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Strengthening America's Security in the Middle East Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Jan 3, 2019

Current Status: Held at the desk.

Latest Action: Held at the desk. (Feb 6, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]

Party: Republican • **State:** FL • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blunt, Roy [R-MO]	R · MO		Jan 3, 2019
Sen. Gardner, Cory [R-CO]	R · CO		Jan 3, 2019
Sen. McConnell, Mitch [R-KY]	R · KY		Jan 3, 2019
Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND]	R · ND		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]	R · TX		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		Jan 8, 2019
Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]	R · ID		Jan 9, 2019
Sen. Hyde-Smith, Cindy [R-MS]	R · MS		Jan 10, 2019
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jan 14, 2019
Sen. Rounds, Mike [R-SD]	R · SD		Jan 28, 2019
Sen. Roberts, Pat [R-KS]	R · KS		Jan 29, 2019
Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]	R · OK		Jan 30, 2019

Committee Activity

No committee referrals or activity are recorded for this bill.

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 52	Related bill	Mar 11, 2020: Committee on Foreign Relations. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 116-241.
116 HR 31	Related bill	Jun 3, 2019: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 107.
116 HR 336	Identical bill	Feb 12, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics.
116 S 28	Related bill	Jan 8, 2019: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 4.

Strengthening America's Security in the Middle East Act of 2019

This bill authorizes assistance and weapons transfers to Israel, extends defense cooperation with Jordan, establishes additional sanctions related to the conflict in Syria, and allows states to divest from entities boycotting Israel.

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen United States-Israel Security Assistance Authorization Act of 2019

The bill reauthorizes through FY2028 Foreign Military Financing to Israel. It extends loan guarantees to Israel through FY2023 and authorizes the President to transfer precision-guided munitions to the country.

The bill directs the President to report on steps taken to help Israel secure a strategic trade authorization exception.

The bill directs the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to continue working with the Israel Space Agency to pursue peaceful space exploration, and authorizes the Department of State to enter into a memorandum of understanding with Israel to coordinate assistance efforts for developing nations.

The President is authorized to enter into a cooperative project agreement with Israel to develop technology to counter unmanned aerial vehicles.

United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Extension Act

The bill extends through 2022 arrangements that allow certain defense articles to be transferred to Jordan on an expedited basis. The bill also directs the President to submit a report to Congress assessing the costs and benefits of establishing a fund to support private investment in Jordan.

Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act of 2019

The bill directs the Department of the Treasury to determine whether the Central Bank of Syria is a primary money-laundering concern and, if so, impose special measures on transactions involving the bank. The bill also imposes sanctions on foreign individuals providing support for the Syrian government, or the military forces or contractors acting on behalf of Syria, Russia, or Iran.

The sanctions include blocking of financial and property transactions and barring of entry into the United States. Such sanctions shall not apply to various nongovernmental organizations and activities related to providing humanitarian aid or supporting democratic institutions in Syria.

The President may suspend the sanctions under certain conditions, including if it is in the United States' national security interests.

Combating BDS Act of 2019

The bill allows a state or local government to adopt measures to divest its assets from entities using boycotts, divestments, or sanctions to influence Israel's policies. Such measures shall meet various requirements, including those related to written notice and comment. It also bars lawsuits against investment companies based solely on a company's decision to divest from entities that use boycotts, divestments, or sanctions to influence Israel's policies.

The bill expresses the sense of the Senate that, before any significant withdrawal of U.S. forces from Syria or Afghanistan, the President should certify that the conditions for the enduring defeat of al Qaeda and ISIS have been met.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 6, 2019:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Feb 6, 2019:** Received in the House.
- **Feb 6, 2019:** Held at the desk.
- **Feb 5, 2019:** Considered by Senate. (consideration: CR S843, S846-857; text: CR S852-857)
- **Feb 5, 2019:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with amendments by Yea-Nay Vote. 77 - 23. Record Vote Number: 16.
- **Feb 5, 2019:** Passed Senate with amendments by Yea-Nay Vote. 77 - 23. Record Vote Number: 16.
- **Feb 4, 2019:** Considered by Senate. (consideration: CR S819-822, S826-830, S839)
- **Feb 4, 2019:** Cloture on the measure invoked in Senate by Yea-Nay Vote. 72 - 24. Record Vote Number: 15. (CR S829)
- **Jan 31, 2019:** Considered by Senate. (consideration: CR S776-777)
- **Jan 31, 2019:** Cloture motion on the measure presented in Senate. (CR S776)
- **Jan 30, 2019:** Considered by Senate. (consideration: CR S755-763)
- **Jan 29, 2019:** Motion to proceed to measure considered in Senate. (CR S725)
- **Jan 29, 2019:** Motion to proceed to consideration of measure agreed to in Senate by Yea-Nay Vote. 76 - 22. Record Vote Number: 12.
- **Jan 29, 2019:** Measure laid before Senate by motion. (consideration: CR S725-736)
- **Jan 28, 2019:** Motion to proceed to measure considered in Senate. (CR S688)
- **Jan 28, 2019:** Motion to proceed to consideration of the motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1 was not invoked (Record Vote No. 1) agreed to in Senate by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jan 28, 2019:** Motion by Senator McConnell to reconsider the vote by which cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1 was not invoked (Record Vote No. 1) agreed to in Senate by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jan 28, 2019:** Upon reconsideration, cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1 invoked in Senate by Yea-Nay Vote. 74 - 19. Record Vote Number: 11. (CR S693)
- **Jan 28, 2019:** Third cloture motion on the motion to proceed rendered moot in Senate.
- **Jan 28, 2019:** Motion by Senator McConnell to reconsider the vote by which the third cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1 was not invoked (Record Vote No. 3) rendered moot in Senate.
- **Jan 25, 2019:** Motion to proceed to measure considered in Senate. (CR S667)
- **Jan 24, 2019:** Motion to proceed to consideration of measure made in Senate. (CR S541)
- **Jan 24, 2019:** Motion to proceed to consideration of measure withdrawn in Senate.
- **Jan 24, 2019:** Motion to proceed to consideration of measure made in Senate. (CR S549)
- **Jan 23, 2019:** Motion to proceed to measure considered in Senate. (CR S483)
- **Jan 22, 2019:** Motion to proceed to measure considered in Senate. (CR S326)
- **Jan 19, 2019:** Motion to proceed to measure considered in Senate. (CR S307)
- **Jan 18, 2019:** Motion to proceed to measure considered in Senate. (CR S299)
- **Jan 15, 2019:** Motion to proceed to consideration of measure made in Senate. (CR S187)
- **Jan 14, 2019:** Motion to proceed to consideration of measure made in Senate. (CR S166)
- **Jan 14, 2019:** Third cloture on the motion to proceed not invoked in Senate by Yea-Nay Vote. 50 - 43. Record Vote Number: 3. (CR S174)
- **Jan 14, 2019:** Motion by Senator McConnell to reconsider the vote by which the third cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1 was not invoked (Record Vote No. 3) entered in Senate.
- **Jan 11, 2019:** Motion to proceed to measure considered in Senate. (consideration: CR S149-159)
- **Jan 10, 2019:** Motion to proceed to measure considered in Senate. (CR S115)
- **Jan 10, 2019:** Second cloture on the motion to proceed not invoked in Senate by Yea-Nay Vote. 53 - 43. Record Vote Number: 2. (CR S128)
- **Jan 10, 2019:** Third cloture motion on the motion to proceed presented in Senate. (CR S148)
- **Jan 9, 2019:** Motion to proceed to measure considered in Senate. (CR S79)
- **Jan 8, 2019:** Motion to proceed to measure considered in Senate. (CR S38)
- **Jan 8, 2019:** Cloture on the motion to proceed not invoked in Senate by Yea-Nay Vote. 56 - 44. Record Vote Number: 1. (CR S48)
- **Jan 8, 2019:** Motion by Senator McConnell to reconsider the vote by which cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1 was not invoked (Record Vote No. 1) entered in Senate.

- Jan 8, 2019:** Second cloture motion on the motion to proceed presented in Senate. (CR S48)
- **Jan 4, 2019:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 1.
 - **Jan 4, 2019:** Motion to proceed to consideration of measure made in Senate. (CR S31)
 - **Jan 4, 2019:** Cloture motion on the motion to proceed presented in Senate. (CR S31)
 - **Jan 3, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
 - **Jan 3, 2019:** Introduced in the Senate. Read the first time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under Read the First Time.