SEC. 1219. EXTENSION, EXPANSION, AND REVISION OF AUTHORITY FOR ASSISTANCE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF JORDAN FOR BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS.

(a) AUTHORITY.—Subsection (a)(1) of section 1207 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113-66; 22 U.S.C. 2151 note) is amended—

(1) by striking "maintaining" and inserting "enhancing"; and

(2) by striking "increase security and sustain increased security along the border between Jordan and Syria" and inserting "sustain security along the border of Jordan with Syria and Iraq".

(b) FUNDS.—Subsection (b) of such section is amended by striking "2014" and inserting "2016 and 2017".

(c) LIMITATIONS.—Subsection (c) of such section is amended—

(1) by striking "LIMITATIONS.—" and all that follows through "The total" and inserting "LIMITATION ON AMOUNT.— From funds made available to the Department of Defense, the total"; and

(2) by inserting "in any fiscal year" before "may not exceed $150,000,000"; and

(3) by striking paragraph (2).

(e) EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.—Subsection (f) of such section is amended by striking "December 31, 2015" and inserting "December 31, 2017".

[Please note: The "Changes to Existing Law" section below sets out in red-line format how the legislative text would amend existing law.]

Section-by-Section Analysis

This proposal would authorize $150 million in assistance to the Government of Jordan (GoJ) in any fiscal year through fiscal year 2017 for the purposes of supporting and enhancing efforts of the Jordanian Armed Forces (JAF) to support and sustain security along Jordan's borders with Syria and Iraq. By increasing Department of Defense authority to provide assistance and support to the GoJ from $150 million over a two-year period to $150 million in any fiscal year through fiscal year 2017, this proposal would both enable the GoJ, a key U.S. partner, to enhance its force presence and capabilities along its borders and support Jordan's enduring commitment to fighting terrorism in the region and containing spillover from the conflicts in Syria and Iraq.

The actions of the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and other terrorist groups present a serious threat to Jordan, a key U.S. partner, as well as the broader Middle East. As such, it is in the United States' national security interest to respond to this increased threat to Jordan by providing the necessary assistance.

Enabling the JAF to establish a more permanent presence along the border also assists the GoJ in extending its control over its vast desert land in the east, which has come under threat from ISIL extremists that have infiltrated Iraq and threatened the Jordanian border. This proposal helps prevent and deter conflict along volatile borders it shares with Syria and Iraqi while also investing in strengthening our critical defense relationship with the JAF.

This proposal would enhance the JAF's ability to defend Jordan and help maintain broader regional security by providing aircraft and vehicles, weapons and ammunition, communications equipment, tactical equipment, and increased military training and cooperation.

The current Department of Defense authority to provide assistance and support to the GoJ authorizes $150 million through FY 2015 and will expire in FY 2016. Therefore, and in light of the increased threat posed by ISIL and other terrorist groups, an extension and expansion of this authority for fiscal years 2016 and 2017 is being requested. The GoJ has long been an essential partner in the fight against terrorism, and it is critical that assistance to the GoJ's efforts is sustained in the future.

Budgetary Implications: This proposal would be funded within the Department's appropriations requested in the Administration's FY 2016 President's Budget. The funding requirement is reflected in the following table.

RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS ($MILLIONS)								
FY 2016	**FY 2017**	**FY 2018**	**FY 2019**	**FY 2020**	**Appropriation From**	**Budget Activity**	**Dash-1 Line Item**	**Program Element**
$150	**$150**				**OCO – Operation &Maintenance, Defense-Wide**	**BA04**	4GTD	1002199T

Changes to Existing Law: This proposal would make the following changes to section 1207 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014:

SEC. 1207. ASSISTANCE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF JORDAN FOR BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS.

(a) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense may, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, provide assistance on a reimbursement basis to the Government of Jordan for purposes of supporting and~~maintaining~~ enhancing efforts of the armed forces of Jordan to~~increase security and~~ sustain~~increased~~ security along the border~~between~~ of Jordan~~and~~ with Syria and Iraq.

(2) FREQUENCY.—Assistance under this subsection may be provided on a quarterly basis.

(3) CERTIFICATION.—Assistance may be provided under this subsection only if the Secretary of Defense certifies to the specified congressional committees that the Government of Jordan is supporting efforts of the armed forces of Jordan to sustain security along ~~the~~ its border ~~between Jordan and~~ with Syria and Iraq.

(b) FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR ASSISTANCE.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years ~~2014~~ 2016 and 2017 by title XV and available for reimbursement of certain coalition nations for support provided to United States military operations pursuant to section 1233 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Public Law 110-181) as specified in the funding table in section 4302 may be used to provide assistance under the authority in subsection (a).

(c) ~~LIMITATIONS.—~~

~~(1)~~ LIMITATION ON ~~A~~AMOUNT.— The total amount of assistance provided under the authority in subsection (a) in any fiscal year may not exceed $150,000,000.

(2) PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS.—The Secretary of Defense may not enter into any contractual obligation to provide assistance under the authority in subsection (a).

(d) NOTICE BEFORE EXERCISE.—Not later than 15 days before providing assistance under ~~the authority in~~ subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the specified congressional committees a report setting forth a full description of the assistance to be provided, including the amount of assistance to be provided, and the timeline for the provision of such assistance.

(e) SPECIFIED CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—In this section, the term "specified congressional committees" means—

(1) the congressional defense committees; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(f) EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.—No assistance may be provided under the authority in subsection (a) after December 31, ~~2015~~ 2017.