

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 6018  
OFFERED BY MR. MCCAUL OF TEXAS**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Trans-Sahara  
3 Counterterrorism Partnership Act of 2018”.

**4 SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

5 It is the sense of Congress that—

6 (1) the Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Part-  
7 nership, launched in 2005, is an interagency pro-  
8 gram to assist partner countries in the Sahel and  
9 Maghreb regions of Africa on their immediate and  
10 long-term capabilities to address terrorist threats  
11 and prevent the spread of violent extremism;

12 (2) armed groups and violent Islamist terrorist  
13 organizations, such as Al Qaeda in the Islamic  
14 Maghreb, Boko Haram, the Islamic State of West  
15 Africa, and other affiliated groups, have killed tens  
16 of thousands of innocent civilians, displaced popu-  
17 lations, destabilized local and national governments,

1 and caused mass human suffering in the affected  
2 communities;

3 (3) it is in the national security interest of the  
4 United States to combat the spread of radical  
5 Islamist extremism and build partner countries' ca-  
6 pacity to combat these threats in Africa;

7 (4) extremist movements exploit vulnerable and  
8 marginalized communities suffering from poverty,  
9 lack of economic opportunity (particularly among  
10 youth populations), and weak governance; and

11 (5) to address critical security, political, eco-  
12 nomic, and humanitarian challenges in these regions  
13 of Africa, a coordinated, interagency approach is  
14 needed to appropriately allocate resources, share re-  
15 sponsibility, de-conflict programs, and maximize the  
16 effectiveness of United States defense, diplomatic,  
17 and development capabilities.

18 **SEC. 3. TRANS-SAHARA COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNER-**  
19 **SHIP.**

20 (a) TRANS-SAHARA COUNTER TERRORISM PARTNER-  
21 SHIP.—

22 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State,  
23 in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and  
24 the Administrator of the United States Agency for  
25 International Development, shall establish a partner-

1 ship, to be known as the “Trans-Sahara  
2 Counterterrorism Partnership” (TSCTP), to coordi-  
3 nate all United States programs, projects, and ac-  
4 tivities in North and West Africa that are conducted  
5 for any of the following purposes:

6 (A) To build the capacity of foreign mili-  
7 tary and law enforcement entities in such re-  
8 gions to conduct counterterrorism operations.

9 (B) To improve the ability of foreign mili-  
10 tary and law enforcement entities in such re-  
11 gions to cooperate with the United States and  
12 other partner countries on counterterrorism ef-  
13 forts.

14 (C) To enhance the border security capac-  
15 ity of partner countries in such regions, includ-  
16 ing the ability to monitor, restrain, and inter-  
17 dict terrorists.

18 (D) To strengthen the rule of law in such  
19 countries, including access to justice, and the  
20 ability of the law enforcement entities of such  
21 partner countries to detect, disrupt, respond to,  
22 investigate, and prosecute terrorist activity.

23 (E) To monitor and counter the financing  
24 of terrorism.

1           (F) To further reduce any vulnerabilities  
2           among affected populations in such regions to  
3           recruitment or incitement of terrorist activities  
4           through public diplomacy efforts, such as sup-  
5           porting youth employment, promoting meaning-  
6           ful participation of women, strengthening local  
7           governance and civil society capacity, and im-  
8           proving access to economic opportunities and  
9           education.

10           (2) CONSULTATION.—In coordinating programs  
11           through the TSCTP, the Secretary of State shall  
12           also consult, as appropriate, with the Director of  
13           National Intelligence, the Secretary of the Treasury,  
14           the Attorney General, and the heads of other rel-  
15           evant Federal departments and agencies.

16           (3) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Not later  
17           than 15 days before obligating amounts for an activ-  
18           ity coordinated by the TSCTP pursuant to para-  
19           graph (1), the Secretaries of State shall submit a  
20           notification, in accordance with the requirements of  
21           section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961  
22           (22 U.S.C. 2394–1), that includes the following:

23           (A) The foreign country and entity, as ap-  
24           plicable, whose capabilities are to be enhanced

1 in accordance with the purposes specified in  
2 paragraph (1)

3 (B) The amount, type, and purpose of sup-  
4 port to be provided.

5 (C) An assessment of the capacity of the  
6 foreign country or entity to absorb the assist-  
7 ance to be provided.

8 (D) The estimated cost and anticipated im-  
9 plementation timeline for assistance.

10 (E) As applicable, a description of the ar-  
11 rangements to sustain any equipment provided  
12 by the activity beyond the completion date of  
13 such activity, if applicable, and the estimated  
14 cost and source of funds to support such  
15 sustainment.

16 (F) The amount, type, statutory authoriza-  
17 tion, and purpose of any United States security  
18 assistance provided to such foreign country dur-  
19 ing the three preceding fiscal years pursuant to  
20 authorities under title 10, United States Code,  
21 the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.  
22 2151 et seq.), or any other “train and equip”  
23 authorities of the Department of Defense.

24 (b) COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY FOR  
25 COUNTERTERRORISM EFFORTS.—

1           (1) DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than 180 days  
2 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
3 retary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of  
4 Defense and the Administrator of the United States  
5 Agency for International Development, shall submit  
6 to the appropriate congressional committees a com-  
7 prehensive, interagency strategy that—

8           (A) states the objectives of the United  
9 States counterterrorism effort in North and  
10 West Africa with respect to the use of all forms  
11 of United States assistance to counter violent  
12 extremism; and

13           (B) includes a plan by the Secretary of  
14 State for the manner in which programs shall  
15 be coordinated by the TSCTP pursuant to sub-  
16 section (a)(1), including which agency or bu-  
17 reau of the Department of State, as applicable,  
18 will be responsible for leading and coordinating  
19 each such program; and

20           (C) outlines a plan to monitor and evaluate  
21 TSCTP programs and identifies the key indica-  
22 tors that will be used to measure performance  
23 and progress under the strategy.

24           (2) SUPPORTING MATERIAL IN ANNUAL BUDG-  
25 ET REQUEST.—The Secretary of State shall include,

1 in the budget materials submitted in support of the  
2 budget of the President (submitted to Congress pur-  
3 suant to section 1105 of title 31, United States  
4 Code) for each fiscal year beginning after the date  
5 of the enactment of this Act, a description of the re-  
6 quirements, activities, and planned allocation of  
7 amounts requested by the TSCTP.

8 (c) MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF PROGRAMS  
9 AND ACTIVITIES.—

10 (1) MONITORING AND EVALUATION.—The Sec-  
11 retary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of  
12 Defense and the Administrator of the United States  
13 Agency for International Development, shall monitor  
14 and evaluate the programs coordinated by the  
15 TSCTP pursuant to subsection (a)(1) in accordance  
16 with the plan outlined pursuant to subsection  
17 (b)(1)(C).

18 (2) REPORT.—For the 5-year period beginning  
19 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,  
20 the Secretary of State shall submit to the appro-  
21 priate congressional committees an annual report on  
22 monitoring and evaluation efforts pursuant to para-  
23 graph (1) that describes—

24 (A) the progress made in meeting the ob-  
25 jectives listed in the strategy required by sub-

1 section (b)(1), including any lessons learned in  
2 carrying out TSCTP programs and activities  
3 and any recommendations for improving such  
4 programs and activities;

5 (B) the efforts taken to coordinate, de-con-  
6 flict and streamline TSCTP programs to maxi-  
7 mize resource effectiveness;

8 (C) the extent to which each partner coun-  
9 try has demonstrated the ability to absorb the  
10 equipment or training provided in the year pre-  
11 vious under TSCTP programs, and where appli-  
12 cable, the ability to maintain and appropriately  
13 utilize such equipment provided;

14 (D) the extent to which each partner coun-  
15 try is investing its own resources to advance the  
16 goals described in subsection (a)(1) or dem-  
17 onstrated a commitment and willingness to co-  
18 operate with the United States to advance such  
19 goals; and

20 (E) the actions taken by the government of  
21 each partner country receiving assistance  
22 through programs coordinated by the TSCTP  
23 to combat corruption, improve transparency  
24 and accountability, and promote other forms of  
25 good governance.

1 (d) FORM.—The strategy required by subsection  
2 (b)(1) and the report required by subsection (c)(2) shall  
3 be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classi-  
4 fied annex.

5 (e) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-  
6 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-  
7 sional committees” means—

8 (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the  
9 Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on  
10 Appropriations, and the Permanent Select Com-  
11 mittee on Intelligence of the House of Representa-  
12 tives; and

13 (2) the Committee on Armed Services, the  
14 Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on  
15 Appropriations, and the Select Committee on Intel-  
16 ligence of the Senate.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill To establish an interagency program to assist countries in North and West Africa to improve immediate and long-term capabilities to counter terrorist threats, and for other purposes.”.

