

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 2444
OFFERED BY MR. ENGEL OF NEW YORK**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Eastern European Se-
3 curity Act”.

4 SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

5 It is the sense of Congress that it is in the national
6 security interest of the United States to—

7 (1) deter aggression against North Atlantic
8 Treaty Organization (NATO) allies by Russia or any
9 other adversary;

10 (2) assist NATO allies in acquiring and deploy-
11 ing modern, NATO interoperable military equipment
12 and reducing their dependence on Russian or former
13 Soviet-era defense articles;

14 (3) ensure that NATO allies meet alliance de-
15 fense commitments, including through adequate in-
16 vestments in national defense;

17 (4) supplement existing grant assistance to key
18 allies through foreign military financing loans, at

1 rates competitive with those already available on
2 commercial markets, to purchase NATO-interoper-
3 able military equipment; and

4 (5) work to maintain and strengthen the demo-
5 cratic institutions and practices of all NATO allies,
6 in accordance with the goals of Article 2 of the
7 North Atlantic Treaty.

8 **SEC. 3. FOREIGN MILITARY LOAN AUTHORITY.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the notification re-
10 quirements under subsection (b), the President, acting
11 through the Secretary of State, is authorized—

12 (1) to make direct loans under section 23 of the
13 Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2763) to
14 NATO member countries that joined the alliance
15 after March 1, 1999, notwithstanding the minimum
16 interest rate required by subsection (c)(1) of such
17 section; and

18 (2) to charge fees for such loans under para-
19 graph (1), which shall be collected from borrowers in
20 accordance with section 502(7) of the Congressional
21 Budget Act of 1974, and which may be used to
22 cover the costs of such loans as defined in section
23 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

24 (b) NOTIFICATION.—A loan may not be made under
25 the authority provided by subsection (a) unless the Sec-

1 retary of State submits to the appropriate congressional
2 committees a certification, not fewer than fifteen days be-
3 fore entering into an agreement to make such loan, that—

4 (1) the recipient country is making demon-
5 strable progress toward meeting its defense spending
6 commitments in accordance with the 2014 NATO
7 Wales Summit Declaration; and

8 (2) the government of such recipient country is
9 respecting that country’s constitution and upholds
10 democratic values such as freedom of religion, free-
11 dom of speech, freedom of the press, the rule of law,
12 and the rights of religious minorities.

13 (c) REPAYMENT.—A loan made under the authority
14 provided by subsection (a) shall be repaid in not more than
15 12 years, but may include a grace period of up to one
16 year on the repayment of the principal.

17 (d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES
18 DEFINED.—In this Act, the term “appropriate congres-
19 sional committees” means—

20 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
21 Committee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-
22 resentatives; and

23 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
24 the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

