

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1614

To modify and extend the National Guard State Partnership Program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 25, 2015

Ms. BORDALLO (for herself, Mr. WALZ, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mr. BRIDENSTINE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To modify and extend the National Guard State Partnership Program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “State Partnership Pro-
5 gram Enhancement Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATION AND EXTENSION OF NATIONAL**
7 **GUARD STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.**

8 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—Subsection (a)(1) of section 1205
9 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year

1 2014 (Public Law 113–66; 127 Stat. 897; 32 U.S.C. 107
2 note) is amended—

3 (1) by striking “whose primary functions in-
4 clude disaster response or emergency response,”;
5 and

6 (2) by adding at the end before the period the
7 following: “to support the national interests and se-
8 curity cooperation goals and objectives of the United
9 States as defined by the current and evolving na-
10 tional global strategic policies of the United States”.

11 (b) LIMITATION.—Subsection (b) of such section is
12 amended by striking “whose primary functions include
13 disaster response or emergency response”.

14 (c) REGULATIONS.—Such section, as so amended, is
15 further amended by striking subsection (c) and inserting
16 the following:

17 “(c) REGULATIONS.—

18 “(1) REGULATIONS.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of De-
20 fense, with the concurrence of the Secretary of
21 State, shall prescribe regulations to carry out
22 this section. Such regulations shall establish
23 procedures relating to planning, programming,
24 budgeting, accounting procedures, and perform-
25 ance metrics to ensure—

1 “(i) appropriate use of funds to carry
2 out this section; and

3 “(ii) expenditures of funds to carry
4 out this section are accounted for and ap-
5 propriate.

6 “(B) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of
7 Defense, with the concurrence of the Secretary
8 of State, shall consult with the Chief of the Na-
9 tional Guard Bureau on—

10 “(i) the development of and changes
11 to regulations prescribed under subpara-
12 graph (A); and

13 “(ii) the development of the annual
14 report under subsection (e).

15 “(2) ROLE OF CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD
16 BUREAU.—The Chief of the National Guard Bureau
17 shall—

18 “(A) establish, maintain, and update as
19 appropriate a list of core competencies of the
20 National Guard to support each program estab-
21 lished under subsection (a), collectively and for
22 each State and territory, and shall submit to
23 the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of
24 State the list of core competencies of the Na-

1 tional Guard and additional information needed
2 to make use of such core competencies; and

3 “(B) designate a director for each State
4 and territory who shall be responsible for the
5 conduct of activities under a program estab-
6 lished under subsection (a) for such State or
7 territory and reporting on activities under the
8 program.

9 “(3) ROLE OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.—The
10 Secretary of Defense shall ensure that regulations to
11 carry out this section include planning, coordinating,
12 and execution requirements with the relevant com-
13 batant commanders and that activities under a pro-
14 gram established under subsection (a) meet the rel-
15 evant theater security cooperation objectives.

16 “(4) ROLE OF SECRETARY OF STATE.—The
17 Secretary of State shall ensure that the regulations
18 to carry out this section include planning, coordi-
19 nating, and execution requirements with the relevant
20 chiefs of mission and that activities under a program
21 established under subsection (a) meet the diplomatic
22 objectives of the Department of State.”.

23 (d) NATIONAL GUARD STATE PARTNERSHIP PRO-
24 GRAM FUND.—Subsection (d) of such section is amended
25 to read as follows:

1 “(d) NATIONAL GUARD STATE PARTNERSHIP PRO-
2 GRAM FUND.—

3 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby estab-
4 lished on the books of the Treasury the National
5 Guard State Partnership Program Fund (in this
6 subsection referred to as the ‘Fund’).

7 “(2) CREDITS TO FUND.—There shall be cred-
8 ited to the Fund the following:

9 “(A) Amounts authorized for and appro-
10 priated to the Fund.

11 “(B) Amounts that the Secretary of De-
12 fense transfers, in such amounts as provided in
13 appropriations Acts, to the Fund from amounts
14 authorized and appropriated to the Department
15 of Defense, including amounts authorized to be
16 appropriated for the Army National Guard and
17 the Air National Guard.

18 “(3) USE OF AMOUNTS IN FUND.—In such
19 amounts as provided in appropriations Acts, the Sec-
20 retary of Defense may use amounts in the Fund
21 to—

22 “(A) for payment of costs incurred by the
23 National Guard of a State or territory to con-
24 duct activities under a program established
25 under subsection (a), including costs for per-

1 sonnel, training, operations, and equipment;
2 and

3 “(B) for payment of incremental expenses
4 of a foreign country to conduct activities under
5 a program established under subsection (a).

6 “(4) LIMITATIONS.—

7 “(A) ACTIVE DUTY REQUIREMENT.—
8 Amounts shall not be available under paragraph
9 (3) for the participation of a member of the
10 National Guard of a State or territory in activi-
11 ties in a foreign country unless the member is
12 on active duty in the Armed Forces at the time
13 of such participation.

14 “(B) INCREMENTAL EXPENSES.—The total
15 amount of payments for incremental expenses
16 of foreign countries as authorized under para-
17 graph (3)(B) for activities under programs es-
18 tablished under subsection (a) in any fiscal year
19 may not exceed \$10,000,000.”.

20 (e) ANNUAL REPORT.—Subsection (e) of such section
21 is amended—

22 (1) by striking “(e) REPORTS AND NOTIFICA-
23 TIONS.—” and all that follows through “(B) MAT-
24 TERS TO BE INCLUDED.—” and inserting the fol-
25 lowing:

1 “(e) ANNUAL REPORT.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 31
3 of each year following a fiscal year in which activi-
4 ties under a program established under subsection
5 (a) are carried out, the Secretary of Defense, in co-
6 ordination with the Secretary of State, shall submit
7 to the appropriate congressional committees a report
8 on such activities under the program.

9 “(2) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—”;

10 (2) by redesignating clauses (i) through (v) as
11 subparagraphs (A) through (E), respectively; and

12 (3) in paragraph (2) (as redesignated)—

13 (A) in subparagraph (C) (as redesignated),
14 by inserting “or other government organiza-
15 tions” after “and security forces”;

16 (B) in subparagraph (D) (as redesignated),
17 by adding at the end before the period the fol-
18 lowing: “or chiefs of mission”;

19 (C) in subparagraph (E) (as redesignated),
20 by adding at the end before the period the fol-
21 lowing: “or how the activities support the chief
22 of mission with responsibilities for the country
23 in which the activities occurred”; and

24 (D) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(F) A performance review of activities
2 conducted during the previous year using
3 metrics developed by the Chief of the National
4 Guard Bureau.”.

5 (f) DEFINITIONS.—Subsection (g) of such section is
6 amended—

7 (1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as para-
8 graph (3);

9 (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(2) CORE COMPETENCIES.—The term ‘core
12 competencies of the National Guard’ or ‘core com-
13 petencies’ means military-to-military and military-to-
14 civilian skills and capabilities of the National Guard
15 that would contribute the purpose of the program
16 established under subsection (a).”;

17 (3) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(4) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of
19 the several States, the District of Columbia, the
20 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Vir-
21 gin Islands.”.

22 (g) TERMINATION.—Such section is further amended
23 by striking subsection (i).

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