

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2174

To require the President to give notice of denunciation of the North Atlantic Treaty for purposes of withdrawing the United States from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 25 (legislative day, JUNE 24), 2025

Mr. LEE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To require the President to give notice of denunciation of the North Atlantic Treaty for purposes of withdrawing the United States from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Not A Trusted Organi-
5 zation Act” or the “NATO Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) The North Atlantic Treaty (also known as
2 the “Washington Treaty”) was signed on April 4,
3 1949, in Washington, DC, and created the North
4 Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

5 (2) NATO was intended to counterbalance the
6 political and military power of the Soviet Union in
7 Eastern Europe and was originally composed of 12
8 member states representing Western Europe and its
9 transatlantic partners.

10 (3) The preamble to the Washington Treaty af-
11 firms that the Parties will “unite their efforts for
12 collective defense”. Similarly, Article 3 of the Wash-
13 ington Treaty provides that each Party will “main-
14 tain and develop their individual and collective ca-
15 pacity to resist armed attack”.

16 (4) The Warsaw Pact served as the collective
17 defense bloc of the Soviet Union and collapsed in
18 1991, followed by the collapse of the Soviet Union
19 itself by the end of that year.

20 (5) Shortly before the collapse of the Soviet
21 Union, United States Secretary of State James
22 Baker made assurances to Soviet Union leader Mi-
23 khail Gorbachev that NATO would not expand east-
24 ward.

1 (6) The dissolution of both the Warsaw Pact
2 and the Soviet Union fundamentally altered the se-
3 curity environment in Europe and rendered NATO's
4 founding collective defense mission irrelevant.

5 (7) Despite its waning relevance and prior as-
6 surances to the contrary, NATO began a profound
7 eastward expansion in 1999, which, as of 2025, cul-
8 minated in a land border with the Russian Federa-
9 tion that exceeds 1,500 miles and encircles the Bal-
10 tic Sea.

11 (8) Successive National Military Doctrines and
12 National Security Strategies of the Russian Federa-
13 tion have framed the expansion of NATO as a per-
14 vasive threat to Russian security.

15 (9) In a speech before the Munich Security
16 Conference in 2007, President of the Russian Fed-
17 eration Vladimir Putin described NATO expansion
18 as a "serious provocation" and referenced the assur-
19 ances previously made by the United States.

20 (10) The invasion of Ukraine by the Russian
21 Federation in 2022 demonstrates the Russian Fed-
22 eration's willingness to employ military action in re-
23 sponse to perceived security threats.

24 (11) NATO members have refused to rule out
25 further expansion.

1 (12) Since the founding of NATO, the United
2 States has shouldered the burden of what was char-
3 acterized as a “collective” security alliance, as the
4 largest financial and hard power contributor.

5 (13) At the Wales Summit in 2014, NATO
6 members pledged to spend 2 percent of their gross
7 domestic product on defense, known as the “Wales
8 Pledge”.

9 (14) More than a decade later, nearly $\frac{1}{3}$ of
10 NATO members fail to meet the Wales Pledge.

11 (15) Consistent with United States national se-
12 curity interests, Europe is not a priority theater for
13 United States engagement. The principal interest of
14 the United States in Europe is preventing the emer-
15 gence of a regional hegemon.

16 (16) The combined military and economic ca-
17 pacity of European NATO members exceeds that of
18 the Russian Federation, serving as a sufficient coun-
19 terweight to a prospective regional hegemon without
20 United States engagement.

21 (17) While the United States continues to sub-
22 sidize European security, European NATO members
23 are disincentivized from forward movement on bur-
24 den shifting in the European theater.

1 (18) Membership of the United States in
2 NATO is inconsistent with the national security in-
3 terests of the United States.

4 **SEC. 3. DENUNCIATION OF NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY.**

5 Consistent with Article 13 of the North Atlantic
6 Treaty, done at Washington April 4, 1949, not later than
7 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
8 President shall give notice of denunciation of the North
9 Atlantic Treaty for purposes of withdrawing the United
10 States from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

11 **SEC. 4. FULFILLMENT OF REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 1250A**
12 **OF THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION**
13 **ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024.**

14 This Act satisfies the requirement of section 1250A
15 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
16 2024 (22 U.S.C. 1928f) for congressional authorization
17 of suspension, termination, denunciation, or withdrawal
18 from the North Atlantic Treaty.

19 **SEC. 5. PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF FUNDS.**

20 No funds authorized to be appropriated, appro-
21 priated, or otherwise made available by any Act may be
22 used to fund, directly or indirectly, United States con-
23 tributions to the common-funded budgets of the North At-
24 lantic Treaty Organization, including the civil budget, the
25 military budget, or the Security Investment Program.

1 **SEC. 6. SEVERABILITY.**

2 If any provision of this Act or the application of such
3 provision to any person or circumstance is held to be un-
4 constitutional, the remainder of this Act and the applica-
5 tion of the provision to any other person or circumstance
6 shall not be affected.

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