

“(e) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means—

“(1) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

“(2) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

“(f) SUNSET.—The authority in this section to carry out activities described in subsection (a), and to provide support described in subsection (b), shall expire on December 31, 2026.”

#### UNITED STATES-ISRAEL ANTI-TUNNEL COOPERATION

Pub. L. 114-92, div. A, title XII, §1279, Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 1079, as amended by Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title XII, §1295(a), (b), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2562; Pub. L. 115-91, div. A, title XII, §1278(a), Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1700; Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title XII, §1272(a), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 2066; Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title XII, §1279, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1703; Pub. L. 118-31, div. A, title XII, §1252, Dec. 22, 2023, 137 Stat. 467; Pub. L. 118-159, div. A, title XII, §1212, Dec. 23, 2024, 138 Stat. 2099, provided that:

“(a) AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH ANTI-TUNNEL CAPABILITIES PROGRAM WITH ISRAEL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense, upon request of the Ministry of Defense of Israel and in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Director of National Intelligence, is authorized to carry out research, development, test, and evaluation, on a joint basis with Israel, to establish anti-tunnel capabilities to detect, map, maneuver in, and neutralize underground tunnels that threaten the United States or Israel. Any activities carried out pursuant to such authority shall be conducted in a manner that appropriately protects sensitive information and United States and Israel national security interests.

“(2) REPORT.—The activities described in paragraph (1) and subsection (b) may be carried out after the Secretary of Defense submits to the appropriate committees of Congress a report setting forth the following:

“(A) A memorandum of agreement between the United States and Israel regarding sharing of research and development costs for the capabilities described in paragraph (1), and any supporting documents.

“(B) A certification that the memorandum of agreement—

“(i) requires sharing of costs of projects, including in-kind support, between the United States and Israel;

“(ii) establishes a framework to negotiate the rights to any intellectual property developed under the memorandum of agreement; and

“(iii) requires the United States Government to receive semiannual reports on expenditure of funds, if any, by the Government of Israel, including a description of what the funds have been used for, when funds were expended, and an identification of entities that expended the funds.

“(b) SUPPORT IN CONNECTION WITH PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense is authorized to provide maintenance and sustainment support to Israel for the anti-tunnel capabilities research, development, test, and evaluation activities authorized in subsection (a)(1). Such authority includes authority to install equipment necessary to carry out such research, development, test, and evaluation.

“(2) REPORT.—Support may not be provided under paragraph (1) until 15 days after the Secretary submits to the appropriate committees of Congress a report setting forth a detailed description of the support to be provided.

“(3) MATCHING CONTRIBUTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), support may not be provided under this subsection unless the Government of Israel contributes an amount not less than the amount of support to be so provided to the program, project, or activity for which the support is to be so provided in the calendar year in which the support is provided.

“(B) EXCEPTION.—Subject to paragraph (4), the Secretary may use amounts available to the Secretary in excess of the amount contributed by the Government of Israel to provide support under this subsection for costs associated with any unique national requirement identified by the United States with respect to anti-tunnel capabilities.

“(4) ANNUAL LIMITATION ON AMOUNT.—The amount of support provided under this subsection in any year may not exceed \$50,000,000.

“(5) USE OF CERTAIN AMOUNTS FOR RDT&E ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES.—Of the amount provided by the United States in support under paragraph (1), not less than 50 percent of such amount shall be used for research, development, test, and evaluation activities in the United States in connection with such support.

“(c) LEAD AGENCY.—The Secretary of Defense shall designate an appropriate research and development entity of a military department as the lead agency of the Department of Defense in carrying out this section.

“(d) SEMIANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress on a semiannual basis a report that contains a copy of the most recent semiannual report provided by the Government of Israel to the Department of Defense pursuant to subsection (a)(2)(B)(iii).

“(e) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means—

“(1) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

“(2) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

“(f) SUNSET.—The authority in this section to carry out activities described in subsection (a), and to provide support described in subsection (b), shall expire on December 31, 2026.”

#### CONSTRUCTIVE REGIONAL ENERGY COOPERATION

Pub. L. 113-296, §12(c)(2), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 4081, provided that: “The Secretary of State shall continue the ongoing diplomacy efforts of the Secretary of State in—

“(A) engaging and supporting the energy security of Israel; and

“(B) promoting constructive regional energy cooperation in the Eastern Mediterranean.”

### § 8607. Other matters of cooperation

#### (a) In general

Activities authorized under this section shall be carried out with the concurrence of the Secretary of State and aligned with the National Security Strategy of the United States, the United States Government Global Health Security Strategy, the Department of State Integrated Country Strategies, the USAID Country Development Cooperation Strategies, and any equivalent or successor plans or strategies, as necessary and appropriate.

#### (b) Development of health technologies

##### (1) In general

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Health and Human Services

\$4,000,000 for fiscal years 2021 through 2023 for a bilateral cooperative program with the Government of Israel that awards grants for the development of health technologies, which may include health technologies listed in paragraph (2), subject to paragraph (3), with an emphasis on collaboratively advancing the use of technology and personalized medicine in relation to COVID-19.

**(2) Types of health technologies**

The health technologies described in this paragraph are technologies such as, drugs and vaccines, ventilators, diagnostic tests, and technologies to facilitate telemedicine.

**(3) Restrictions on funding**

Amounts appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) are subject to a matching contribution from the Government of Israel.

**(4) Option for establishing new program**

Amounts appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) may be expended for a bilateral program with the Government of Israel that—

(A) is in existence on the day before January 1, 2021, for the purposes described in paragraph (1); or

(B) is established after January 1, 2021, by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of State, in accordance with the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the State of Israel on Cooperation in Science and Technology for Homeland Security Matters, done at Jerusalem May 29, 2008 (or a successor agreement), for the purposes described in paragraph (1).

**(5) Public availability**

The Secretary shall require, as a condition of any grant awarded under this subsection, that all research publications and results of such research, including basic and applied research, shall be made publicly available on the website of the Department of Health and Human Services.

**(c) Coordinator of United States-Israel Research and Development**

**(1) In general**

The President may designate the Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, or another appropriate Department of State official, to act as Coordinator of United States-Israel Research and Development (referred to in this subsection as the “Coordinator”).

**(2) Authorities and duties**

The Coordinator, in conjunction with the heads of relevant Federal Government departments and agencies and in coordination with the Israel Innovation Authority, may oversee civilian science and technology programs on a joint basis with Israel.

**(d) Office of Global Policy and Strategy of the Food and Drug Administration**

**(1) In general**

It is the sense of Congress that the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration

should seek to explore collaboration with Israel through the Office of Global Policy and Strategy.

**(2) Report**

Not later than one year after January 1, 2021, the Commissioner, acting through the head of the Office of Global Policy and Strategy, shall submit a report describing the benefits to the United States and to Israel of opening an office in Israel for the Office of Global Policy and Strategy to—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

(D) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

**(e) United States-Israel Energy Center**

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Energy \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 2021 to carry out the activities of the United States-Israel Energy Center established pursuant to section 17337(d) of title 42.

**(f) United States-Israel Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation**

It is the sense of Congress that grants to promote covered energy projects conducted by, or in conjunction with, the United States-Israel Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation should be funded at not less than \$2,000,000 annually under section 17337(b) of title 42.

**(g) Omitted**

**(h) Annual policy dialogue**

It is the sense of Congress that the Department of Transportation and Israel’s Ministry of Transportation should engage in an annual policy dialogue to implement the 2016 Memorandum of Cooperation signed by the Secretary of Transportation and the Israeli Minister of Transportation.

**(i) Cooperation on space exploration and science initiatives**

The Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall continue to work with the Israel Space Agency to identify and cooperatively pursue peaceful space exploration and science initiatives in areas of mutual interest, taking all appropriate measures to protect sensitive information, intellectual property, trade secrets, and economic interests of the United States.

**(j) Research and development cooperation relating to desalination technology**

Not later than one year after January 1, 2021, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall submit a report that describes research and development cooperation with international partners, such as the State of Israel, in the area of desalination technology in accordance with section 9(b)(3) of the Water Desalination Act of 1996 (42 U.S.C. 10301 note) to—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(2) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate;

(3) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

(4) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.

**(k) Research and treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder**

It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs should seek to explore collaboration between the Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Centers of Excellence and Israeli institutions with expertise in researching and treating posttraumatic stress disorder.

(Pub. L. 116–283, div. A, title XII, § 1280A, Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3982.)

**Editorial Notes**

**REFERENCES IN TEXT**

Section 9(b)(3) of the Water Desalination Act of 1996, referred to in subsec. (j), is section 9(b)(3) of Pub. L. 104–298, which is set out in a note under section 10301 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.

**CODIFICATION**

Section is comprised of section 1280A of Pub. L. 116–283. Subsec. (g) of section 1280A of Pub. L. 116–283 amended section 8606 of this title.

Section was enacted as part of the United States-Israel Security Assistance Authorization Act of 2020 and also as part of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, and not as part of the United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act of 2012 which comprises this chapter.

**CHAPTER 94—IRAN THREAT REDUCTION AND SYRIA HUMAN RIGHTS**

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**§ 8701. Definitions**

Except as otherwise specifically provided, in this Act: