

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To express the sense of Congress reaffirming extended nuclear deterrence.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. KELLY (for himself and Mr. TILLIS) introduced the following bill; which
was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To express the sense of Congress reaffirming extended
nuclear deterrence.

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 “Reaffirming Extended
5 Nuclear Deterrence Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS REAFFIRMING NUCLEAR DE-**
7 **TERRENCE.**

8 It is the sense of Congress that—

9 (1) the United States extended nuclear deter-
10 rent remains a vital element of the national security
11 strategy of the United States and has contributed to

1 detering major-power conflict and preserving inter-
2 national peace and stability for more than seven dec-
3 ades;

4 (2) the credibility of extended nuclear deter-
5 rence depends upon the capability and resolve of the
6 United States to maintain a safe, secure, reliable,
7 and flexible nuclear deterrent, supported by capable
8 conventional forces, integrated air and missile de-
9 fenses, resilient command and control, and other
10 military capabilities necessary to deter aggression
11 across the spectrum of conflict;

12 (3) this credibility is strengthened by sustained
13 consultation, planning, exercises, and other forms of
14 defense cooperation with allies, which improve inter-
15 operability, demonstrate collective readiness, and en-
16 sure that United States and allied forces are pre-
17 pared to respond to evolving threats;

18 (4) credible United States extended deterrence
19 commitments to the Republic of Korea, Japan, Aus-
20 tralia, and members of the North Atlantic Treaty
21 Organization directly advance the national security
22 interests of the United States by deterring aggres-
23 sion and reducing the risk of conflicts that could
24 threaten United States forces, territory, and inter-
25 ests;

1 (5) the United States extended nuclear deter-
2 rent complements, rather than conflicts with, efforts
3 to advance strategic stability and reduce nuclear
4 risks;

5 (A) the assurance provided by the United
6 States extended nuclear deterrent has reduced
7 incentives for allies to develop or acquire inde-
8 pendent nuclear weapons capabilities, thereby
9 supporting the objectives of the Treaty on the
10 Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, done at
11 Washington, London, and Moscow July 1,
12 1968, and strengthening the global nuclear non-
13 proliferation regime;

14 (7) the strategic environment has become in-
15 creasingly dangerous due to the modernization and
16 expansion of nuclear arsenals by the Russian Fed-
17 eration and the People's Republic of China, and the
18 continued development of nuclear and missile capa-
19 bilities by the Democratic People's Republic of
20 Korea;

21 (8) the United States should continue to mod-
22 ernize and sustain the capabilities necessary to
23 maintain a credible extended nuclear deterrent while
24 pursuing verifiable, enforceable, and reciprocal arms
25 control and nuclear risk reduction agreements that

1 enhance the security of the United States and its al-
2 lies;

3 (9) it is the policy of the United States to
4 maintain a credible extended nuclear deterrent that
5 assures allies, deters aggression, discourages nuclear
6 proliferation, strengthens regional and global sta-
7 bility, and advances the long-term security interests
8 of the United States; and

9 (10) the United States should reaffirm that its
10 extended deterrence commitments to its treaty allies
11 remain ironclad and should ensure that United
12 States force posture, military exercises, strategic
13 consultations, and defense investments provide allies
14 and potential adversaries alike with clear and cred-
15 ible evidence of the capability and resolve of the
16 United States extended nuclear deterrent.