

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To reduce United States security assistance for Israel.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—115th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. 2497

To amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Arms Export Control Act to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriations of funds to Israel, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENTS intended to be proposed by Mr. PAUL

Viz:

- 1 On page 5, between lines 10 and 11, insert the fol-
- 2 lowing:
- 3 (9) On July 10, 1996, Israeli Prime Minister
- 4 Benjamin Netanyahu, appearing before a Joint Ses-
- 5 sion of Congress, stated "I believe that we can now
- 6 say that Israel has reached childhood's end, that it
- 7 has matured enough to begin approaching a state of
- 8 self-reliance ... We are going to achieve economic
- 9 independence [from the United States]."

1 (10) In 2013, Naftali Bennet, who was then
2 serving as Israel's minister of economics and as the
3 leader of the Home Party said, "Today, U.S. mili-
4 tary aid is roughly 1 percent of Israel's economy. ...
5 I think, generally, we need to free ourselves from it.
6 We have to do it responsibly . . . but our situation
7 today is very different from what it was 20 and 30
8 years ago."

9 (11) The current annual gross domestic product
10 of Israel is \$373,750,000,000, and Israelis per cap-
11 ita income is currently more than \$37,600, which
12 represents an all-time high.

13 (12) It is incumbent upon the United States
14 Senate to afford Israel, one of our closest allies, the
15 opportunity and the means to become completely fi-
16 nancially self-sufficient, since dependence on foreign
17 aid by any nation only endangers the national secu-
18 rity of that nation.

19 On page 6, between lines 8 and 9, insert the fol-
20 lowing:

21 (b) REDUCTION IN ASSISTANCE .—

22 (1) ISRAEL.—The financial assistance made
23 available to Israel under the Foreign Military Fi-
24 nancing Program authorized under section 23 of the

1 Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2763) shall be
2 reduced by \$330,000,000 during each of the fiscal
3 year year 2019 through 2028 (compared to the
4 amount made available for such purpose in the pre-
5 vious fiscal year) until such assistance is eliminated,
6 consistent with Prime Minister Netanyahu's intent
7 for Israel to take a responsible pathway to self-reli-
8 ance.

9 (2) EGYPT.—The financial assistance made
10 available to Egypt under the Foreign Military Fi-
11 nancing Program authorized under section 23 of the
12 Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2763) shall be
13 reduced by 10 percent during fiscal year year 2019
14 and by the same dollar amount during each of the
15 fiscal years 2020 through 2028 until such assistance
16 is eliminated.

17 (e) ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND.—Notwithstanding
18 any other provision of law, all United States Government
19 assistance to the Palestinian Authority through the Eco-
20 nomic Support Fund—

21 (1) is suspended as of the date of the enact-
22 ment of this Act; and

23 (2) may not be provided until such assistance is
24 reauthorized by an Act of Congress.