

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3694

To provide for an independent assessment of the future of cooperative threat reduction.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 7, 2017

Mr. BANKS of Indiana introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To provide for an independent assessment of the future of cooperative threat reduction.

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 “Future of the Nunn-  
5 Lugar Program Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The Cooperative Threat Reduction program,  
9 initially established in 1991 by Senators Richard  
10 Lugar and Sam Nunn, provided funding and exper-

1       tise to secure and dismantle nuclear, chemical, and  
2       biological weapons and delivery systems in former  
3       Soviet Union states.

4               (2) After the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat  
5       Reduction program was signed into law, Russia,  
6       Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan all agreed to im-  
7       plement the program.

8               (3) Russia developed programs to improve secu-  
9       rity at nuclear weapons facilities and together with  
10      Ukraine opened science and technology centers to  
11      help employ former Soviet weapons scientists.

12              (4) Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan agreed  
13      to remove all nuclear warheads from their terri-  
14      tories, and accomplished this objective within three  
15      years.

16              (5) In 1996, the Nunn-Lugar-Domenici Domes-  
17      tic Preparedness Initiative built on the initial goals  
18      of the Cooperative Threat Reduction program to  
19      train civilians to assist following an attack by a  
20      weapon of mass destruction.

21              (6) In recent years, funding provided through  
22      the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Pro-  
23      gram has focused on export and border control pro-  
24      grams and on the detection of radiological weapons,  
25      sometimes referred to as “dirty bombs”.

1           (7) In 2013, the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative  
2 Threat Reduction program provided funding for  
3 Libya to dispose of the chemical weapons and muni-  
4 tions discovered after the fall of the Gadhafi regime.

5           (8) In 2014, under the umbrella of the Nunn-  
6 Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction program, the  
7 United States played a role in carrying out the re-  
8 moval of chemical weapons from Syria.

9           (9) The Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Re-  
10 duction program has been a success, but as the  
11 world continues to change, new partnerships and  
12 strategies will be required to deal with new threats  
13 posed by weapons of mass destruction.

14 **SEC. 3. ASSESSMENT ON THE FUTURE OF COOPERATIVE**  
15 **THREAT REDUCTION.**

16 (a) ASSESSMENT.—

17           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after  
18 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
19 of Defense shall seek to enter into an agreement  
20 with a federally funded research and development  
21 center to assess the current, anticipated, and poten-  
22 tial future requirements for cooperative threat re-  
23 duction.

24           (2) INFORMATION AND RESOURCES.—The Sec-  
25 retary shall provide the federally funded research

1 and development center conducting the assessment  
2 under paragraph (1) with access to any information  
3 and resources necessary for the federally funded re-  
4 search and development center to conduct such as-  
5 sessment.

6 (b) REPORT.—

7 (1) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than one year  
8 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the fed-  
9 erally funded research and development center con-  
10 ducting the assessment under subsection (a)(1) shall  
11 submit to the Secretary an interim report on the as-  
12 sessment.

13 (2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 18 months  
14 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the fed-  
15 erally funded research and development center con-  
16 ducting the assessment under subsection (a)(1) shall  
17 submit to the Secretary a final report on the assess-  
18 ment.

19 (3) ELEMENTS.—Each report under para-  
20 graphs (1) and (2) shall include the following:

21 (A) A detailed discussion of the require-  
22 ments and capabilities necessary for reducing  
23 the threats of nuclear, chemical, and biological  
24 weapons.

1 (B) An identification of capability gaps for  
2 current and future cooperative threat reduction  
3 efforts and requirements.

4 (C) Recommendations with respect to ac-  
5 tions that could be taken, including legislative  
6 actions, to modernize the Cooperative Threat  
7 Reduction Program of the Department of De-  
8 fense established under section 1321 of the De-  
9 partment of Defense Cooperative Threat Reduc-  
10 tion Act (50 U.S.C. 3711) to better respond to  
11 threats during the 10-year period beginning on  
12 the date of the report.

13 (D) Recommendations with respect to ac-  
14 tions that could be taken to modernize the com-  
15 mand and control enterprise and the role of the  
16 Director of the Defense Threat Reduction  
17 Agency.

18 (E) Such other matters as the Secretary  
19 determines appropriate.

20 (4) SUBMISSION.—Not later than seven days  
21 after receiving each report under paragraphs (1) and  
22 (2), the Secretary shall submit such report to Con-  
23 gress without change.

24 (c) COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION DEFINED.—  
25 In this section, the term “cooperative threat reduction”

1 means the activities specified in section 1321(a) of the De-  
2 partment of Defense Cooperative Threat Reduction Act  
3 (50 U.S.C. 3711(a)).

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