

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4495

To require reports on the dangers posed by nuclear reactors in areas that might experience armed conflict.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 12, 2026

Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To require reports on the dangers posed by nuclear reactors
in areas that might experience armed conflict.

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 “Reactors at Risk Act
5 of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. REPORT ON DANGERS POSED BY NUCLEAR REAC-**
7 **TORS IN AREAS THAT MIGHT EXPERIENCE**
8 **ARMED CONFLICT.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the
10 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense

1 and the Under Secretary of Energy for Nuclear Security
2 shall jointly submit to the appropriate committees of Con-
3 gress a report assessing the following:

4 (1) The dangers posed to the national security
5 of the United States, to the interests of allies and
6 partners of the United States, and to the safety and
7 security of civilian populations, by nuclear reactors
8 in existence as of such date of enactment or sched-
9 uled to be completed during the 10-year period be-
10 ginning on such date of enactment and located in
11 the following areas:

12 (A) Regions that have experienced armed
13 conflict in the 25 years preceding such date of
14 enactment, including the following conflicts:

15 (i) Attacks by the Russian Federation
16 on Ukraine.

17 (ii) Conflict in the Middle East, in-
18 cluding between Israel and Iran.

19 (B) Areas that are contested or likely to
20 experience armed conflict during the life span
21 of those reactors.

22 (C) Areas that would be involved in any of
23 the following possible conflicts:

24 (i) An attack by the Russian Federa-
25 tion on the eastern European countries of

1 Estonia, Latvia, Belarus, Lithuania, or Po-
2 land.

3 (ii) A conflict between India and Paki-
4 stan.

5 (iii) A conflict over Taiwan.

6 (iv) An attack by North Korea on
7 South Korea.

8 (2) Steps the United States or allies and part-
9 ners of the United States can take to prevent, pre-
10 pare for, and mitigate the risks to the national secu-
11 rity of the United States, to the interests of allies
12 and partners of the United States, and to the safety
13 and security of civilian populations, posed by nuclear
14 reactors in places that may experience armed con-
15 flict.

16 (b) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required by sub-
17 section (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may
18 include a classified annex.

19 (c) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-
20 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate commit-
21 tees of Congress” means—

22 (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the
23 Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee
24 on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;
25 and

1 (2) the Committee on Armed Services, the
2 Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee
3 on Energy and Commerce of the House of Rep-
4 resentatives.

○