

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5231

To direct the Secretary of the Air Force to develop a force design for the Air Force and Space Force.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 18, 2023

Mr. BACON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Air Force to develop a force design for the Air Force and Space Force.

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 “Department of the Air
5 Force Future Force Design Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. FUTURE FORCE DESIGN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF**
7 **THE AIR FORCE.**

8 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
9 gress that—

1 (1) the Department of the Air Force has made
2 significant progress in organizing, training, and
3 equipping the Air Force and Space Force to address
4 the needs of the Joint Force and align with the cur-
5 rent National Defense Strategy and National Mili-
6 tary Strategy; and

7 (2) to be prepared to effectively deter and de-
8 feat a peer adversary, the Department must address
9 force design requirements that will enable equipment
10 modernization, organizational restructure, and ca-
11 pacity adjustments to meet the challenges presented
12 by the People’s Republic of China.

13 (b) FORCE DESIGN REQUIRED.—Not later than Au-
14 gust 31, 2024, the Secretary of the Air Force shall develop
15 a force design for the Air Force and Space Force projected
16 through 2050.

17 (c) ELEMENTS.—The force design under subsection
18 (b) shall address—

19 (1) the concepts, capabilities, and structural
20 elements (including size and form) of the Air Force
21 and Space Force that are necessary to ensure those
22 forces effectively execute their core functions
23 through 2050 in support of the National Defense
24 Strategy and the National Military Strategy;

1 (2) force structure, including the development
2 of capabilities (including platforms and systems) at
3 the right level of capacity to address the challenges
4 outlined by the National Defense Strategy and Na-
5 tional Military Strategy;

6 (3) force composition, including recruitment
7 and development of the human capital, effective dis-
8 tribution of forces in the total force and policies to
9 increase career flexibility across the different compo-
10 nents;

11 (4) organizational design, including develop-
12 ment of potential models to increase agility and
13 operational effectiveness across the Air Force and
14 Space Force; and

15 (5) such other matters as the Secretary of the
16 Air Force determines to be relevant.

17 (d) INFORMATION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 60
18 days after completion of the force design required under
19 subsection (b), the Secretary of the Air Force shall—

20 (1) submit a summary of the force design to
21 the congressional defense committees; and

22 (2) provide to the congressional defense com-
23 mittees a briefing on the force design.

24 (e) CONGRESSIONAL DEFENSE COMMITTEES DE-
25 FINED.—In this section, the term “congressional defense

1 committees” has the meaning given that term in section
2 101(a)(16) of title 10, United States Code.

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