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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To limit the use of funds to be used to reduce the total number of United States Armed Forces deployed to the United States Africa Command area of responsibility.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. PANETTA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To limit the use of funds to be used to reduce the total number of United States Armed Forces deployed to the United States Africa Command area of responsibility.

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 “U.S.–Africa Strategic  
5 Security Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR A REDUCTION**  
2 **OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF UNITED STATES**  
3 **ARMED FORCES DEPLOYED TO UNITED**  
4 **STATES AFRICA COMMAND AREA OF RESPON-**  
5 **SIBILITY.**

6 (a) LIMITATION.—No amounts authorized to be ap-  
7 propriated for fiscal year 2020 may be obligated or ex-  
8 pended to reduce the total number of United States Armed  
9 Forces deployed to United States Africa Command area  
10 of responsibility (in this section referred to as “AFRICOM  
11 AOR”) until the date on which each covered official jointly  
12 submits to the appropriate congressional committees a re-  
13 port described in subsection (b).

14 (b) REPORT.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—A report described in this  
16 subsection is a report that addresses each of the fol-  
17 lowing:

18 (A) The effect that the withdrawal of any  
19 United States Armed Forces from the  
20 AFRICOM AOR would have on military, intel-  
21 ligence, diplomatic, developmental, and humani-  
22 tarian efforts to combat each of the violent ex-  
23 tremist organizations described in paragraph  
24 (2), including a statement of the current objec-  
25 tives of each covered official with respect to  
26 such efforts.

1 (B) The strength, regenerative capacity,  
2 and intent of each such violent extremist orga-  
3 nizations described in paragraph (2) in the  
4 AFRICOM AOR, including—

5 (i) an assessment of the number of  
6 fighters in the area of responsibility;

7 (ii) the domestic and international  
8 threat the violent extremist organizations  
9 pose to the United States and its allies;  
10 and

11 (iii) the likely reaction of such violent  
12 extremist organizations to the withdrawal  
13 of United States Armed Forces.

14 (C) The strategic risks involved with coun-  
15 tering such violent extremist organizations fol-  
16 lowing a withdrawal of United States Armed  
17 Forces.

18 (D) The operational risks involved with  
19 conducting United States led or enabled oper-  
20 ations in Africa against such violent extremist  
21 organizations following a withdrawal of United  
22 States Armed Forces.

23 (E) The military and political strategy of  
24 the covered official for meeting any threat from  
25 such violent extremist organizations.

1 (F) The effect any United States with-  
2 drawal from Africa would have on Chinese  
3 power and influence in Africa.

4 (G) The effect any United States with-  
5 drawal from Africa would have on Russian  
6 power and influence in Africa.

7 (H) Any efforts the covered official plans  
8 to undertake to support legitimate, effective,  
9 and democratic local governance in Africa to di-  
10 minish the intent, capability, and likelihood of  
11 return of such violent extremist organizations.

12 (I) Any consultation or coordination with  
13 allies, partners, and associates of the United  
14 States concerning the withdrawal of United  
15 States Armed Forces from the AFRICOM  
16 AOR.

17 (J) An assessment of the likely response  
18 from the governments and military forces of  
19 France, the United Kingdom, and Canada to  
20 the withdrawal of United States Armed Forces  
21 from the AFRICOM AOR.

22 (2) VIOLENT EXTREMIST ORGANIZATIONS DE-  
23 SCRIBED.—The violent extremist organizations de-  
24 scribed in this paragraph are each of the following:

1 (A) Islamic State in Iraq and Syria  
2 (“ISIS”).

3 (B) Al Qaeda.

4 (C) Ansaroul Islam.

5 (D) Boko Haram.

6 (E) Al-Shabaab.

7 (F) Other adversarial groups and forces in  
8 the AFRICOM AOR, as determined by the cov-  
9 ered official.

10 (c) WAIVER.—The Secretary of Defense may waive  
11 the limitation under subsection (a) if, upon advice of the  
12 relevant military commanders, the Secretary determines  
13 that the waiver is necessary due to an imminent and ex-  
14 traordinary threat to members of the United States  
15 Armed Forces in the AFRICOM AOR.

16 (d) FORM.—The report described in subsection (b)  
17 shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain  
18 a classified annex.

19 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20 (1) The term “appropriate congressional com-  
21 mittees” means—

22 (A) the congressional defense committees  
23 (which has the meaning given the term in sec-  
24 tion 101(a)(16) of title 10, United States  
25 Code);

1 (B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of  
2 the House of Representatives and the Com-  
3 mittee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

4 (C) the Permanent Select Committee on  
5 Intelligence of the House of Representatives  
6 and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the  
7 Senate.

8 (2) The term “covered official” means—

9 (A) the Secretary of Defense;

10 (B) the Secretary of State;

11 (C) the Director of National Intelligence;

12 (D) the Under Secretary of Defense for  
13 Policy;

14 (E) the Under Secretary of Defense for In-  
15 telligence;

16 (F) the Assistant Secretary of Defense for  
17 International Security Affairs;

18 (G) the Assistant Secretary of Defense for  
19 Special Operations/Low-Intensity Conflict;

20 (H) the Commander of United States Afri-  
21 ca Command;

22 (I) the Commander of United States Spe-  
23 cial Operations Command; and

24 (J) the Administrator of the United States  
25 Agency for International Development.