AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4435
OFFERED BY MS. TSONGAS OF MASSACHUSETTS

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

SEC. __. ACTIONS TO SUPPORT HUMAN RIGHTS, PARTICIPATION, PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE, EXISTING FRAMEWORKS, AND SECURITY AND MOBILITY WITH RESPECT TO WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that promoting women’s meaningful inclusion and participation in conflict prevention, management, and resolution, as well as in post-conflict relief and recovery, advances core United States national interests of peace, national security, economic and social development, and international cooperation.

(b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to promote and support the security of women and girls in conflict-affected and post-conflict regions and ensure their protection from sexual and gender-based violence;
(2) to promote and support the security of women and girls in Afghanistan during the security transition process and recognize that promoting security for Afghan women and girls must remain a priority of United States foreign policy; and

(3) to maintain and improve the gains of women and girls in Afghanistan made since 2002, including in terms of their political participation and integration in security forces.

c) ACTIONS REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure the indicators of success of the security transition process and establishment of an independent Afghanistan as described in paragraph (2) are achieved.

(2) INDICATORS OF SUCCESS.—The indicators of success referred to in paragraph (1) are the following:

(A) Support for human rights of women and girls in Afghanistan.
(B) Participation of women in Afghanistan at all levels of decision-making and governance in Afghanistan.

(C) Strategic integration of women in the Afghan National Security Forces.

(D) Support for initiatives to prevent sexual and gender-based violence, including implementation of Afghanistan’s Elimination of Violence Against Women law and support for the Ministry of Interior’s Family Response Units in the Afghan National Police.


(F) Recognition of the ability of women in Afghanistan to move freely and securely throughout Afghanistan.

(d) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, and the Administrator of the United States Agency
for International Development shall jointly submit to
the appropriate congressional committees a report
on efforts by the United States Government to sup-
port the human rights, participation, prevention of
violence, existing frameworks, and security and mo-
bility with respect to women and girls in Afghan-
istan.

(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
TEES DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “ap-
propriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the congressional defense committees;

and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations of
the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Af-
fairs of the House of Representatives.