

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 9637

To improve defense cooperation between the United States and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

Mr. PHILLIPS (for himself and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To improve defense cooperation between the United States and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

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 “United States-Jordan  
5 Defense Cooperation Act of 2024”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of Congress that—

1           (1) expeditious consideration of certifications of  
2 letters of offer to sell defense articles, defense serv-  
3 ices, design and construction services, and major de-  
4 fense equipment to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jor-  
5 dan under section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control  
6 Act (22 U.S.C. 2776(b)) is fully consistent with  
7 United States security and foreign policy interests  
8 and the objectives of world peace and security; and

9           (2) the United States commitment to the sta-  
10 bility and security of the Hashemite Kingdom of  
11 Jordan is ironclad, as demonstrated by the signing  
12 of the fourth Memorandum of Understanding on  
13 Strategic Partnership in September 2022, which  
14 provides \$1,450,000,000 per year in United States  
15 bilateral foreign assistance to Jordan beginning in  
16 fiscal year 2023 and ending in fiscal year 2029.

17 **SEC. 3. ENHANCED DEFENSE COOPERATION.**

18 (a) ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT.—

19           (1) IN GENERAL.—During the 3-year period be-  
20 ginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
21 Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan shall be treated as if  
22 it were a country listed in each of the provisions of  
23 law described in paragraph (2) for purposes of ap-  
24 plying and administering such provisions of law.

1 (2) COVERED PROVISIONS OF LAW.—The provi-  
2 sions of law described in this paragraph are the fol-  
3 lowing provisions of the Arms Export Control Act:

4 (A) Subsections (b)(2), (d)(2)(B),  
5 (d)(3)(A)(i), and (d)(5) of section 3 (22 U.S.C.  
6 2753).

7 (B) Subsections (e)(2)(A), (h)(1)(A), and  
8 (h)(2) of section 21 (22 U.S.C. 2761).

9 (C) Subsections (b)(1), (b)(2), (b)(6), (c),  
10 and (d)(2)(A) of section 36 (22 U.S.C. 2776).

11 (D) Section 62(c)(1) (22 U.S.C.  
12 2796a(c)(1)).

13 (E) Section 63(a)(2) (22 U.S.C.  
14 2796b(a)(2)).

15 (b) ESTABLISHMENT OF CAPABILITIES.—

16 (1) AUTHORIZATION.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph  
18 (2), the Secretary of Defense, acting through  
19 the Commander of United States Central Com-  
20 mand, shall seek to work in cooperation with  
21 the Minister of Defense of the Hashemite King-  
22 dom of Jordan to establish or further capabili-  
23 ties for countering rockets, cruise and ballistic  
24 missiles, and manned and unmanned aerial sys-  
25 tems that threaten the United States, Jordan,

1 and other allies and partners of the United  
2 States, including threats from Iran and its ter-  
3 rorist proxies.

4 (B) PROTECTION OF SENSITIVE TECH-  
5 NOLOGY AND INFORMATION.—The Secretary  
6 shall ensure that any activities carried out  
7 under this subsection are conducted in a man-  
8 ner that appropriately protects sensitive tech-  
9 nology and information and the national secu-  
10 rity interests of the United States and the  
11 Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

12 (2) LIMITATION AND REPORT.—Activities may  
13 not be carried out under the authority provided by  
14 paragraph (1) until the date on which the Secretary  
15 submits to the appropriate congressional committees  
16 a report setting forth the following:

17 (A) A memorandum of agreement between  
18 the United States and the Hashemite Kingdom  
19 of Jordan regarding sharing of research and de-  
20 velopment costs for the capabilities described in  
21 paragraph (1)(A), including any supporting  
22 documents.

23 (B) A certification that such memorandum  
24 of agreement—

1 (i) requires sharing of costs of  
2 projects, including in-kind support, be-  
3 tween the United States and the  
4 Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan;

5 (ii) establishes a framework to nego-  
6 tiate the rights to any intellectual property  
7 developed under the memorandum of  
8 agreement; and

9 (iii) requires the United States Gov-  
10 ernment to receive semiannual reports on  
11 expenditure of funds, if any, by the Gov-  
12 ernment of the Hashemite Kingdom of  
13 Jordan, including a description of what the  
14 funds have been used for, when funds were  
15 expended, and an identification of entities  
16 that expended the funds.

17 (3) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
18 TEES DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “ap-  
19 propriate congressional committees” means—

20 (A) the Committee on Armed Services, the  
21 Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Com-  
22 mittee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

23 (B) the Committee on Armed Services, the  
24 Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Com-

1           mittee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-  
2           representatives.

3           (c) MIDDLE EAST INTEGRATED AIR AND MISSILE  
4 DEFENSE.—

5           (1) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to section 1658 of  
6           the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authoriza-  
7           tion Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117–  
8           263), the Secretary of Defense shall, in consultation  
9           with the Secretary of State and with the concurrence  
10          of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, develop a  
11          plan to bolster the participation of Jordan in a mul-  
12          tinational integrated air and missile defense archi-  
13          tecture to protect the people, infrastructure, and ter-  
14          ritory of Jordan from cruise and ballistic missiles,  
15          manned and unmanned aerial systems, and rocket  
16          attacks from Iran or groups linked to Iran.

17          (2) BRIEFING.—Not later than March 1, 2025,  
18          the Secretary and the Commander of United States  
19          Central Command shall provide to the Committee on  
20          Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Rela-  
21          tions of the Senate and the Committee on Armed  
22          Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of  
23          the House of Representatives—

24                  (A) a briefing on the progress of the De-  
25                  partment of Defense towards bolstering the

1 participation of Jordan in a multinational inte-  
2 grated air and missile defense architecture; and

3 (B) a list of requirements, including cost  
4 estimates, for strengthening the defense of Jor-  
5 dan within this architecture.

6 (d) SUNSET.—The authority to carry out activities  
7 described in subsection (b) and to provide support de-  
8 scribed in subsection (c) shall expire on December 31,  
9 2028.

10 **SEC. 4. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.**

11 Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Sec-  
12 retary of State is authorized to enter into a new memo-  
13 randum of understanding with the Hashemite Kingdom  
14 of Jordan, following the expiration of the current memo-  
15 randum in fiscal year 2029, to further increase economic  
16 support funds, military cooperation, including joint mili-  
17 tary exercises, personnel exchanges, support for inter-  
18 national peacekeeping missions, and enhanced strategic  
19 dialogue.

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