

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1915

To authorize the Secretary of Defense to carry out activities relating to the research, development, test, and evaluation and procurement of the David's Sling weapons program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 2015

Mr. KILMER (for himself and Mr. BRIDENSTINE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign 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 authorize the Secretary of Defense to carry out activities relating to the research, development, test, and evaluation and procurement of the David's Sling weapons program, 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 “David’s Sling Author-
5 ization Act for Fiscal Year 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Israel is threatened by missiles and rockets
2 from adversaries in the region.

3 (2) Over the past several years, with the assist-
4 ance of the governments of the Islamic Republic of
5 Iran and Syria, Hezbollah and Hamas have in-
6 creased their stockpile of rockets and missiles, which
7 are ready to be fired at Israel. The Lebanon conflict
8 in 2006 proved that Large Caliber Artillery Rockets
9 (LCARs) and Short Range Ballistic Missiles
10 (SRBMs) have become an immediate mortal threat
11 to the Israeli civilian population and are in the pos-
12 session of Hezbollah and Syria.

13 (3) In 2014, Hezbollah took possession of ad-
14 vanced guided-missile systems from Syria, rep-
15 resenting a major upgrade from the tens of thou-
16 sands unguided rockets in Hezbollah's possession.

17 (4) Hamas militants recently acquired long-
18 range M-302 rockets and fired them deeper into
19 Israel than they ever had before.

20 (5) In 2008, the United States and Israel
21 signed a project agreement to co-develop the David's
22 Sling system.

23 (6) The David's Sling system will provide Israel
24 an effective and affordable defense against the
25 threat of LCAR, Tactical Ballistic Missiles (TBM)

1 and against the emerging Cruise Missile and similar
2 representative threats, currently proliferating in the
3 region.

4 (7) Israeli Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD)
5 multi-tier architecture is comprised of the Upper
6 Tier (Arrow Weapon System with Arrow 2 and
7 Arrow 3 interceptors) and Lower Tier (David's Sling
8 and Iron Dome systems). Arrow 2 and Iron Dome
9 are operational, while David's Sling is expected to
10 reach its initial operational capability shortly, fol-
11 lowed by Arrow 3 in near future.

12 (8) Each system is designed to optimally en-
13 counter its own range of threats, with a limited
14 planned overlap between them. David's Sling is de-
15 signed to provide a regionally versatile defense in a
16 range between Iron Dome and Arrow 2 systems.

17 (9) The missile and rocket threat to Israel is
18 immediate. Rapid development and deployment of
19 the David's Sling system is crucial to provide an en-
20 hanced defense to the State of Israel and its people.

21 (10) The fiscal year 2016 requirement for
22 maintaining the cost and schedule for the Arrow II,
23 Arrow III, David's Sling, and Iron Dome programs
24 is \$475,200,000 to support research, testing, devel-
25 opment, and procurement of these systems.

1 (11) Of the \$475,200,000, \$136,900,000 is re-
2 quired in fiscal year 2016 for completion of research
3 and development and \$150,000,000 is required for
4 the procurement of David’s Sling system compo-
5 nents.

6 (12) The United States-Israel Enhanced Secu-
7 rity Cooperation Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–150)
8 reaffirmed the commitment of the United States to
9 the security of Israel as a Jewish State and to assist
10 in the defense of Israel and to protect United States
11 interests.

12 (13) The United States-Israel Strategic Part-
13 nership Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–296) des-
14 ignated Israel as a Major Strategic Partner of the
15 United States.

16 **SEC. 3. DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION OF DAVID’S**
17 **SLING WEAPONS PROGRAM.**

18 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary of Defense may
19 carry out activities relating to the research, development,
20 test, and evaluation and procurement of the David’s Sling
21 weapons program.

22 (b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—In addi-
23 tion to amounts otherwise authorized to be appropriated
24 for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2016, to

1 carry out this section there is authorized to be appro-
2 priated for fiscal year 2016—

3 (1) for procurement, Defense-wide,
4 \$150,000,000; and

5 (2) for research, development, test, and evalua-
6 tion, Defense-wide, \$136,900,000.

7 (c) SENSE OF CONGRESS ON COPRODUCTION.—It is
8 the Sense of Congress that—

9 (1) the United States and the Government of
10 Israel should enter into a production agreement that
11 specifies the terms of coproduction, program sched-
12 ule, and an itemization of costs with respect to the
13 David’s Sling weapons program production activi-
14 ties;

15 (2) such production agreement should strive for
16 coproduction of the David’s Sling components to the
17 most optimal level and schedule; and

18 (3) reaching such a bilateral production agree-
19 ment, to include funds disbursement policy, should
20 be a priority, as has been done in other missile de-
21 fense programs.

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