

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3624

To limit the use of funds to assert control over the sovereign territory  
of a NATO member state, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 13, 2026

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following  
bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## A BILL

To limit the use of funds to assert control over the sovereign  
territory of a NATO member state, 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 “NATO Unity Protec-  
5 tion Act” or the “NATO UP Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The unified strength of the North Atlantic  
9 Treaty Organization (NATO) is critical to the na-

1        tional security and foreign policy of the United  
2        States.

3            (2) Any occupation or takeover of the sovereign  
4        territory of a NATO ally would violate the Charter  
5        of the United Nations and numerous articles of the  
6        North Atlantic Treaty, done at Washington April 4,  
7        1949, and approved for ratification by the United  
8        States Senate on July 21, 1949 (also known as the  
9        “Washington Treaty”).

10           (3) Occupation or similar actions against the  
11        sovereign territory of a NATO ally by the United  
12        States in circumstances other than to repel a foreign  
13        invasion by a non-NATO-member state would put  
14        the United States in a conflict with NATO and  
15        NATO member states, possibly weakening NATO to  
16        the point of it ceasing to be an effective collective se-  
17        curity alliance.

18           (4) Such an outcome would serve the strategic  
19        interests of the Russian Federation and the People’s  
20        Republic of China while significantly undermining  
21        the national security and foreign policy objectives of  
22        the United States.

1 **SEC. 3. LIMITATION ON USE OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**  
2 **FUNDS.**

3 None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made  
4 available for any fiscal year for the Department of Defense  
5 may be used to blockade, occupy, annex, conduct military  
6 operations against, or otherwise assert control over the  
7 sovereign territory of a NATO member state, other than  
8 as authorized by that NATO member state or the North  
9 Atlantic Council.

10 **SEC. 4. LIMITATION ON USE OF DEPARTMENT OF STATE**  
11 **FUNDS.**

12 None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made  
13 available for any fiscal year for the Department of State  
14 may be used to develop, support, or implement any plan  
15 for the United States to blockade, occupy, annex, conduct  
16 military operations against, or otherwise assert control  
17 over the sovereign territory of a NATO member state,  
18 other than as authorized by that NATO member state or  
19 the North Atlantic Council.

20 **SEC. 5. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

21 Nothing in this Act shall be construed to prevent the  
22 United States from defending itself or an ally from an  
23 armed attack or from a credible threat of an imminent  
24 armed attack.

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