

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 117-54
OFFERED BY MR. JACKSON OF TEXAS

At the appropriate place in subtitle C of title XII,
insert the following:

1 **SEC. 12 . AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO**
2 **THE KURDISH PESHMERGA.**

3 (a) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—

4 In this section, the term “appropriate congressional com-
5 mittees” means—

6 (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the
7 Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on
8 Appropriations, and the Permanent Select Com-
9 mittee on Intelligence of the House of Representa-
10 tives; and

11 (2) the Committee on Armed Services, the
12 Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on
13 Appropriations, and the Select Committee on Intel-
14 ligence of the Senate.

15 (b) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense, with
16 the concurrence of the Secretary of State, is authorized
17 to provide assistance, including training, equipment, sup-
18 plies, stipends, construction of training and associated fa-
19 cilities, and sustainment, to the Kurdish Peshmerga, in

1 coordination with the Government of Iraq, through De-
2 cember 31, 2023, for the following purposes:

3 (1) Defending Iraq from attacks by the Islamic
4 State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), al-Qaeda, the Gov-
5 ernment of Iran, and terrorist organizations funded
6 by the Government of Iran.

7 (2) Protecting the United States, friends and
8 allies of the United States, and the Iraqi people
9 from the threats posed by terrorist organizations
10 and foreign adversaries.

11 (3) Training the forces of the Kurdish
12 Peshmerga and building lasting and sustainable
13 military capabilities.

14 (c) NOTICE BEFORE PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE.—
15 Not later than 15 days before providing assistance to the
16 Kurdish Peshmerga for the first time pursuant to sub-
17 section (b), the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with
18 the Secretary of State, shall submit an unclassified report,
19 with a classified annex, as appropriate, to the appropriate
20 congressional committees and the leadership of the Senate
21 and the House of Representatives and Senate that con-
22 tains—

23 (1) a plan for providing such assistance; and

24 (2) a description of how such assistance fits
25 within a larger regional strategy.

1 (d) PLAN ELEMENTS.—The plan required under sub-
2 section (c)(1) shall include a description of—

3 (1) the goals and objectives of assistance to be
4 provided pursuant to subsection (b);

5 (2) the concept of operations, timelines, and
6 types of training, equipment, stipends, sustainment,
7 construction, and supplies to be provided under such
8 plan;

9 (3) the roles and contributions of partner na-
10 tions;

11 (4) any additional military support and
12 sustainment activities; and

13 (5) any other relevant details.

14 (e) QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than
15 90 days after the Secretary of Defense submits the report
16 required under subsection (c), and every 90 days there-
17 after, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the
18 Secretary of State, shall submit a progress report to the
19 appropriate congressional committees and the leadership
20 of the Senate and the House of Representatives that in-
21 cludes, based on the most recent quarterly information—

22 (1) any updates to or changes in the plan,
23 strategy, vetting requirements and process, and end-
24 use monitoring mechanisms and procedures since the
25 submission of the previous report;

1 (2) a description of how the threat of attacks
2 against United States or coalition personnel is being
3 mitigated, statistics on any such attacks, and how
4 such attacks are being mitigated;

5 (3) any misuse or loss of provided training and
6 equipment and how such misuse or loss is being
7 mitigated;

8 (4) an assessment of the operational effective-
9 ness of the Kurdish Peshmerga, and any steps that
10 have been taken to improve their effectiveness; and

11 (5) a description of sustainment support pro-
12 vided to the Kurdish Peshmerga.

13 (f) REPROGRAMMING REQUIREMENT.—The Sec-
14 retary of Defense may submit a reprogramming or trans-
15 fer request of funds made available for Overseas Contin-
16 gency Operations beginning on October 1, 2020, and end-
17 ing on December 31, 2022, to the appropriate congres-
18 sional committees to carry out activities authorized under
19 this section.

20 (g) AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT CONTRIBUTIONS.—The
21 Secretary of Defense may accept and retain contributions,
22 including assistance in-kind, from foreign governments to
23 provide assistance as authorized by this section. Any funds
24 accepted by the Secretary under this subsection shall be
25 credited to appropriations for the appropriate operation

1 and maintenance accounts, except that any such funds
2 shall not be available for obligation until a reprogramming
3 request is submitted to the appropriate congressional com-
4 mittees.

5 (h) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
6 tion may be construed—

7 (1) to constitute a specific statutory authoriza-
8 tion for the introduction of United States Armed
9 Forces into hostilities or into situations wherein hos-
10 tilities are clearly indicated by the circumstances; or

11 (2) to supersede or alter the continuing obliga-
12 tions of the President to report to Congress pursu-
13 ant to section 4 of the War Powers Resolution (50
14 U.S.C. 1543) regarding the use of United States
15 Armed Forces abroad.

