ment of Israel and the timeline for meeting such
17 conditions.

18 (5) A description of the sources of funds, in-
19 cluding an identification of appropriations accounts
20 if applicable, used to provide the articles or services.

21 (6) An identification of any bilateral agreement
22 or memorandum of understanding related to the au-
23 thority to provide the articles or services.

1 (7) A description as to whether the action
2 would adversely affect Israel’s qualitative military
3 edge over military threats to Israel.

4 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

5 (1) the term “appropriate congressional com-
6 mittees” means—

7 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and
8 the Committee on Appropriations of the House
9 of Representatives; and

10 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations
11 and the Committee on Appropriations of the
12 Senate; and

13 (2) the term “qualitative military edge” has the
14 meaning given that term in section 36(h)(3) of the
15 Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2776(h)(3)).

16 **SEC. 5. CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW.**

17 (a) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING INITIAL CON-
18 GRESSIONAL REVIEW PERIOD.—During the 15 day period
19 following the submission of a notification described in sec-
20 tion 4(b), the President may not take any action to pause,
21 suspend, delay, or abrogate the delivery of covered defense
22 articles or services to Israel described in such notification.

23 (b) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS AFTER INTRODUCTION
24 OF A JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—If a joint
25 resolution of disapproval relating to notification described

1 in section 4(b) is introduced, the President may not take
2 any action relating to the pause, suspension, delay, or ab-
3 rogation to the delivery of covered defense articles or de-
4 fense services described in such notification for a period
5 of 10 calendar days, unless the joint resolution sooner
6 passes both Houses of Congress.

7 (c) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING PRESIDENTIAL
8 CONSIDERATION OF A JOINT RESOLUTION OF DIS-
9 APPROVAL.—If a joint resolution of disapproval relating
10 to notification described in section 4(b) passes both
11 Houses of Congress, the President may not take any ac-
12 tion relating to the pause, suspension, delay, or abrogation
13 to the delivery of covered defense articles or defense serv-
14 ices described in such notification for a period of 12 cal-
15 endar days after the date of passage of the joint resolution
16 of disapproval, unless the President sooner vetoes the joint
17 resolution of disapproval.

18 (d) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING CONGRES-
19 SIONAL RECONSIDERATION OF A JOINT RESOLUTION OF
20 DISAPPROVAL.—If the President vetoes the joint resolu-
21 tion of disapproval, the President may not take the action
22 described in such notification for a period of 10 calendar
23 days after the date of the President's veto, unless the joint
24 resolution sooner fails of passage on reconsideration in ei-
25 ther House.

1 (e) EFFECT OF ENACTMENT OF A JOINT RESOLU-
2 TION OF DISAPPROVAL.—If a joint resolution of dis-
3 approval relating to notification described in section 4(b)
4 is enacted into law, the President may not take any action
5 relating to the pause, suspension, delay, or abrogation to
6 the delivery of covered defense articles or services to Israel
7 described in such notification for a period of 180 days,
8 at which point, the President must submit a new notifica-
9 tion relating to such action.

10 (f) JOINT RESOLUTIONS OF DISAPPROVAL.—

11 (1) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term
12 “joint resolution of disapproval” means only a joint
13 resolution of either House of Congress—

14 (A) the title of which is as follows: “A joint
15 resolution disapproving the President’s proposal
16 to pause, suspend, delay, or abrogate the deliv-
17 ery of covered defense articles or defense serv-
18 ices to Israel.”; and

19 (B) the sole matter after the resolving
20 clause of which is the following: “Congress dis-
21 approves of the action relating to pause, sus-
22 pend, delay, or abrogate the delivery of covered
23 defense articles or defense services to Israel
24 proposed by the President in the notification
25 described in section 4(b) of the Maintaining

1 Our Ironclad Commitment to Israel’s Security
2 Act on _____ relating to _____.,
3 with the first blank space being filled with the
4 appropriate date and the second blank space
5 being filled with a short description of the pro-
6 posed action.

7 (2) INTRODUCTION.—During the period of 15
8 calendar days provided for under subsection (b)(1),
9 a joint resolution of disapproval may be intro-
10 duced—

11 (A) in the House of Representatives, by
12 the majority leader or the minority leader; and

13 (B) in the Senate, by the majority leader
14 (or the majority leader’s designee) or the mi-
15 nority leader (or the minority leader’s des-
16 ignee).

17 (3) FLOOR CONSIDERATION IN HOUSE OF REP-
18 RESENTATIVES.—

19 (A) REPORTING AND DISCHARGE.—If a
20 committee of the House of Representatives to
21 which a joint resolution of disapproval has been
22 referred has not reported the joint resolution
23 within 5 legislative days after the date of refer-
24 ral, that committee shall be discharged from
25 further consideration of the joint resolution.

1 (B) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—

2 Beginning on the third legislative day after
3 each committee to which a joint resolution has
4 been referred reports the joint resolution to the
5 House or has been discharged from further con-
6 sideration thereof, it shall be in order to move
7 to proceed to consider the joint resolution in the
8 House. All points of order against the motion
9 are waived. Such a motion shall not be in order
10 after the House has disposed of a motion to
11 proceed on the joint resolution. The previous
12 question shall be considered as ordered on the
13 motion to its adoption without intervening mo-
14 tion. The motion shall not be debatable. A mo-
15 tion to reconsider the vote by which the motion
16 is disposed of shall not be in order.

17 (C) CONSIDERATION.—The joint resolution
18 shall be considered as read. All points of order
19 against the joint resolution and against its con-
20 sideration are waived. The previous question
21 shall be considered as ordered on the joint reso-
22 lution to final passage without intervening mo-
23 tion except 2 hours of debate equally divided
24 and controlled by the sponsor of the joint reso-
25 lution (or a designee) and an opponent. A mo-

1 tion to reconsider the vote on passage of the
2 joint resolution shall not be in order.

3 (4) CONSIDERATION IN THE SENATE.—

4 (A) COMMITTEE REFERRAL.—A joint reso-
5 lution of disapproval introduced in the Senate
6 shall be referred to the Committee on Foreign
7 Relations.

8 (B) REPORTING AND DISCHARGE.—If the
9 Committee on Foreign Relations has not re-
10 ported the joint resolution within 5 calendar
11 days after the date of referral of the joint reso-
12 lution, that committee shall be discharged from
13 further consideration of the joint resolution and
14 the joint resolution shall be placed on the ap-
15 propriate calendar.

16 (C) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—
17 Notwithstanding Rule XXII of the Standing
18 Rules of the Senate, it is in order at any time
19 after the Committee on Foreign Relations re-
20 ports a joint resolution of disapproval to the
21 Senate or has been discharged from consider-
22 ation of such a joint resolution (even though a
23 previous motion to the same effect has been dis-
24 agreed to) to move to proceed to the consider-
25 ation of the joint resolution, and all points of

1 order against the joint resolution (and against
2 consideration of the joint resolution) are
3 waived. The motion to proceed is not debatable.
4 The motion is not subject to a motion to post-
5 pone. A motion to reconsider the vote by which
6 the motion is agreed to or disagreed to shall not
7 be in order.

8 (D) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON PROCE-
9 DURE.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair
10 relating to the application of the rules of the
11 Senate, as the case may be, to the procedure re-
12 lating to a joint resolution of disapproval shall
13 be decided without debate.

14 (E) CONSIDERATION OF VETO MES-
15 SAGES.—Debate in the Senate of any veto mes-
16 sage with respect to a joint resolution of dis-
17 approval, including all debatable motions and
18 appeals in connection with the joint resolution,
19 shall be limited to 10 hours, to be equally di-
20 vided between, and controlled by, the majority
21 leader and the minority leader or their des-
22 ignees.

23 (5) RULES RELATING TO SENATE AND HOUSE
24 OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

1 (A) COORDINATION WITH ACTION BY
2 OTHER HOUSE.—If, before the passage by one
3 House of a joint resolution of that House, that
4 House receives a joint resolution from the other
5 House, then the following procedures shall
6 apply:

7 (i) The joint resolution of the other
8 House shall not be referred to a com-
9 mittee.

10 (ii) With respect to a joint resolution
11 of the House receiving the legislation—

12 (I) the procedure in that House
13 shall be the same as if no joint resolu-
14 tion had been received from the other
15 House; but

16 (II) the vote on passage shall be
17 on the joint resolution of the other
18 House.

19 (B) TREATMENT OF A JOINT RESOLUTION
20 OF OTHER HOUSE.—If one House fails to intro-
21 duce a joint resolution under this section, the
22 joint resolution of the other House shall be en-
23 titled to expedited floor procedures under this
24 section.

1 (C) TREATMENT OF COMPANION MEAS-
2 URES.—If, following passage of the joint resolu-
3 tion in the Senate, the Senate then receives a
4 companion measure from the House of Rep-
5 resentatives, the companion measure shall not
6 be debatable.

7 (D) APPLICATION TO REVENUE MEAS-
8 URES.—The provisions of this paragraph shall
9 not apply in the House of Representatives to a
10 joint resolution of disapproval that is a revenue
11 measure.

12 (6) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
13 AND SENATE.—This subsection is enacted by Con-
14 gress—

15 (A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power
16 of the Senate and the House of Representa-
17 tives, respectively, and as such is deemed a part
18 of the rules of each House, respectively, and su-
19 persedes other rules only to the extent that it
20 is inconsistent with such rules; and

21 (B) with full recognition of the constitu-
22 tional right of either House to change the rules
23 (so far as relating to the procedure of that
24 House) at any time, in the same manner, and

1 to the same extent as in the case of any other
2 rule of that House.

3 **SEC. 6. COVERED DEFENSE ARTICLES AND DEFENSE SERV-**
4 **ICES DEFINED.**

5 In this Act, the term “covered defense articles and
6 defense services” means those defense articles and defense
7 services that are provided under any of the following au-
8 thorities:

9 (1) Section 3 of the Arms Export Control Act
10 (22 U.S.C. 2753).

11 (2) Section 36 of the Arms Export Control Act
12 (22 U.S.C. 2776).

13 (3) Section 506 of the Foreign Assistance Act
14 of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2318).

15 (4) Section 614 of the Foreign Assistance Act
16 of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2364).