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S. RES. 156

Expressing the sense of the Senate on the 10-year anniversary of NATO
Allied Command Transformation.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 23, 2013

Mr. WARNER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate on the 10-year
anniversary of NATO Allied Command Transformation.

Whereas, on June 19, 2003, NATO's Allied Command Transformation (ACT), was formally established to increase military effectiveness and prepare the Alliance for future security challenges;

Whereas, on June 19, 2013, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) will celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the establishment of NATO ACT;

Whereas the security of the United States and its NATO allies have been enhanced by the establishment and continued work of NATO ACT;

Whereas, for the past 10 years, ACT has been leading the charge for NATO military transformation, and providing

relevant and timely support to NATO operations, and developing partnerships around the globe to adapt to the changing global security environment;

Whereas ACT is the only NATO headquarters in the United States, and the only permanent NATO headquarters outside of Europe;

Whereas ACT provides state-of-the-art education, training, and application of best practices and lessons learned from past operations, and equips Alliance troops with the tools they need to win today's wars;

Whereas ACT improves NATO's defense planning and develops compatible equipment and common standards necessary to keep Alliance capabilities aligned;

Whereas NATO ACT has been integral to a NATO mission of promoting a Europe that is whole, undivided, free, and at peace;

Whereas NATO ACT strengthened the ability of NATO to perform a full range of missions throughout the world;

Whereas NATO ACT has provided crucial support and participation in the NATO International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan, as NATO endeavors to help the people of Afghanistan create the conditions necessary for security and successful development and reconstruction;

Whereas ACT employs personnel from 26 NATO member nations and 6 NATO Partner nations and contributes more than \$100,000,000 annually to the local economy;

Whereas NATO has been the cornerstone of transatlantic security cooperation and an enduring instrument for promoting stability in Europe and throughout the world for over 60 years, representing the vital transatlantic bond of solidarity between the United States and Europe, as

NATO nations share similar values and interests and are committed to the maintenance of democratic principles;

Whereas the Chicago Summit Communique affirms that all NATO members “are determined that NATO will continue to play its unique and essential role in ensuring our common defense and security” and that NATO “continues to be effective in a changing world, against new threats, with new capabilities and new partners”;

Whereas, through the Alliance, the United States and Europe are effective and steadfast partners in security, and ACT is well positioned to contribute to the strength of the Alliance on both continents;

Whereas NATO ACT has done much to help NATO meet the global challenges of the 21st century, including the threat of terrorism, the spread of weapons of mass destruction, instability caused by failed states, and threats to global energy security; and

Whereas the 10th anniversary of NATO ACT is an opportunity to enhance and more deeply entrench those principles, which continue to bind the alliance together and guide our efforts today: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) celebrates the 10th anniversary of the es-
3 tablishment of NATO Allied Command Trans-
4 formation (NATO ACT);

5 (2) recognizes NATO ACT’s leading role to
6 continue to transform alliance forces and capabili-
7 ties, using new concepts such as the NATO Re-

1 sponse Force and new doctrines in order to improve
2 the alliance’s military effectiveness;

3 (3) expresses appreciation for the continuing
4 and close partnership between the United States
5 Government and NATO to transform the alliance;

6 (4) remembers the 65 years NATO has served
7 to ensure peace, security, and stability in Europe
8 throughout the world, and urges the United States
9 Government to continue to seek new ways to deepen
10 and expand its important relationships with NATO;

11 (5) recognizes the service of the brave men and
12 women who have served to safeguard the freedom
13 and security of the United States and the whole of
14 the transatlantic alliance;

15 (6) honors the sacrifices of United States per-
16 sonnel, allies of the North American Treaty Organi-
17 zation (referred to in this resolution as “NATO”),
18 and partners in Afghanistan;

19 (7) recognizes the outstanding partnership be-
20 tween the local community in Norfolk, Virginia, and
21 NATO personnel assigned to ACT;

22 (8) reaffirms that NATO, through the new
23 Strategic Concept, is oriented toward the changing
24 international security environment and the chal-
25 lenges of the future;

1 (9) urges all NATO members to take concrete
2 steps to implement the Strategic Concept and to uti-
3 lize the taskings from the 2012 NATO summit in
4 Chicago, Illinois, to address current NATO oper-
5 ations, future capabilities and burden-sharing issues,
6 and strengthen the relationship between NATO and
7 partners around the world; and

8 (10) conveys appreciation for the steadfast
9 partnership between NATO and the United States.

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