

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2848

To require amounts used to pay the costs of the renaming the Department of Defense to be derived from the travel budget of the Secretary of Defense, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 17 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 16), 2025

Ms. ALSOBROOKS (for herself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To require amounts used to pay the costs of the renaming the Department of Defense to be derived from the travel budget of the Secretary of Defense, 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 “Department of De-
5 fense’s Cost of ‘War’ Act of 2025” or the “DoD COW
6 Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF FUNDS TO PAY COSTS OF RENAM-**
2 **ING DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.**

3 (a) FINDING.—Congress finds that—

4 (1) title II of the National Security Act of 1947
5 (61 Stat. 499, chapter 343) established the National
6 Military Establishment to replace the Department of
7 War; and

8 (2) the National Military Establishment was
9 subsequently renamed the Department of Defense,
10 by an amendment to the National Security Act of
11 1947 made by section 4 of the National Security Act
12 Amendments of 1949 (63 Stat. 578, chapter 412).

13 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
14 gress that, as the Department was established and named
15 by an Act of Congress, the name of the Department can
16 be changed only by an Act of Congress.

17 (c) DESIGNATION OF FUNDS.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall pay cov-
19 ered costs by reallocating amounts available to the
20 Secretary for travel expenses to pay such costs.

21 (2) ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—If the total amount
22 of covered costs exceeds the total amount available
23 to the Secretary for travel, the Secretary shall pay
24 the remaining amount of covered costs by reallo-
25 cating amounts available to the secretaries of the
26 military departments for travel to pay such costs.

1 (d) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than one year
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
3 shall submit to Congress a report on the total amount obli-
4 gated or expended to pay covered costs.

5 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

6 (1) COVERED COSTS.—The term “covered
7 costs” means costs accrued by the Department and
8 associated with the changing of “Department of De-
9 fense” to “Department of War” on physical signage,
10 websites, stationary, printed media, and digital
11 media owned or operated by the United States Gov-
12 ernment.

13 (2) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”
14 means the executive department established by sec-
15 tion 111 of title 10, United States Code.

16 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
17 the official established by and appointed under sec-
18 tion 113 of such title.

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