At the end of subtitle G of title XII, add the following new section:

SEC. 12. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON NORTH KOREA.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, also known as North Korea, continues to develop a ballistic and nuclear weapons development program that poses a grave threat to the United States, United States allies the Republic of Korea, Japan, and Australia, and to regional and global security.

(2) North Korea continues to escalate the pace and number of its ballistic missile launches, and to date has conducted five nuclear tests.

(3) On July 4, 2017, North Korea conducted the first test of an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) it claims is capable of reaching United States territory, which, if reliable and effective, constitutes a new threat to America’s security.

(4) On June 3, 2017, Secretary of Defense James Mattis stated, during remarks at the Shangri-La Dialogue, that “the current North Korea...
program signals a clear intent to acquire nuclear armed ballistic missiles, including those of intercontinental range that pose direct and immediate threats to our allies, our partners and all the world’.

(5) On April 27, 2017, Admiral Harry Harris, Jr., Commander of the United States Pacific Command, testified that “North Korea continues to disregard United Nations sanctions by developing, and threatening to use intercontinental ballistic missiles and nuclear weapons that will threaten the U.S. Homeland.”.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the United States should act to counter North Korea’s continued development and testing of nuclear weapons and intercontinental ballistic missiles;

(2) the development of a functional and operational North Korean nuclear and intercontinental ballistic missile program constitutes a threat to the security of the United States and to our allies and partners in the region;

(3) the defense of the United States and our allies against North Korean aggression remains a top priority, and the United States maintains an unwav-
ering and steadfast commitment to the policy of ex-
tended deterrence, especially with respect to South
Korea and Japan;

(4) the United States supports the deployment
of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense
(THAAD) system in South Korea to counter North
Korea’s missile threat and the deployment of bal-
listic missile defense systems to allies in the Indo-
Asia-Pacific region to protect from the growing
threat of North Korea’s nuclear weapons and bal-
listic missile programs;

(5) the United States should encourage further
multilateral security cooperation and dialogue among
South Korea, Japan, and Australia to address the
North Korea threat;

(6) the United States calls upon the People’s
Republic of China to use its leverage to pressure
North Korea to cease its provocative behavior and
abandon and dismantle its nuclear and ballistic mis-
sile programs, and comply with all relevant United
Nations Security Council resolutions;

(7) the United States should fully enforce all
existing sanctions on North Korea and undertake a
comprehensive diplomatic effort to urge allies and
other countries to fully enforce, and build upon, existing international sanctions; and

(8) the United States should retain diplomatic, economic, and military options to defend against and pressure North Korea to abandon its illicit weapons program.