

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 905

To require the establishment within the Department of Defense of a pilot program on arsenal workload sustainment, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 6, 2025

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. COTTON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To require the establishment within the Department of Defense of a pilot program on arsenal workload sustainment, 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 “Arsenal Workload
5 Sustainment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM ON ARSENAL WORKLOAD**
7 **SUSTAINMENT.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The United States has a long and proud
2 history of manufacturing defense products.

3 (2) Factories and arsenals of the Department
4 of the Army that are owned and operated by the
5 United States Government are a critical component
6 of the organic industrial base.

7 (3) The first ever National Defense Industrial
8 Strategy released in 2024 recognized the need of the
9 Department of Defense to more strategically utilize
10 the organic industrial base in order to maintain a
11 competitive military advantage.

12 (4) Sufficient workload at arsenals of the De-
13 partment of the Army that are owned and operated
14 by the United States Government ensure cost effi-
15 ciency and technical competence in peacetime, while
16 preserving the ability to provide an effective and
17 timely response to mobilizations, national defense
18 contingency situations, and other emergency require-
19 ments.

20 (b) ESTABLISHMENT OF PILOT PROGRAM.—Not
21 later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this
22 Act, the Secretary of Defense shall establish a pilot pro-
23 gram to be known as the “Arsenal Workload Sustainment
24 Pilot Program” (in this section referred to as the “pilot
25 program”).

1 (c) DURATION.—The pilot program shall be con-
2 ducted for a period of five years.

3 (d) PREFERENCES FOR PROCUREMENT ACTIONS OR
4 SOLICITATIONS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the pilot
6 program, the Secretary of Defense shall give a pref-
7 erence described in paragraph (2) for any procure-
8 ment action or solicitation by a non-public partner
9 who has entered into a public-private partnership
10 with the Secretary in the source selection process if
11 such non-public partner uses an arsenal of the De-
12 partment of the Army that is owned and operated by
13 the United States Government as a partner in any
14 type of contractual agreement with the United
15 States Government.

16 (2) PREFERENCE DESCRIBED.—A preference
17 described in this paragraph is the addition of 20
18 percent to the price of any offer by a non-public
19 partner that does not use an arsenal of the Depart-
20 ment of the Army that is owned and operated by the
21 United States Government as a partner in its bid for
22 the same procurement action or solicitation de-
23 scribed in paragraph (1).

24 (3) FURTHER PREFERENCE.—In selecting non-
25 public partners under paragraph (1), the Secretary

1 of Defense shall give preference to non-public part-
2 ners that—

3 (A) utilize the Advanced Manufacturing
4 Center of Excellence of the Army; and

5 (B) ensure not less than 25 percent of the
6 activities under the partnership are performed
7 by employees of the Department of Defense.

8 (e) REPORT REQUIRED.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year
10 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
11 retary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate
12 congressional committees a report on the activities
13 carried out under the pilot program, including a de-
14 scription of any operational challenges identified.

15 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under
16 paragraph (1) shall include the following:

17 (A) A breakout, by relevant budget ac-
18 counts, of workload at an arsenal of the De-
19 partment of the Army that is owned and oper-
20 ated by the United States Government that was
21 achieved in the prior fiscal year, whether di-
22 rectly or through public-private partnerships
23 under the pilot program.

24 (B) An assessment of relevant budget ac-
25 counts where such an arsenal can be utilized to

1 meet future procurement needs of the Depart-
2 ment of Defense, irrespective of cost.

3 (C) An outlook of expected workload at
4 each such arsenal during the period covered by
5 the future-years defense program submitted to
6 Congress under section 221 of title 10, United
7 States Code.

8 (D) The capital investments required to be
9 made at each such arsenal to ensure compliance
10 and operational capacity.

11 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

12 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
13 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
14 mittees” means—

15 (A) the Committee on Armed Services and
16 the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee
17 on Appropriations of the Senate; and

18 (B) the Committee on Armed Services and
19 the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee
20 on Appropriations of the House of Representa-
21 tives.

22 (2) NON-PUBLIC PARTNER.—The term “non-
23 public partner” means a corporation, individual, uni-

- 1 versity, or nonprofit organization that is not part of
- 2 the United States Government.

