

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 70

To require the establishment of a Federal task force on Regional Threats
to International Security.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 19, 1999

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

A BILL

To require the establishment of a Federal task force on
Regional Threats to International Security.

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 “Prevention and Deter-
5 rence of International Conflict Act of 1999 (PREDICT)”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) On August 24, 1997, the Chairman of the
9 Joint Chiefs of Staff assured Congress in writing
10 that the acquisition of an intercontinental ballistic

1 missile capability by a rogue nation without the de-
2 tection of the United States intelligence community
3 would be an “unlikely event”.

4 (2) The United States intelligence community
5 did not detect the August 31, 1998 launching of an
6 intercontinental multistage rocket by the Govern-
7 ment of the People’s Democratic Republic of Korea.

8 (3) On May 11, 1998 and May 13, 1998, the
9 Government of India broke a 24-year voluntary mor-
10 atorium by conducting 5 underground nuclear tests.

11 (4) The Secretary of Defense predicted there-
12 after that these tests by the Government of India
13 could induce other nations to obtain nuclear weap-
14 ons technologies.

15 (5) On May 28, 1998, the Government of Paki-
16 stan announced that for the first time, it had con-
17 ducted 5 underground nuclear tests and acknowl-
18 edged ongoing efforts to place nuclear warheads on
19 missiles capable of striking any target in India.

20 (6) The Director of Central Intelligence has ac-
21 cepted the June 2, 1998, findings of an independent
22 investigation revealing that the Central Intelligence
23 Agency lacked adequate analytical capabilities to de-
24 tect the explosions in India despite satellite-gen-
25 erated evidence to the contrary and repeated dec-

1 larations by representatives of the Government of
2 India of an intent to improve India's nuclear arse-
3 nal.

4 (7) Written assessments by the United States
5 Air Force and the Central Intelligence Agency con-
6 flicted on the issue of whether the May 10, 1996
7 transmission to the Government of China of a pri-
8 vate industry report exploring the potential causes of
9 an earlier rocket crash contained information that
10 may advance the capabilities of China to launch mis-
11 siles equipped with nuclear warheads.

12 (8) The President did not receive or review the
13 Air Force assessment prior to his February 18,
14 1998, approval of a license for the export of a com-
15 mercial satellite to China.

16 (9) A March 11, 1998, report by the National
17 Air Intelligence Center concluded that Chinese stra-
18 tegic missiles equipped with nuclear warheads pose
19 a threat to the United States.

20 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION OF THE TASK**
21 **FORCE.**

22 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 60 days after
23 the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall es-
24 tablish the Task Force on Regional Threats to Inter-

1 national Security (in this Act referred to as the “Task
2 Force”).

3 (b) COMPOSITION.—The Task Force shall consist
4 of—

5 (1) one official of the Department of State, who
6 shall be appointed by the Secretary of State;

7 (2) one official of the Department of Defense,
8 who shall be appointed by the Secretary of Defense;

9 (3) one official of the Department of Com-
10 merce, who shall be appointed by the Secretary of
11 Commerce;

12 (4) one official each of any appropriate United
13 States agency (as defined in section 551(1) of title
14 5, United States Code) designated by the President,
15 who shall be appointed by the head of the agency;
16 and

17 (5) one official each of any appropriate agency,
18 entity, or component of the intelligence community
19 (as defined in section 3 of the National Security Act
20 of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 401a)) designated by the Presi-
21 dent, who shall be appointed by the agency, entity,
22 or component, as the case may be.

23 **SEC. 4. DUTIES OF THE TASK FORCE.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—Under the direction of the Presi-
25 dent, the Task Force shall develop and execute plans, in

1 cooperation with foreign allied governments when appro-
2 priate, for—

3 (1) the active mediation of the United States to
4 foster negotiations between or among foreign govern-
5 ments engaged in civil, ethnic, or geographic con-
6 flicts that increase the risk of the acquisition, test-
7 ing, or the deployment of weapons of mass destruc-
8 tion;

9 (2) trade, economic reform, and investment pro-
10 grams of the United States to promote the market-
11 based development of the countries described in
12 paragraph (1) to reduce incentives for the acquisi-
13 tion or use of such weapons; and

14 (3) a revised and integrated intelligence net-
15 work that gathers, analyzes, and transmits all vital
16 data to the President in advance of policy decisions
17 related to such weapons.

18 (b) REPORTS.—Beginning 6 months after the date
19 of enactment of this Act, and every 6 months thereafter,
20 the Task Force shall submit a report to Congress on the
21 progress made during the preceding 6 months in carrying
22 out its responsibilities pursuant to paragraphs (1), (2),
23 and (3) of subsection (a).

1 **SEC. 5. TERMINATION OF TASK FORCE AUTHORITY.**

2 The Task Force shall terminate on October 1, 2001.

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