

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2717

To authorize further assistance to Israel for the Iron Dome anti-rocket defense system and authorization for cooperation on the David's Sling, Arrow, and Arrow 3 anti-missile defense systems.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 17, 2013

Mr. ROSKAM (for himself and Mr. DEUTCH) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To authorize further assistance to Israel for the Iron Dome anti-rocket defense system and authorization for cooperation on the David's Sling, Arrow, and Arrow 3 anti-missile defense systems.

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 “United States-Israel
5 Missile Defense Cooperation Act of 2013”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The State of Israel remains under grave
2 threat and frequent attack from missiles, rockets,
3 and mortar shells fired at Israeli civilian targets by
4 militants from Foreign Terrorist Organizations such
5 as Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad on its
6 southern border and by Hezbollah on its northern
7 border, which have killed, wounded, or inflicted psy-
8 chological trauma on countless Israelis. Additionally,
9 Israel faces a potential ballistic missile threat from
10 Iran and Syria.

11 (2) The United States-Israel Enhanced Security
12 Cooperation Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8601 et seq.)
13 established the policy of the United States to sup-
14 port the inherent right of Israel to self-defense.

15 (3) The United States remains committed to
16 Israel's qualitative military edge, including its ad-
17 vantage over non-state actors such as Hezbollah and
18 Hamas, which boast increasingly sophisticated and
19 powerful weapons as a result of support from Iran,
20 Syria, and other state actors.

21 (4) The United States can help to advance its
22 own vital national security interests and the cause of
23 Middle Eastern peace and stability by supporting
24 Israel's ability to defend itself against missiles, rock-
25 ets, and other threats.

1 (5) United States-Israel missile defense co-
2 operation dates back over two decades with great
3 success, such as the Arrow Weapon System, which
4 is already protecting Israel. These systems are life-
5 saving, war-preventing and the technologies of the
6 cooperative programs belong to both the United
7 States and Israel.

8 (6) United States industries are equal partners
9 in the development of the cooperative systems, which
10 creates employment opportunities in the United
11 States and Israel. All technical milestones to date
12 have been met on time.

13 (7) The David's Sling Weapon System
14 (DSWS), in joint development by the United States
15 and Israel, is being designed to intercept short-range
16 and medium-range ballistic missiles, long-range
17 rockets, and cruise missiles.

18 (8) The David's Sling Weapon System success-
19 fully intercepted an inert medium-range rocket in
20 November 2012, and defense officials expect the pro-
21 gram to be fully operational as planned on time.

22 (9) The Arrow 3 Weapon System, in joint de-
23 velopment by the United States and Israel, is being
24 designed to intercept long-range missiles in high alti-

1 tude in order to minimize leakage from a nuclear or
2 chemical warhead.

3 (10) The Arrow 3 Weapon System completed a
4 successful fly-out test in February 2013 and July
5 2013.

6 (11) The Arrow Weapon System, in joint devel-
7 opment between the United States and Israel, has
8 been operational since 2000 and targets medium-
9 range ballistic missiles.

10 (12) The Israeli Defense Forces report that the
11 Iron Dome anti-rocket defense system has achieved
12 a success rate of more than 85 percent, intercepting
13 rockets bound for residential neighborhoods, busy
14 road junctions, shopping centers, and crowded
15 streets across Israel.

16 (13) The success of the Iron Dome anti-rocket
17 defense system during Operation Pillar of Defense in
18 November 2012 averted massive Israeli casualties,
19 thereby decreasing Israel's need to conduct a
20 ground-based attack against Gaza-based terrorists,
21 enhancing Israel's operational flexibility, and pre-
22 venting terrorists from plunging the region into cri-
23 sis whenever they choose.

24 (14) Israel has indicated that it is ready to
25 share the technology of the Iron Dome anti-rocket

1 defense system with the United States, which would
2 strengthen United States defense capabilities.

3 (15) The Government of Israel currently has
4 five operational Iron Dome batteries deployed in the
5 field, which are far from sufficient to protect all of
6 Israel's territory.

7 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL FOR**
8 **THE IRON DOME ANTI-ROCKET DEFENSE SYS-**
9 **TEM AND AUTHORIZATION FOR COOPERA-**
10 **TION ON THE DAVID'S SLING, ARROW, AND**
11 **ARROW 3 ANTI-MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEMS.**

12 The President, acting through the Secretary of De-
13 fense and the Secretary of State, is authorized to provide
14 assistance, upon request of the Government of Israel, for
15 the procurement of the Iron Dome anti-rocket defense sys-
16 tem, as well as authorization for cooperation on the devel-
17 opment, maintenance, enhancement, and sustainment of
18 the David's Sling, Arrow, and Arrow 3 anti-missile defense
19 systems, for the purposes of intercepting short-range, me-
20 dium-range, and long-range rockets, missiles, and projec-
21 tiles launched against Israel.

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