

113TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 2673

AN ACT

To enhance the strategic partnership between the United States and Israel.

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 “United States-Israel
3 Strategic Partnership Act of 2014”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress makes the following findings:

6 (1) The people and the Governments of the
7 United States and of Israel share a deep and un-
8 breakable bond, forged by over 60 years of shared
9 interests and shared values.

10 (2) Today, the people and Governments of the
11 United States and of Israel are facing a dynamic
12 and rapidly changing security environment in the
13 Middle East and North Africa, necessitating deeper
14 cooperation on a range of defense, security, and in-
15 telligence matters.

16 (3) From Gaza, Hamas continues to deny
17 Israel’s right to exist and persists in firing rockets
18 indiscriminately at population centers in Israel.

19 (4) Hezbollah—with support from Iran—con-
20 tinues to stockpile rockets and may be seeking to ex-
21 ploit the tragic and volatile security situation within
22 Syria.

23 (5) The Government of Iran continues to pose
24 a grave threat to the region and the world at large
25 with its reckless pursuit of nuclear weapons.

1 (6) Given these challenges, it is imperative that
2 the United States continues to deepen cooperation
3 with allies like Israel in pursuit of shared policy ob-
4 jectives.

5 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

6 It is the policy of the United States—

7 (1) to reaffirm the unwavering support of the
8 people and the Government of the United States for
9 the security of Israel as a Jewish state;

10 (2) to reaffirm the principles and objectives en-
11 shrined in the United States-Israel Enhanced Secu-
12 rity Cooperation Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–150)
13 and ensure its implementation to the fullest extent;

14 (3) to reaffirm the importance of the 2007
15 United States-Israel Memorandum of Understanding
16 on United States assistance to Israel and the semi-
17 annual Strategic Dialogue between the United
18 States and Israel;

19 (4) to pursue every opportunity to deepen co-
20 operation with Israel on a range of critical issues in-
21 cluding defense, homeland security, energy, and cy-
22 bersecurity;

23 (5) to continue to provide Israel with robust se-
24 curity assistance, including for the procurement of
25 the Iron Dome Missile Defense System; and

1 (6) to support the Government of Israel in its
2 ongoing efforts to reach a negotiated political settle-
3 ment with the Palestinian people that results in two
4 states living side-by-side in peace and security.

5 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON ISRAEL AS A MAJOR STRA-**
6 **TEGIC PARTNER.**

7 It is the sense of Congress that Israel is a major stra-
8 tegic partner of the United States.

9 **SEC. 5. EXTENSION OF WAR RESERVES STOCKPILE AU-**
10 **THORITY.**

11 (a) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS
12 ACT, 2005.—Section 12001(d) of the Department of De-
13 fense Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108–287;
14 118 Stat. 1011) is amended by striking “more than 10
15 years after” and inserting “more than 11 years after”.

16 (b) FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.—Section
17 514(b)(2)(A) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22
18 U.S.C. 2321h(b)(2)(A)) is amended by striking “and
19 2014” and inserting “, 2014, and 2015”.

20 **SEC. 6. ELIGIBILITY OF ISRAEL FOR THE STRATEGIC**
21 **TRADE AUTHORIZATION EXCEPTION TO CER-**
22 **TAIN EXPORT CONTROL LICENSING RE-**
23 **QUIREMENTS.**

24 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that Israel—

1 (1) has adopted high standards in the field of
2 export controls;

3 (2) has declared its unilateral adherence to the
4 Missile Technology Control Regime, the Australia
5 Group, and the Nuclear Suppliers Group; and

6 (3) is a party to—

7 (A) the Convention on Prohibitions or Re-
8 strictions on the Use of Certain Conventional
9 Weapons which may be Deemed to be Exces-
10 sively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Ef-
11 fects, signed at Geneva October 10, 1980;

12 (B) the Protocol for the Prohibition of the
13 Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or
14 Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of
15 Warfare, signed at Geneva June 17, 1925; and

16 (C) the Convention on the Physical Protec-
17 tion of Nuclear Material, adopted at Vienna on
18 October 26, 1979.

19 (b) ELIGIBILITY FOR STRATEGIC TRADE AUTHOR-
20 IZATION EXCEPTION.—The President, consistent with the
21 commitments of the United States under international ar-
22 rangements, shall take steps so that Israel may be in-
23 cluded in the list of countries eligible for the strategic
24 trade authorization exception under section 740.20(c)(1)
25 of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, to the require-

1 ment for a license for the export, reexport, or in-country
2 transfer of an item subject to controls under the Export
3 Administration Regulations.

4 **SEC. 7. UNITED STATES-ISRAEL COOPERATION ON ENERGY,**
5 **WATER, HOMELAND SECURITY, AGRI-**
6 **CULTURE, AND ALTERNATIVE FUEL TECH-**
7 **NOLOGIES.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized, sub-
9 ject to existing law—

10 (1) to undertake activities in cooperation with
11 Israel; and

12 (2) to provide assistance promoting cooperation
13 in the fields of energy, water, agriculture, and alter-
14 native fuel technologies.

15 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out subsection (a),
16 the President is authorized, subject to existing require-
17 ments of law and any applicable agreements or under-
18 standings between the United States and Israel—

19 (1) to share and exchange with Israel research,
20 technology, intelligence, information, equipment, and
21 personnel, including through sales, leases, or ex-
22 changes in kind, that the President determines will
23 advance the national security interests of the United
24 States and are consistent with the Strategic Dia-
25 logue and pertinent provisions of law; and

1 (2) to enhance scientific cooperation between
2 Israel and the United States.

3 (c) COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PILOT PROGRAMS.—

4 The Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the
5 Director of the Homeland Security Advanced Research
6 Projects Agency and with the concurrence of the Secretary
7 of State, is authorized, subject to existing law, to enter
8 into cooperative research pilot programs with Israel to en-
9 hance Israel’s capabilities in—

10 (1) border, maritime, and aviation security;

11 (2) explosives detection; and

12 (3) emergency services.

13 **SEC. 8. REPORT ON INCREASED UNITED STATES-ISRAEL**

14 **COOPERATION ON CYBERSECURITY.**

15 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
16 ment of this Act, the President shall submit to Congress
17 a report, in a classified format or including a classified
18 annex, as appropriate, on the feasibility and advisability
19 of expanding United States-Israeli cooperation on cyber
20 issues, including sharing and advancing technologies re-
21 lated to the prevention of cybercrimes.

22 **SEC. 9. STATEMENT OF POLICY REGARDING THE VISA**

23 **WAIVER PROGRAM.**

24 It shall be the policy of the United States to include
25 Israel in the list of countries that participate in the visa

1 waiver program under section 217 of the Immigration and
2 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1187) when Israel satisfies, and
3 as long as Israel continues to satisfy, the requirements for
4 inclusion in such program specified in such section.

5 **SEC. 10. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF SECTION 4 OF**
6 **THE UNITED STATES-ISRAEL ENHANCED SE-**
7 **CURITY COOPERATION ACT OF 2012.**

8 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
9 ment of this Act, the President shall, to the extent prac-
10 ticable and in an appropriate manner, provide an update
11 to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the
12 Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representa-
13 tives, the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, and
14 the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Rep-
15 resentatives on current and future efforts undertaken by
16 the President to fulfill the objectives of section 4 of the
17 United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act
18 (22 U.S.C. 8603).

19 **SEC. 11. IMPROVED REPORTING ON ENHANCING ISRAEL'S**
20 **QUALITATIVE MILITARY EDGE AND SECU-**
21 **RITY POSTURE.**

22 (a) BIENNIAL ASSESSMENT REEVALUATIONS.—Sec-
23 tion 201(c) of the Naval Vessel Transfer Act of 2008 (22
24 U.S.C. 2776 note) is amended by adding at the end the
25 following:

1 “(3) BIENNIAL UPDATES.—Two years after the
2 date on which each quadrennial report is trans-
3 mitted to Congress, the President shall—

4 “(A) reevaluate the assessment required
5 under subsection (a); and

6 “(B) inform and consult with the appro-
7 priate congressional committees on the results
8 of the reevaluation conducted pursuant to sub-
9 paragraph (A).”.

10 (b) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR MAJOR DE-
11 FENSE EQUIPMENT.—Section 36(h) of the Arms Export
12 Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2776(h)) is amended—

13 (1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as para-
14 graph (3); and

15 (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
16 lowing:

17 “(2) REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO DE-
18 TERMINATION FOR MAJOR DEFENSE EQUIPMENT.—

19 A determination under paragraph (1) relating to the
20 sale or export of major defense equipment shall in-
21 clude—

22 “(A) a detailed explanation of Israel’s ca-
23 pacity to address the improved capabilities pro-
24 vided by such sale or export;

25 “(B) a detailed evaluation of—

1 “(i) how such sale or export alters the
2 strategic and tactical balance in the region,
3 including relative capabilities; and

4 “(ii) Israel’s capacity to respond to
5 the improved regional capabilities provided
6 by such sale or export;

7 “(C) an identification of any specific new
8 capacity, capabilities, or training that Israel
9 may require to address the regional or country-
10 specific capabilities provided by such sale or ex-
11 port; and

12 “(D) a description of any additional
13 United States security assurances to Israel
14 made, or requested to be made, in connection
15 with, or as a result of, such sale or export.”.

16 **SEC. 12. UNITED STATES-ISRAEL ENERGY COOPERATION.**

17 (a) FINDINGS.—Section 917(a) of the Energy Inde-
18 pendence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17337(a))
19 is amended—

20 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “renewable”
21 and inserting “covered”;

22 (2) in paragraph (4)—

23 (A) by striking “possible many” and in-
24 serting “possible—

25 “(A) many”; and

1 (B) by adding at the end the following:

2 “and

3 “(B) significant contributions to the devel-
4 opment of renewable energy and energy effi-
5 ciency through the established programs of the
6 United States-Israel Binational Industrial Re-
7 search and Development Foundation and the
8 United States-Israel Binational Science Foun-
9 dation;”;

10 (3) in paragraph (6)—

11 (A) by striking “renewable” and inserting
12 “covered”; and

13 (B) by striking “and” at the end;

14 (4) in paragraph (7)—

15 (A) by striking “renewable” and inserting
16 “covered”; and

17 (B) by striking the period at the end and
18 inserting a semicolon; and

19 (5) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(8) United States-Israel energy cooperation
21 and the development of natural resources by Israel
22 are in the strategic interest of the United States;

23 “(9) Israel is a strategic partner of the United
24 States in water technology;

1 “(10) the United States can play a role in as-
2 sisting Israel with regional safety and security
3 issues;

4 “(11) the National Science Foundation of the
5 United States, to the extent consistent with the Na-
6 tional Science Foundation’s mission, should collabo-
7 rate with the Israel Science Foundation and the
8 United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation;

9 “(12) the United States and Israel should strive
10 to develop more robust academic cooperation in—

11 “(A) energy innovation technology and en-
12 gineering;

13 “(B) water science;

14 “(C) technology transfer; and

15 “(D) analysis of emerging geopolitical im-
16 plications, crises and threats from foreign nat-
17 ural resource and energy acquisitions, and the
18 development of domestic resources as a re-
19 sponse;

20 “(13) the United States supports the goals of
21 the Alternative Fuels Administration of Israel with
22 respect to expanding the use of alternative fuels;

23 “(14) the United States strongly urges open
24 dialogue and continued mechanisms for regular en-
25 gagement and encourages further cooperation be-

1 tween applicable departments, agencies, ministries,
2 institutions of higher education, and the private sec-
3 tor of the United States and Israel on energy secu-
4 rity issues, including—

5 “(A) identifying policy priorities associated
6 with the development of natural resources of
7 Israel;

8 “(B) discussing and sharing best practices
9 to secure cyber energy infrastructure and other
10 energy security matters;

11 “(C) leveraging natural gas to positively
12 impact regional stability;

13 “(D) issues relating to the energy-water
14 nexus, including improving energy efficiency
15 and the overall performance of water tech-
16 nologies through research and development in
17 water desalination, wastewater treatment and
18 reclamation, water treatment in gas and oil pro-
19 duction processes, and other water treatment
20 refiners;

21 “(E) technical and environmental manage-
22 ment of deep-water exploration and production;

23 “(F) emergency response and coastal pro-
24 tection and restoration;

25 “(G) academic outreach and engagement;

1 “(H) private sector and business develop-
2 ment engagement;

3 “(I) regulatory consultations;

4 “(J) leveraging alternative transportation
5 fuels and technologies; and

6 “(K) any other areas determined appro-
7 priate by the United States and Israel;

8 “(15) the United States—

9 “(A) acknowledges the achievements and
10 importance of the Binational Industrial Re-
11 search and Development Foundation and the
12 United States-Israel Binational Science Foun-
13 dation; and

14 “(B) supports continued multiyear funding
15 to ensure the continuity of the programs of the
16 foundations specified in subparagraph (A); and

17 “(16) the United States and Israel have a
18 shared interest in addressing immediate, near-term,
19 and long-term energy, energy poverty, energy inde-
20 pendence, and environmental challenges facing the
21 United States and Israel, respectively.”.

22 (b) GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 917(b) of the Energy
23 Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C.
24 17337(b)(1)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “renewable en-
2 ergy or energy efficiency” and inserting “covered en-
3 ergy”;

4 (2) in paragraph (2)—

5 (A) in subparagraph (F), by striking
6 “and” at the end;

7 (B) in subparagraph (G), by striking the
8 period at the end and inserting a semicolon;
9 and

10 (C) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(H) natural gas energy, including conven-
12 tional and unconventional natural gas tech-
13 nologies and other associated technologies, and
14 natural gas projects conducted by or in con-
15 junction with the United States-Israel Bina-
16 tional Science Foundation and the United
17 States-Israel Binational Industrial Research
18 and Development Foundation; and

19 “(I) improvement of energy efficiency and
20 the overall performance of water technologies
21 through research and development in water de-
22 salination, wastewater treatment and reclama-
23 tion, and other water treatment refineries.”; and

24 (3) in paragraph (3)(A), by striking “energy ef-
25 ficiency or renewable” and inserting “covered”.

1 (c) INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS; REGIONAL EN-
2 ERGY COOPERATION.—

3 (1) INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS.—Section
4 917 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of
5 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17337) is amended—

6 (A) by striking subsection (d);

7 (B) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
8 section (e);

9 (C) by inserting after subsection (b) the
10 following:

11 “(c) INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, subject to
13 the availability of appropriations, may enter into co-
14 operative agreements supporting and enhancing dia-
15 logue and planning involving international partner-
16 ships between the Department, including National
17 Laboratories of the Department, and the Govern-
18 ment of Israel and its ministries, offices, and institu-
19 tions.

20 “(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Secretary may not
21 pay more than 50 percent of Federal share of the
22 costs of implementing cooperative agreements en-
23 tered into pursuant to paragraph (1).

24 “(3) ANNUAL REPORTS.—If the Secretary en-
25 ters into agreements authorized by paragraph (1),

1 the Secretary shall submit an annual report to the
2 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the
3 Senate, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the
4 Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the
5 Senate, the Committee on Energy and Commerce of
6 the House of Representatives, the Committee on
7 Science, Space, and Technology of the House of
8 Representatives, the Committee on Foreign Affairs
9 of the House of Representatives, and the Committee
10 on Appropriations of the House of Representatives
11 that describes—

12 “(A) actions taken to implement such
13 agreements; and

14 “(B) any projects undertaken pursuant to
15 such agreements.

16 “(d) UNITED STATES-ISRAEL ENERGY CENTER.—
17 The Secretary may establish a joint United States-Israel
18 Energy Center in the United States leveraging the experi-
19 ence, knowledge, and expertise of institutions of higher
20 education and entities in the private sector, among others,
21 in offshore energy development to further dialogue and
22 collaboration to develop more robust academic cooperation
23 in energy innovation technology and engineering, water
24 science, technology transfer, and analysis of emerging geo-
25 political implications, crises and threats from foreign nat-

1 ural resource and energy acquisitions, and the develop-
2 ment of domestic resources as a response.”; and

3 (D) in subsection (e), as redesignated, by
4 striking “the date that is 7 years after the date
5 of enactment of this Act” and inserting “Sep-
6 tember 30, 2024”.

7 (2) CONSTRUCTIVE REGIONAL ENERGY CO-
8 OPERATION.—The Secretary of State shall continue
9 the ongoing diplomacy efforts of the Secretary of
10 State in—

11 (A) engaging and supporting the energy
12 security of Israel; and

13 (B) promoting constructive regional energy
14 cooperation in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Passed the Senate September 18, 2014.

Attest:

Secretary.

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