

113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To encourage enhanced security cooperation with European allies and continued enlargement of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin (for himself and Mr. MURPHY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

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**A BILL**

To encourage enhanced security cooperation with European allies and continued enlargement of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

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 “NATO Alliance Rec-  
5        ognition and Promotion Act”.

6        **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7        Congress makes the following findings:

8                (1) On March 12, 2014, the North Atlantic  
9        Treaty Organization (NATO) marked the 15th anni-

1       versary of enlargement through the accession of 3  
2       Central European countries: the Czech Republic, Po-  
3       land, and Hungary.

4           (2) On March 29, 2014, NATO marked the  
5       10th anniversary of enlargement through the acces-  
6       sion of 7 Central European countries: Bulgaria, Es-  
7       tonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and  
8       Slovenia.

9           (3) On April 1, 2014, NATO marked the 5th  
10       anniversary of enlargement through the accession of  
11       Albania and Croatia.

12           (4) The incorporation of these European coun-  
13       tries into NATO has contributed toward a vision of  
14       Europe that is aimed at promoting stability and co-  
15       operation and building a Europe whole and free,  
16       united in peace, democracy, and common values.

17           (5) Since joining the Alliance, these 12 member  
18       states have contributed to numerous NATO-led  
19       peace and security and stability operations, including  
20       the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF)  
21       mission in Afghanistan.

22   **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF CONGRESS.**

23       Congress declares that—

24           (1) NATO has been the cornerstone of trans-  
25       atlantic security cooperation and an enduring instru-

1       ment for promoting peace and stability in Europe  
2       and around the world for over 65 years;

3               (2) the incorporation of the Czech Republic, Po-  
4       land, Hungary, Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lith-  
5       uania, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Albania, and  
6       Croatia has been essential to the success of NATO  
7       in this modern era and has strengthened the list of  
8       key European allies of the United States;

9               (3) since joining NATO, these member states  
10       have remained committed to the collective defense of  
11       the Alliance and have demonstrated their will and  
12       ability to contribute to transatlantic solidarity and  
13       assume increasingly more responsibility for efforts to  
14       promote international peace and security;

15              (4) these NATO members states have become  
16       reliable partners and supporters of aspiring mem-  
17       bers, and the United States recognizes their contin-  
18       ued efforts to aid in further NATO enlargement ini-  
19       tiatives;

20              (5) recent regional aggression has highlighted  
21       the importance of a strong, inclusive NATO alliance,  
22       with robust defense capabilities;

23              (6) the commitment by these NATO members  
24       to Alliance principles and active participation in Alli-

1       ance initiatives demonstrates the success of NATO's  
2       Open-Door Policy;

3               (7) the United States, as a means of continuous  
4       and effective self-help and mutual aid, will continue  
5       to work with allies to maintain and improve our in-  
6       dividual and collective Allied capacity; and

7               (8) the United States will remain committed to  
8       enhancing security cooperation with European allies  
9       and maintaining a military presence in Europe as a  
10      means of promoting Allied interoperability and capa-  
11      bilities and providing visible assurance to NATO al-  
12      lies in the region.

13 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

14       It is the sense of Congress—

15               (1) to reaffirm the commitment of the United  
16      States to collective defense under Article 5 of the  
17      NATO Treaty;

18               (2) that NATO members should review defense  
19      spending to ensure sufficient funding related to indi-  
20      vidual and collective capacity; and

21               (3) that the United States, together with  
22      NATO allies, should continue to pursue enlargement  
23      initiatives for aspirant countries.