

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1238

To direct the President to submit to Congress a report on the long-term costs of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and Operation Enduring Freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 18, 2013

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa (for himself and Mr. JONES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the President to submit to Congress a report on the long-term costs of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and Operation Enduring Freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan, 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 “True Cost of War Act
5 of 2013”.

1 **SEC. 2. REPORT ON LONG-TERM COSTS OF OPERATION**
2 **IRAQI FREEDOM AND OPERATION ENDURING**
3 **FREEDOM.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
5 ings:

6 (1) The United States has been engaged in
7 military operations in Afghanistan since October
8 2001 as Operation Enduring Freedom and in mili-
9 tary operations in Iraq since March 2003 as Oper-
10 ation Iraqi Freedom and its successor contingency
11 operation, Operation New Dawn.

12 (2) According to the Congressional Research
13 Service, through fiscal year 2013, Congress has ap-
14 propriated \$1,500,000,000,000 for the Department
15 of Defense, for the State Department, and for med-
16 ical costs paid by the Department of Veterans Af-
17 fairs. This amount includes \$821,000,000,000 re-
18 lated to operations in Iraq and \$645,000,000,000
19 related to operations in Afghanistan.

20 (3) Over 90 percent of the funds appropriated
21 for the Department of Defense for operations in
22 Iraq and Afghanistan have been provided as supple-
23 mental or additional appropriations and designated
24 as an emergency funding requirement.

25 (4) The Congressional Budget Office and the
26 Congressional Research Service have stated that fu-

1 ture costs for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan
2 are difficult to estimate because the Department of
3 Defense provides little information on costs incurred
4 to date and actual expenditure for operations in Iraq
5 and Afghanistan (because war and baseline funds
6 are mixed in the same accounts) and because of a
7 lack of information from the Department of Defense
8 on many of the key factors that determine costs, in-
9 cluding personnel levels and the pace of operations.

10 (5) Over 2,400,000 members of the United
11 States Armed Forces have served in Afghanistan
12 and Iraq since the beginning of the conflicts.

13 (6) Over 4,400 members of the Armed Forces
14 and Department of Defense civilian personnel have
15 been killed in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and over
16 2,100 members of the Armed Forces and Depart-
17 ment of Defense civilian personnel have been killed
18 in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

19 (7) Over 1,715 members of the Armed Forces
20 have suffered amputations as a result of wounds or
21 other injuries incurred in Afghanistan or Iraq.

22 (8) More than 250,000 veterans of military
23 service in Iraq and Afghanistan have been treated
24 for mental health conditions, more than 100,000 of
25 these veterans have been diagnosed with post-trau-

1 matic stress disorder, and approximately 253,330 of
2 these veterans have a confirmed traumatic brain in-
3 jury diagnosis.

4 (9) Approximately 54 percent of veterans of
5 military service in Iraq and Afghanistan have sought
6 treatment at a Department of Veterans Affairs hos-
7 pital or medical clinic.

8 (10) The Independent Review Group on Reha-
9 bilitative Care and Administrative Processes at Wal-
10 ter Reed Army Medical Center and National Naval
11 Medical Center identified traumatic brain injury,
12 post-traumatic stress disorder, increased survival of
13 severe burns, and traumatic amputations as the four
14 signature wounds of the current conflicts, and the
15 Independent Review Group report states that the re-
16 covery process “can take months or years and must
17 accommodate recurring or delayed manifestations of
18 symptoms, extended rehabilitation and all the life
19 complications that emerge over time from such trau-
20 ma”.

21 (b) REPORT REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 90 days
22 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President,
23 with contributions from the Secretary of Defense, the Sec-
24 retary of State, and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs,
25 shall submit to Congress a report containing an estimate

1 of previous costs of Operation New Dawn (the successor
2 contingency operation to Operation Iraqi Freedom) and
3 the long-term costs of Operation Enduring Freedom for
4 a scenario, determined by the President and based on cur-
5 rent contingency operation and withdrawal plans, that
6 takes into account expected force levels and the expected
7 length of time that members of the Armed Forces will be
8 deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

9 (c) ESTIMATES TO BE USED IN PREPARATION OF
10 REPORT.—In preparing the report required by subsection
11 (b), the President shall make estimates and projections
12 through at least fiscal year 2023, adjust any dollar
13 amounts appropriately for inflation, and take into account
14 and specify each of the following:

15 (1) The total number of members of the Armed
16 Forces expected to be deployed in support of Oper-
17 ation Enduring Freedom, including—

18 (A) the number of members of the Armed
19 Forces actually deployed in Southwest Asia in
20 support of Operation Enduring Freedom;

21 (B) the number of members of reserve
22 components of the Armed Forces called or or-
23 dered to active duty in the United States for
24 the purpose of training for eventual deployment
25 in Southwest Asia, backfilling for deployed

troops, or supporting other Department of Defense missions directly or indirectly related to Operation Enduring Freedom; and

(C) the break-down of deployments of members of the regular and reserve components and activation of members of the reserve components.

(2) The number of members of the Armed Forces, including members of the reserve components, who have previously served in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, or Operation Enduring Freedom and who are expected to serve multiple deployments.

(3) The number of contractors and private military security firms that have been used and are expected to be used during the course of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and Operation Enduring Freedom.

(4) The number of veterans currently suffering and expected to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, or other mental injuries.

(5) The number of veterans currently in need of and expected to be in need of prosthetic care and treatment because of amputations incurred during

1 service in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Op-
2 eration New Dawn, or Operation Enduring Free-
3 dom.

4 (6) The current number of pending Department
5 of Veterans Affairs claims from veterans of military
6 service in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the total num-
7 ber of such veterans expected to seek disability com-
8 pensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

9 (7) The total number of members of the Armed
10 Forces who have been killed or wounded in Iraq or
11 Afghanistan, including noncombat casualties, the
12 total number of members expected to suffer injuries
13 in Afghanistan, and the total number of members
14 expected to be killed in Afghanistan, including non-
15 combat casualties.

16 (8) The amount of funds previously appro-
17 priated for the Department of Defense, the Depart-
18 ment of State, and the Department of Veterans Af-
19 fairs for costs related to Operation Iraqi Freedom,
20 Operation New Dawn, and Operation Enduring
21 Freedom, including an account of the amount of
22 funding from regular Department of Defense, De-
23 partment of State, and Department of Veterans Af-
24 fairs budgets that has gone and will go to costs asso-
25 ciated with such operations.

(9) Previous, current, and future operational expenditures associated with Operation Enduring Freedom and, when applicable, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn, including—

(A) funding for combat operations;

(B) deploying, transporting, feeding, and housing members of the Armed Forces (including fuel costs);

(C) activation and deployment of members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces;

(D) equipping and training of Iraqi and Afghani forces;

(E) purchasing, upgrading, and repairing weapons, munitions, and other equipment consumed or used in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, or Operation Enduring Freedom; and

(F) payments to other countries for logistical assistance in support of such operations.

(10) Past, current, and future costs of entering into contracts with private military security firms and other contractors for the provision of goods and services associated with Operation Iraqi Freedom,

1 Operation New Dawn, and Operation Enduring
2 Freedom.

3 (11) Average annual cost for each member of
4 the Armed Forces deployed in support of Operation
5 Enduring Freedom, including room and board,
6 equipment and body armor, transportation of troops
7 and equipment (including fuel costs), and oper-
8 ational costs.

9 (12) Current and future cost of combat-related
10 special pays and benefits, including reenlistment bo-
11 nuses.

12 (13) Current and future cost of calling or or-
13 dering members of the reserve components to active
14 duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

15 (14) Current and future cost for reconstruction,
16 embassy operations and construction, and foreign
17 aid programs for Iraq and Afghanistan.

18 (15) Current and future cost of bases and other
19 infrastructure to support members of the Armed
20 Forces serving in Afghanistan.

21 (16) Current and future cost of providing
22 health care for veterans who served in support of
23 Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, or
24 Operation Enduring Freedom, including—

1 (A) the cost of mental health treatment for
2 veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress
3 disorder and traumatic brain injury, and other
4 mental problems as a result of such service; and

5 (B) the cost of lifetime prosthetics care
6 and treatment for veterans suffering from am-
7 putations as a result of such service.

8 (17) Current and future cost of providing De-
9 partment of Veterans Affairs disability benefits for
10 the lifetime of veterans who incur disabilities while
11 serving in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Op-
12 eration New Dawn, or Operation Enduring Free-
13 dom.

14 (18) Current and future cost of providing sur-
15 vivors' benefits to survivors of members of the
16 Armed Forces killed while serving in support of Op-
17 eration Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, or Op-
18 eration Enduring Freedom.

19 (19) Cost of bringing members of the Armed
20 Forces and equipment back to the United States
21 upon the conclusion of Operation Enduring Free-
22 dom, including the cost of demobilization, transpor-
23 tation costs (including fuel costs), providing transi-
24 tion services for members of the Armed Forces
25 transitioning from active duty to veteran status,

1 transporting equipment, weapons, and munitions
2 (including fuel costs), and an estimate of the value
3 of equipment that will be left behind.

4 (20) Cost to restore the military and military
5 equipment, including the equipment of the reserve
6 components, to full strength after the conclusion of
7 Operation Enduring Freedom.

8 (21) Amount of money borrowed to pay for Op-
9 eration Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and
10 Operation Enduring Freedom, and the sources of
11 that money.

12 (22) Interest on money borrowed, including in-
13 terest for money already borrowed and anticipated
14 interest payments on future borrowing, for Oper-
15 ation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and Op-
16 eration Enduring Freedom.

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