

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—114th Cong., 2d Sess.

H. R. 907

To improve defense cooperation between the United States
and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended
to be proposed by Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. CARDIN)

Viz:

1 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the fol-

2 lowing:

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “United States-Jordan
5 Defense Cooperation Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) As of January 22, 2015, the United States
9 Government has provided \$3,046,343,000 in assist-
10 ance to respond to the Syria humanitarian crisis, of
11 which nearly \$467,000,000 has been provided to the
12 Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

1 (2) As of January 2015, according to the
2 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,
3 there were 621,937 registered Syrian refugees in
4 Jordan and 83.8 percent of whom lived outside ref-
5 ugee camps.

6 (3) In 2000, the United States and Jordan
7 signed a free-trade agreement that went into force
8 in 2001.

9 (4) In 1996, the United States granted Jordan
10 major non-NATO ally status.

11 (5) Jordan is suffering from the Syrian refugee
12 crisis and the threat of the Islamic State of Iraq and
13 the Levant (ISIL).

14 (6) The Government of Jordan was elected as
15 a non-permanent member of the United Nations Se-
16 curity Council for a 2-year term ending in December
17 2015.

18 (7) Enhanced support for defense cooperation
19 with Jordan is important to the national security of
20 the United States, including through creation of a
21 status in law for Jordan similar to the countries in
22 the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Japan,
23 Australia, the Republic of Korea, Israel, and New
24 Zealand, with respect to consideration by Congress
25 of foreign military sales to Jordan.

1 (8) The Colorado National Guard’s relationship
2 with the Jordanian military provides a significant
3 benefit to both the United States and Jordan.

4 (9) Jordanian pilot Moaz al-Kasasbeh was bru-
5 tally murdered by ISIL.

6 (10) On February 3, 2015, Secretary of State
7 John Kerry and Jordanian Foreign Minister Nasser
8 Judeh signed a new Memorandum of Understanding
9 that reflects the intention to increase United States
10 assistance to the Government of Jordan from
11 \$660,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000 for each of the
12 years 2015 through 2017.

13 (11) On December 5, 2014, in an interview on
14 CBS This Morning, Jordanian King Abdullah II
15 stated—

16 (A) in reference to ISIL, “This is a Mus-
17 lim problem. We need to take ownership of this.
18 We need to stand up and say what is wrong”;
19 and

20 (B) “This is our war. This is a war inside
21 Islam. So we have to own up to it. We have to
22 take the lead. We have to start fighting back.”.

23 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

24 It should be the policy of the United States—

1 (1) to support the Hashemite Kingdom of Jor-
2 dan in its response to the Syrian refugee crisis;

3 (2) to provide necessary assistance to alleviate
4 the domestic burden to provide basic needs for the
5 assimilated Syrian refugees;

6 (3) to cooperate with Jordan to combat the ter-
7 rorist threat from the Islamic State of Iraq and the
8 Levant (ISIL) or other terrorist organizations; and

9 (4) to help secure the border between Jordan
10 and its neighbors Syria and Iraq.

11 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

12 It is the sense of Congress that—

13 (1) expeditious consideration of certifications of
14 letters of offer to sell defense articles, defense serv-
15 ices, design and construction services, and major de-
16 fense equipment to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jor-
17 dan under section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control
18 Act (22 U.S.C. 2776(b)) is fully consistent with
19 United States security and foreign policy interests
20 and the objectives of world peace and security;

21 (2) Congress welcomes the statement of King
22 Abdullah II quoted in section (2)(11); and

23 (3) it is in the interest of peace and stability for
24 regional members of the Global Coalition to Combat
25 ISIL to continue their commitment to, and increase

1 their involvement in, addressing the threat posed by
2 ISIL.

3 **SEC. 5. ENHANCED DEFENSE COOPERATION.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—During the 3-year period begin-
5 ning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the
6 Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan shall be treated as if it
7 were a country listed in the provisions of law described
8 in subsection (b) for purposes of applying and admin-
9 istering such provisions of law.

10 (b) ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT.—The provisions
11 of law described in this subsection are—

12 (1) subsections (b)(2), (d)(2)(B), (d)(3)(A)(i),
13 and (d)(5) of section 3 of the Arms Export Control
14 Act (22 U.S.C. 2753);

15 (2) subsections (e)(2)(A), (h)(1)(A), and (h)(2)
16 of section 21 of such Act (22 U.S.C. 2761);

17 (3) subsections (b)(1), (b)(2), (b)(6), (c), and
18 (d)(2)(A) of section 36 of such Act (22 U.S.C.
19 2776);

20 (4) section 62(c)(1) of such Act (22 U.S.C.
21 2796a(c)(1)); and

22 (5) section 63(a)(2) of such Act (22 U.S.C.
23 2796b(a)(2)).

1 **SEC. 6. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.**

2 Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Sec-
3 retary of State is authorized to enter into a memorandum
4 of understanding with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
5 to increase economic support funds, military cooperation,
6 including joint military exercises, personnel exchanges,
7 support for international peacekeeping missions, and en-
8 hanced strategic dialogue.