

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To amend the preamble.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—115th Cong., 2d Sess.**S. Res. 557**

Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the strategic importance of NATO to the collective security of the transatlantic region and urging its member states to work together at the upcoming summit to strengthen the alliance.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. CORKER

Viz:

1 Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (referred to in this Resolution as “NATO”) will hold its next Summit meeting July 11–12, 2018, in Brussels, Belgium;

Whereas the security of the United States remains inextricably linked to the security of Europe and NATO’s founding purpose remains as valid today as it was when NATO was created;

Whereas our NATO allies have contributed significantly to military operations led by the United States around the world, and actively contribute to current Alliance missions, including the reinforcement of NATO’s eastern

flank by leading 3 of the 4 battlegroups of NATO's Enhanced Forward Presence;

Whereas while an increasing number of NATO member states are fulfilling their pledges at the 2014 NATO summit in Wales to allocate 2 percent of their gross domestic product towards defense spending, all NATO member states should be urged to meet the 2 percent target and to allocate 20 percent of their annual defense spending on major new equipment, including related research and development, in order to more fairly share the burden of transatlantic defense;

Whereas United States force deployments to Europe as part of the European Deterrence Initiative, and the corresponding measures by NATO member states in the Enhanced Forward Presence, are contributing to enhanced security on NATO's eastern flank;

Whereas the Russian Federation's aggression towards its neighbors, its breach of international norms, and its non-compliance with its arms control commitments have severely impacted European security and will continue to pose a security threat for the foreseeable future;

Whereas administrative and logistical obstacles to the mobility of military assets across Europe and the potential mismatch between the speed of NATO-level decision making and the timeline of a crisis may constitute challenges to the successful defense of NATO's territorial integrity;

Whereas the cyber domain is a crucial aspect of NATO operations and a key tool at potential adversaries' disposal;

Whereas NATO member states collectively face a continued and persistent threat from terrorism and our NATO al-

lies are making significant commitments in keeping terrorist networks from interfering in any NATO territory;

Whereas NATO member states—

(1) have collectively identified corruption and poor governance, including within member states, as “security challenges which undermine democracy, the rule of law and economic development”; and

(2) in recognition of this challenge, adopted a Building Integrity Policy, which is intended to support transparent and accountable defense institutions under democratic control;

Whereas NATO’s enlargement has delivered enhanced security and stability to all NATO member states, including Montenegro (the newest NATO member), and has demonstrated the importance of NATO’s Open Door Policy for all aspiring countries and for invitations to join NATO to be issued as soon as an aspirant country has met the conditions for membership;

Whereas the first of 10 Principles Guiding Relations between Participating States contained in the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, done at Helsinki August 1, 1975 (commonly known as the “Helsinki Final Act”), recognizes the right to be or not to be a party to treaties of alliance as a right inherent in sovereignty to be respected on an equal basis among the signatory states; and

Whereas the commitment made by NATO in the Founding Act on Mutual Relations, Cooperation and Security Between NATO and the Russian Federation, done at Paris, May 27, 1997 (commonly known as the “NATO-Russia Founding Act”), to “carry out its collective defence and other missions by ensuring the necessary interoperability,

integration, and capability for reinforcement rather than by additional permanent stationing of substantial combat forces” was predicated on “the current and foreseeable security environment” that existed in 1997, which has been fundamentally altered by the aggression directed by the leaders of the Russian Federation: Now, therefore, be it