118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 510

To require the Secretary of the Air Force to provide training to members of the air force of Israel on the operation of KC–46 aircraft, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 16, 2023

Mr. COTTON introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Air Force to provide training to members of the air force of Israel on the operation of KC–46 aircraft, and for other purposes.

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 "Expediting Israeli Aer-

5 ial Refueling Act of 2023".

1 **SEC. 2. TRAINING ISRAELI PILOTS TO OPERATE KC–46 AIR-**

2 **CRAFT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the

4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the

5 Air Force shall—

6 (1) make available sufficient resources and ac-

7 commodations within the United States to train

8 members of the air force of Israel on the operation

9 of KC–46 aircraft; and

10 (2) conduct training for members of the air

11 force of Israel, including—

12 (A) training for pilots and crew on the op-

13 eration of the KC–46 aircraft in accordance

14 with standards considered sufficient to conduct

15 coalition operations of the United States Air

16 Force and the air force of Israel; and

17 (B) training for ground personnel on the

18 maintenance and sustainment requirements of

19 the KC–46 aircraft considered sufficient for

20 such operations.

21 (b) UNITED STATES AIR FORCE MILITARY PER-

22 SONNEL EXCHANGE PROGRAM.—The Secretary of De-

23 fense shall, with respect to members of the air force of

24 Israel associated with the operation of KC–46 aircraft—

25 (1) before the completion of the training re-

26 quired by subsection (a)(2), authorize the participa-

tion of such members of the air force of Israel in the

United States Air Force Military Personnel Exchange Program;

(2) make the United States Air Force Military Personnel Exchange Program available to such members of the air force of Israel; and

(3) to the extent practicable, ensure that such members of the air force of Israel may participate in the United States Air Force Military Personnel Exchange Program immediately after such members complete such training.

(c) TERMINATION.—This section shall cease to have effect on the date that is ten years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. FORWARD DEPLOYMENT OF UNITED STATES KC–46 AIRCRAFT TO ISRAEL.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report that describes the capacity of and requirements for the United States Air Force to forward deploy KC–46 aircraft to Israel on a rotational basis until the date on which not fewer than four KC–46 aircraft procured by the military

1 forces of Israel are commissioned into such military forces

2 and achieve full combat capability.

3 (b) ROTATIONAL FORCES.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),

5 the Secretary of Defense shall rotationally deploy

6 one or more KC–46 aircraft to Israel until the ear-

7 lier of—

8 (A) the date on which a KC–46 aircraft

9 procured by the military forces of Israel is com-

10 missioned into such military forces and achieves

11 full combat capability; or

12 (B) five years after the date of the enact-

13 ment of this Act.

14 (2) DESCRIPTION.—The one or more KC–46

15 aircraft deployed under paragraph (1)—

16 (A) may vary in size and number, as the

17 Secretary of Defense considers appropriate; and

18 (B) beginning in the year that is one year

19 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and

20 in each year thereafter until the applicable date

21 described in that paragraph, shall remain in

22 Israel for a period not less than 270 days.

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