

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 240

To require an Air Force study on the threats to, and sustainability of,
the test and training range infrastructure.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 31, 2011

Mr. ENSIGN (for himself, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. HATCH, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. REID, and Mr. RISCH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To require an Air Force study on the threats to, and sustainability of, the test and training range infrastructure.

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. STUDY ON AIR FORCE TEST AND TRAINING**
4 **RANGE INFRASTRUCTURE.**

5 (a) STUDY.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Air
7 Force shall conduct a study on the ability of the
8 major air test and training range infrastructure, in-
9 cluding major military operating area airspace and
10 special use airspace, to support the full spectrum of

1 Air Force operations. The Secretary shall incor-
2 porate the results of the study into a master plan
3 for requirements and proposed investments to meet
4 Air Force training and test needs through 2025.
5 The study and the master plan shall be known as
6 the “2025 Air Test and Training Range Enhance-
7 ment Plan”.

8 (2) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of the Air
9 Force shall, in conducting the study required under
10 paragraph (1), consult with the Secretaries of the
11 other military departments to determine opportuni-
12 ties for joint use and training of the ranges, and to
13 assess the requirements needed to support combined
14 arms training on the ranges. The Secretary shall
15 also consult with the Department of the Interior, the
16 Department of Agriculture, the Federal Aviation Ad-
17 ministration, the Federal Energy Regulation Com-
18 mission, and the Department of Energy to assess
19 the need for transfers of administrative control of
20 certain parcels of airspace and land to the Depart-
21 ment of Defense to protect the missions and control
22 of the ranges.

23 (3) CONTINUATION OF RANGE INFRASTRUC-
24 TURE IMPROVEMENTS.—The Secretary of the Air
25 Force shall proceed with all ongoing and scheduled

1 range infrastructure improvements while conducting
2 the study required under paragraph (1).

3 (b) REPORTS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Air
5 Force shall submit to the congressional defense com-
6 mittees (as that term is defined in section 101 of
7 title 10, United States Code) interim reports and a
8 final report on the plan to meet the requirements
9 under subsection (a) not later than 240 days, 330
10 days, and 730 days, respectively, after the date of
11 the enactment of this Act. In addition, the Secretary
12 of the Air Force shall submit to the congressional
13 defense committees progress reports at 180 day in-
14 tervals between the second such interim report and
15 the final report.

16 (2) CONTENT.—The plan submitted under
17 paragraph (1) shall—

18 (A) document the current condition and
19 adequacy of the major Air Force test and train-
20 ing range infrastructure in the United States to
21 meet test and training requirements;

22 (B) identify potential areas of concern for
23 maintaining the physical safety, security, and
24 current operating environment of such infra-
25 structure;

1 (C) identify potential issues and threats re-
2 lated to the sustainability of the test and train-
3 ing infrastructure, including electromagnetic
4 spectrum encroachment, overall bandwidth
5 availability, and protection of classified infor-
6 mation;

7 (D) assess coordination among ranges and
8 local, state, regional, and Federal entities in-
9 volved in land use planning, and develop rec-
10 ommendations on how to improve communica-
11 tion and coordination of such entities;

12 (E) propose remedies and actions to man-
13 age economic development on private lands on
14 or surrounding the test and training infrastruc-
15 ture to preserve current capabilities;

16 (F) identify critical parcels of land not cur-
17 rently under the control of the Air Force for ac-
18 quisition of deed or restrictive easements in
19 order to protect current operations, access and
20 egress corridors, and range boundaries, or to
21 expand the capability of the air test and train-
22 ing ranges;

23 (G) identify which parcels identified pursu-
24 ant to subparagraph (F) could, through the ac-
25 quisition of conservation easements, serve mili-

1 tary interests while also preserving recreational
2 access to public and private lands, protecting
3 wildlife habitat, or preserving opportunities for
4 energy development and energy transmission;

5 (H) prioritize improvements and mod-
6 ernization of the facilities, equipment, and tech-
7 nology supporting the infrastructure in order to
8 provide a test and training environment that
9 accurately simulates and or portrays the full
10 spectrum of threats and targets of likely United
11 States adversaries in 2025;

12 (I) incorporate emerging requirements gen-
13 erated by requirements for virtual training and
14 new weapon systems, including the F-22, the
15 F-35, space and cyber systems, and Remotely
16 Piloted Aircraft;

17 (J) assess the value of State and local leg-
18 islative initiatives to protect Air Force test and
19 training range infrastructure;

20 (K) identify parcels with no value to future
21 military operations; and

22 (L) propose a list of prioritized projects,
23 easements, acquisitions, or other actions, in-
24 cluding estimated costs required to upgrade the
25 test and training range infrastructure, taking

1 into consideration the criteria set forth in this
2 paragraph.

3 (3) FORM.—Each report required under this
4 subsection shall be submitted in unclassified form,
5 but may include a classified annex as necessary.

6 (4) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The reports
7 submitted under this section shall not be construed
8 as meeting the requirements of section 2815(d) of
9 the Military Construction Authorization Act for Fis-
10 cal Year 2000 (Public Law 106–65; 113 Stat. 852).

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