

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1265

To require the Secretary of Defense to make certain certifications to Congress before retiring B-1, B-2, or B-52 bomber aircraft.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 11, 2015

Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. CASSIDY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense to make certain certifications to Congress before retiring B-1, B-2, or B-52 bomber aircraft.

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 “Long Range Bomber  
5 Sustainment Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. LIMITATIONS ON RETIREMENT OF B-1, B-2, AND B-**  
7 **52 BOMBER AIRCRAFT.**

8 No B-1, B-2, or B-52 bomber aircraft may be re-  
9 tired during a fiscal year unless the Secretary of Defense

1 certifies, by not later than March 1 of the preceding fiscal  
2 year, that—

3 (1) the retirement of the aircraft will not det-  
4 rimentally affect the capacity of the Armed Forces  
5 of the United States to carry out the full range of  
6 long range bomber aircraft missions anticipated in  
7 operational plans of the Armed Forces in effect as  
8 of the date of the submission of that certification;

9 (2) the Secretary has completed assessments  
10 of—

11 (A) planning scenarios that span the range  
12 of plausible future challenges for such aircraft;  
13 and

14 (B) the severity, likelihood, and imminence  
15 of risk associated with each such planning sce-  
16 nario;

17 (3) the Secretary has concluded, based on the  
18 assessments referred to in paragraph (2), that re-  
19 tirements of B-1, B-2, and B-52 bomber aircraft in  
20 the near term will not detrimentally affect oper-  
21 ational capability; and

22 (4) the Secretary has developed a plan to re-  
23 place any operational capability lost as a result of  
24 the retirement of such bomber aircraft.

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