

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3694

To provide for an independent assessment of the future of cooperative threat reduction.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 7, 2017

Mr. BANKS of Indiana introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To provide for an independent assessment of the future of cooperative threat reduction.

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 “Future of the Nunn-
5 Lugar Program Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The Cooperative Threat Reduction program,
9 initially established in 1991 by Senators Richard
10 Lugar and Sam Nunn, provided funding and exper-

1 tise to secure and dismantle nuclear, chemical, and
2 biological weapons and delivery systems in former
3 Soviet Union states.

4 (2) After the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat
5 Reduction program was signed into law, Russia,
6 Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan all agreed to im-
7 plement the program.

8 (3) Russia developed programs to improve secu-
9 rity at nuclear weapons facilities and together with
10 Ukraine opened science and technology centers to
11 help employ former Soviet weapons scientists.

12 (4) Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan agreed
13 to remove all nuclear warheads from their terri-
14 tories, and accomplished this objective within three
15 years.

16 (5) In 1996, the Nunn-Lugar-Domenici Domes-
17 tic Preparedness Initiative built on the initial goals
18 of the Cooperative Threat Reduction program to
19 train civilians to assist following an attack by a
20 weapon of mass destruction.

21 (6) In recent years, funding provided through
22 the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Pro-
23 gram has focused on export and border control pro-
24 grams and on the detection of radiological weapons,
25 sometimes referred to as “dirty bombs”.

1 (7) In 2013, the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative
2 Threat Reduction program provided funding for
3 Libya to dispose of the chemical weapons and muni-
4 tions discovered after the fall of the Gadhafi regime.

5 (8) In 2014, under the umbrella of the Nunn-
6 Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction program, the
7 United States played a role in carrying out the re-
8 moval of chemical weapons from Syria.

9 (9) The Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Re-
10 duction program has been a success, but as the
11 world continues to change, new partnerships and
12 strategies will be required to deal with new threats
13 posed by weapons of mass destruction.

14 **SEC. 3. ASSESSMENT ON THE FUTURE OF COOPERATIVE**
15 **THREAT REDUCTION.**

16 (a) ASSESSMENT.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after
18 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
19 of Defense shall seek to enter into an agreement
20 with a federally funded research and development
21 center to assess the current, anticipated, and poten-
22 tial future requirements for cooperative threat re-
23 duction.

24 (2) INFORMATION AND RESOURCES.—The Sec-
25 retary shall provide the federally funded research

1 and development center conducting the assessment
2 under paragraph (1) with access to any information
3 and resources necessary for the federally funded re-
4 search and development center to conduct such as-
5 sessment.

6 (b) REPORT.—

7 (1) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than one year
8 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the fed-
9 erally funded research and development center con-
10 ducting the assessment under subsection (a)(1) shall
11 submit to the Secretary an interim report on the as-
12 sessment.

13 (2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 18 months
14 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the fed-
15 erally funded research and development center con-
16 ducting the assessment under subsection (a)(1) shall
17 submit to the Secretary a final report on the assess-
18 ment.

19 (3) ELEMENTS.—Each report under para-
20 graphs (1) and (2) shall include the following:

21 (A) A detailed discussion of the require-
22 ments and capabilities necessary for reducing
23 the threats of nuclear, chemical, and biological
24 weapons.

1 (B) An identification of capability gaps for
2 current and future cooperative threat reduction
3 efforts and requirements.

4 (C) Recommendations with respect to ac-
5 tions that could be taken, including legislative
6 actions, to modernize the Cooperative Threat
7 Reduction Program of the Department of De-
8 fense established under section 1321 of the De-
9 partment of Defense Cooperative Threat Reduc-
10 tion Act (50 U.S.C. 3711) to better respond to
11 threats during the 10-year period beginning on
12 the date of the report.

13 (D) Recommendations with respect to ac-
14 tions that could be taken to modernize the com-
15 mand and control enterprise and the role of the
16 Director of the Defense Threat Reduction
17 Agency.

18 (E) Such other matters as the Secretary
19 determines appropriate.

20 (4) SUBMISSION.—Not later than seven days
21 after receiving each report under paragraphs (1) and
22 (2), the Secretary shall submit such report to Con-
23 gress without change.

24 (c) COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION DEFINED.—
25 In this section, the term “cooperative threat reduction”

1 means the activities specified in section 1321(a) of the De-
2 partment of Defense Cooperative Threat Reduction Act
3 (50 U.S.C. 3711(a)).

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