SEC. 1218. EASTERN EUROPEAN TRAINING INITIATIVE.

(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Defense, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, may carry out a program, to be known as the Eastern European Training Initiative, to provide training, and pay the incremental expenses incurred by a country as the direct result of participation in such training, for the national military forces of—

(1) a country that is a signatory to the Partnership for Peace Framework Documents, but is not a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO); or

(2) a country that became a member of NATO after January 1, 1999.

(b) TYPES OF TRAINING.—The training provided to the national military forces of a country under subsection (a) shall be limited to multilateral or regional training to—

(1) maintain and increase interoperability and readiness;

(2) increase the capacity to respond to external threats; or

(3) increase the capacity to respond to calls for collective action within NATO.

(c) REQUIRED ELEMENTS.—Training provided to the national military forces of a country under subsection (a) shall include elements that promote—

(1) observance of and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; and

(2) respect for legitimate civilian authority within that country.

(d) LIMITATION ON FUNDS.—

(1) ANNUAL FUNDING LIMITATION.—The Secretary of Defense may use up to $28,000,000 of funds available for operation and maintenance for any fiscal year to provide training and pay incremental expenses under subsection (a) in that fiscal year.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR ACTIVITIES ACROSS FISCAL YEARS.—Amounts made available in a fiscal year to carry out the authority in subsection (a) may be used for

training under that authority that begins in the fiscal year for which such amounts are made available and ends in the next fiscal year.

(e) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—

(1) NOTIFICATION.—Not less than 15 days before providing training to the national military forces of a country under subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional committees specified in paragraph (2) a notice of the following:

(A) The country with which the training will be conducted.

(B) The type of training to be provided.

(2) SPECIFIED CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The congressional committees specified in this paragraph are the following:

(A) The Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(B) The Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(f) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.—The authority provided in subsection (a) is in addition to any other authority provided by law authorizing the provision of training for the national military forces of a foreign country, including section 2282 of title 10, United States Code.

(g) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “incremental expenses” means the reasonable and proper cost of the goods and services that are consumed by a country as a direct result of that country’s participation in training under the authority of this section, including rations, fuel, training ammunition, and transportation. Such term does not include pay, allowances, and other normal costs of such country’s personnel.

1 (h) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority under this section shall terminate on

2 September 30, 2020. Any activity under this section initiated before that date may be completed,

3 but only using funds available for fiscal years 2016 through 2020.

Section-by-Section Analysis

This proposal, in a free-standing provision, would establish the "Eastern European Training Initiative," a pilot program generally aimed at strengthening the training and readiness of the military forces of certain North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and Partnership for Peace countries by maintaining and increasing their abilities to (1) be interoperable; (2) respond to external threats; and (3) respond to calls for collective defense within the Alliance. The Initiative would focus on Eastern European Allies and partners, and would build on skills and interoperability developed in coalition operations over the past two decades, including those in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The Eastern European Training Initiative is one of the authorities the Department of Defense needs to respond effectively to the troubling activities in Ukraine and adjoining countries.

The proposal would authorize the Secretary of Defense, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, to use funds available for operation and maintenance to provide training and pay incremental expenses for the national military forces of a country that (1) is a signatory to the Partnership for Peace Framework Documents (PfP country), but not a member of NATO; or (2) became a member of NATO after January 1, 1999. These include the countries most affected by the turmoil in Eastern Europe attributable to the Russian Federation. "Incremental expenses" would be defined in subsection (g) of the provision, based on the definition in section 2010(e) of title 10, United States Code (relating to participation of developing countries in combined exercises). To emphasize the need for group action in this critical area of the world, the training authorized would be limited to multilateral or regional training, and could include training for a country's special operations forces. The Secretary's authority would terminate at the close of fiscal year (FY) 2020, and would be in addition to any other authority provided by law authorizing the provision of training for a foreign country's national military forces.

The Eastern European Training Initiative would limit annual obligations to $28 million, but would require no additional funding. To reach this amount, the Department intends to use funds associated with the mission requirements of the United States European Command (EUCOM), including the "Warsaw Initiative Fund" (WIF), and other Operation and Maintenance, Army funds available to EUCOM under the heading "Combatant Commands Direct Program Support," including funds for the "NATO Response Force," as well as portions of the funds available under "Building Partner Capacity," Traditional Commander Activities, and the Partnership Development Program—an annual total of approximately $28 million per year. In effect, the proposal would allow the Department of Defense to spend these existing funds more efficiently.

This proposal would, among other things, enable the United States to conduct training activities that would increase the operational readiness and capabilities of foreign military forces, including training activities to increase the ability of these countries to respond to external threats and maintain and increase interoperability. The training could also increase the ability of the Eastern European NATO members to respond to calls for collective action within NATO, such as Article 5 of the Washington Treaty (relating to armed attacks on NATO members), NATO operations and assurance measures, and the NATO Response Force. Further, the training could restore or build a country's competency in full-spectrum, joint major combat operations after more than a decade of conducting counterinsurgency and stability operations in Afghanistan.

Here are two examples of how this initiative could be used:

EXAMPLE 1: TRAINING IN THE CONTEXT OF A JOINT EXERCISE

Exercise "Combined Resolve" is an annual, U.S.-led, multi-national exercise at the Hohenfels and Grafenwoehr Training Areas in Germany. In spring 2014, more than 4,000 military members from 15 NATO and European partner nations focused on maintaining and enhancing interoperability. Generally, forces are integrated. Among other things, the exercise supports NATO Response Force interoperability and readiness, a key element of the NATO Readiness Action Plan approved at the Wales Summit.

U.S. forces receive training from "observer/controllers" who work at the training area. For certain developing countries, the United States has authority under 10 U.S.C. 2010 to use operation and maintenance funds—including money from the "Warsaw Initiative Fund"—to pay the costs of transportation and sustainment (e.g., rations and fuel) in connection with the exercise. Section 2010, however, does not include the authority to provide training from the professional observer/controllers.

Because the foreign forces are not training to deploy to Afghanistan or training for internal counterterrorism, section 2282 of title 10, United States Code, relating to building the capacity of foreign security forces, would not be available to authorize training.

Under this proposal, the United States would spend the same amount of money from the same source—operation and maintenance—and would also be permitted to have the observer/controllers provide training to the foreign forces, thus increasing the interoperability and effectiveness of the NATO Response Force.

EXAMPLE 2. ENHANCING SEMINARS TO INCLUDE ACTUAL TRAINING

EUCOM has conducted military-to-military activities with the Republic of Moldova. Generally, these activities are limited to bilateral familiarization/interoperability, often using Warsaw Initiative Funds.

Using the same funds, this proposal would permit us to jointly train the Moldovan and Georgian military on range operations (so they can better train their own forces), disposal of and medical responses to unexploded ordnance, vehicle maintenance operations, and defensive anti-armor operations. Because we would not be training them to deploy to

Afghanistan or training them for internal counterterrorism10 U.S.C. 2282, referenced above, would not be available to authorize training.

Budgetary Implications: There would be no additional costs for this proposal. It would utilize funds already proposed for EUCOM under the Warsaw Initiative Fund and from certain programs available to EUCOM under the heading "Combatant Commands Direct Program Support" (Operation and Maintenance, Army, subactivity group 138).

RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS ($MILLIONS)									
	FY 2016	**FY 2017**	**FY 2018**	**FY 2019**	**FY 2020**	**Appropriation From**	**Budget Activity**	**Dash-1 Line Item**	**Program Element**
Warsaw Initiative Fund	5	7	7	7	7	Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide	04	4GTD	
Building Partner Capacity	1	1	1	1	1	Operation and Maintenance, Army	01	138	
NATO Response Force	11	11	11	11	11	Operation and Maintenance, Army	01	138	
Traditional Commander Activities	5	3	3	3	3	Operation and Maintenance, Army	01	138	
Partnership Development Program	6	6	6	6	6	Operation and Maintenance, Army	01	138	
Total	28	28	28	28	44				

Changes to Existing Law: This proposal would not change the text of any current law.