

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 115-**

**23**

**OFFERED BY MR. KENNEDY OF MASSACHUSETTS**

At the end of subtitle C of title XVI, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 1643. NATIONAL RUSSIAN THREAT RESPONSE CEN-**  
2 **TER.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The National Security Act of  
4 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) is amended by inserting  
5 after section 119B the following new section:

6 **“SEC. 119C. NATIONAL RUSSIAN THREAT RESPONSE CEN-**  
7 **TER.**

8 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is within the Office of  
9 the Director of National Intelligence a National Russian  
10 Threat Response Center (in this section referred to as the  
11 ‘Center’).

12 “(b) MISSION.—The primary missions of the Center  
13 shall be as follows:

14 “(1) To serve as the primary organization in  
15 the United States Government for analyzing and in-  
16 tegrating all intelligence possessed or acquired by  
17 the United States Government pertaining to threats  
18 posed by the Russian Federation to the national se-

1 security, political sovereignty, and economic activity of  
2 the United States and its allies.

3 “(2) To synchronize the efforts of the intel-  
4 ligence community with respect to countering efforts  
5 by Russia to undermine the national security, polit-  
6 ical sovereignty, and economic activity of the United  
7 States and its allies, including by—

8 “(A) ensuring that each such element is  
9 aware of and coordinating on such efforts; and

10 “(B) overseeing the development and im-  
11 plementation of comprehensive and integrated  
12 policy responses to such efforts.

13 “(3) In coordination with the relevant elements  
14 of the Department of State, the Department of De-  
15 fense, the intelligence community, and other depart-  
16 ments and agencies of the United States—

17 “(A) to develop policy recommendations for  
18 the President to detect, deter, and respond to  
19 the threats posed by Russia described in para-  
20 graph (1), including with respect to covert ac-  
21 tivities pursuant to section 503; and

22 “(B) to monitor and assess efforts by Rus-  
23 sia to carry out such threats.

24 “(4) In coordination with the head of the Glob-  
25 al Engagement Center established by section 1287

1 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal  
2 Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328), to examine cur-  
3 rent and emerging efforts by Russia to use propa-  
4 ganda and information operations relating to the  
5 threats posed by Russia described in paragraph (1).

6 “(5) To identify and close gaps across the de-  
7 partments and agencies of the Federal Government  
8 with respect to expertise, readiness, and planning to  
9 address the threats posed by Russia described in  
10 paragraph (1).

11 “(c) DIRECTOR.—

12 “(1) APPOINTMENT.—There is a Director of  
13 the Center, who shall be the head of the Center, and  
14 who shall be appointed by the Director of National  
15 Intelligence, with the concurrence of the Secretary of  
16 State. The Director may not simultaneously serve in  
17 any other capacity in the executive branch.

18 “(2) REPORTING.—The Director of the Center  
19 shall directly report to the Director of National In-  
20 telligence.

21 “(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Director of the  
22 Center shall—

23 “(A) ensure that the relevant departments  
24 and agencies of the Federal Government par-  
25 ticipate in the mission of the Center, including

1 by recruiting detailees from such departments  
2 and agencies in accordance with subsection  
3 (e)(1); and

4 “(B) have primary responsibility within the  
5 United States Government, in coordination with  
6 the Director of National Intelligence, for estab-  
7 lishing requirements for the collection of intel-  
8 ligence related to, or regarding, the threats  
9 posed by Russia described in subsection (b)(1),  
10 in accordance with applicable provisions of law  
11 and Executive orders.

12 “(d) ANNUAL REPORTS.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—At the direction of the Di-  
14 rector of National Intelligence, but not less than  
15 once each year, the Director of the Center shall sub-  
16 mit to the appropriate congressional committees a  
17 report on threats posed by Russia to the national se-  
18 curity, political sovereignty, and economic activity of  
19 the United States and its allies.

20 “(2) MATTERS INCLUDED.—Each report under  
21 paragraph (1) shall include, with respect to the pe-  
22 riod covered by the report, a discussion of the fol-  
23 lowing:

24 “(A) The nature of the threats described  
25 in such paragraph.

1           “(B) The ability of the United States Gov-  
2           ernment to address such threats.

3           “(C) The progress of the Center in achiev-  
4           ing its missions.

5           “(D) Recommendations the Director deter-  
6           mines necessary for legislative actions to im-  
7           prove the ability of the Center to achieve its  
8           missions.

9           “(3) FORM.—Each report under paragraph (1)  
10          shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may in-  
11          clude a classified annex.

12          “(e) EMPLOYEES.—

13                 “(1) DETAILEES.—Any Federal Government  
14          employee may be detailed to the Center on a reim-  
15          bursable or nonreimbursable basis, and such detail  
16          shall be without interruption or loss of civil service  
17          status or privilege for a period of not more than 8  
18          years.

19                 “(2) PERSONAL SERVICE CONTRACTORS.—The  
20          Director of National Intelligence, in consultation  
21          with the Secretary of State, may hire United States  
22          citizens or aliens as personal services contractors for  
23          purposes of personnel resources of the Center, if—

1           “(A) the Director of National Intelligence  
2 determines that existing personnel resources are  
3 insufficient;

4           “(B) the period in which services are pro-  
5 vided by a personal services contractor, includ-  
6 ing options, does not exceed 3 years, unless the  
7 Director of National Intelligence determines  
8 that exceptional circumstances justify an exten-  
9 sion of up to 1 additional year;

10           “(C) not more than 10 United States citi-  
11 zens or aliens are employed as personal services  
12 contractors under the authority of this para-  
13 graph at any time; and

14           “(D) the authority of this paragraph is  
15 only used to obtain specialized skills or experi-  
16 ence or to respond to urgent needs.

17           “(3) SECURITY CLEARANCES.—Each employee  
18 detailed to the Center and contractor of the Center  
19 shall have the security clearance appropriate for the  
20 assigned duties of the employee or contractor.

21           “(f) BOARD.—

22           “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a  
23 Board of the National Russian Threat Response  
24 Center (in this section referred to as the ‘Board’).

1           “(2) FUNCTIONS.—The Board shall conduct  
2 oversight of the Center to ensure the Center is  
3 achieving the missions of the Center. In conducting  
4 such oversight, upon a majority vote of the members  
5 of the Board, the Board may recommend to the Di-  
6 rector of National Intelligence that the Director of  
7 the Center should be removed for failing to achieve  
8 such missions.

9           “(3) MEMBERSHIP.—

10           “(A) APPOINTMENT.—The Board shall  
11 consist of 6 members. The head of each depart-  
12 ment or agency of the Federal Government  
13 specified in subparagraph (B) shall appoint a  
14 senior official from that department or agency,  
15 who shall be a member of the Senior Executive  
16 Service, as a member.

17           “(B) DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES REP-  
18 RESENTED.—The department or agency of the  
19 Federal Government specified in this subpara-  
20 graph are the following:

21           “(i) The Department of State.

22           “(ii) The Department of Defense.

23           “(iii) The Department of Justice.

24           “(iv) The Department of the Treas-  
25 ury.

1                   “(v) The Department of Homeland  
2                   Security.

3                   “(vi) The Central Intelligence Agency.

4                   “(4) MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet not  
5                   less than biannually and shall be convened by the  
6                   member appointed by the Secretary of State.

7                   “(g) INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT.—The Director  
8                   of the Center may convene biannual conferences to coordi-  
9                   nate international efforts against threats posed by Russia  
10                  described in subsection (b)(1).

11                  “(h) TERMINATION.—The Center shall terminate on  
12                  the date that is 8 years after the date of the enactment  
13                  of this section.

14                  “(i) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES  
15                  DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate congres-  
16                  sional committees’ means—

17                   “(1) the congressional intelligence committees;

18                   “(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the  
19                   Committee on Armed Services of the House of Rep-  
20                   resentatives; and

21                   “(3) the Committee on Foreign Relations and  
22                   the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.”.

23                  (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
24                  at the beginning of such Act is amended by inserting after  
25                  the item relating to section 119B the following new item:

“Sec. 119C. National Russian Threat Response Center.”.



1           (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 507(a) of  
2 such Act (50 U.S.C. 3106) is amended by adding at the  
3 end the following new paragraph:

4           “(6) An annual report submitted under section  
5 119C(d)(1).”.

6           (d) FUNDING.—

7           (1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any other au-  
8 thority of the Director of National Intelligence to  
9 transfer or reprogram funds, the Director may  
10 transfer not more than \$10,000,000 for each of fis-  
11 cal years 2018 and 2019 to carry out the functions  
12 of the National Russian Threat Response Center es-  
13 tablished by section 119C of the National Security  
14 Act of 1947, as added by subsection (a), during such  
15 fiscal years.

16           (2) NOTICE.—The Director of National Intel-  
17 ligence shall notify the congressional intelligence  
18 committees (as defined in section 3 of the National  
19 Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003)) of a pro-  
20 posed transfer under paragraph (1) not less than 15  
21 days prior to making such transfer.

22           (3) INAPPLICABILITY OF REPROGRAMMING RE-  
23 QUIREMENTS.—The authority to transfer amounts  
24 under paragraph (1) shall not be subject to any

- 1 transfer or reprogramming requirements under any
- 2 other provision of law.

