

S.6

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

May 15, 2024

Mr. Anka of Lincoln (for himself, Mr. Sun) introduced the following bill

A BILL

To establish an office within the State Department tasked with coordinating with nations, international organizations, and merchants on safety in the Strait of Hormuz, ensuring regional communication channels comply with U.S. law, and to provide necessary funding and oversight mechanisms.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

SHORT TITLE—This Act may be cited as the "Strait of Hormuz Security Coordination Act of 2024."

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OFFICE OF STRAIT OF HORMUZ SECURITY COORDINATION

- (a) ESTABLISHMENT—There is established within the Department of State an office to be known as the "Office of Strait of Hormuz Security Coordination" (hereafter referred to as "the Office").
- (b) FUNCTIONS—The Office shall be responsible for:
- i. Coordinating with nations bordering the Strait of Hormuz, international organizations, and merchant entities to enhance safety and security in the Strait of Hormuz.

- ii. Opening and maintaining regional channels of communication to ensure compliance with U.S. laws and international maritime regulations.
- iii. Assessing and addressing threats to navigation and trade in the Strait of Hormuz.
- iv. Implementing measures to enhance maritime security, including but not limited to safety monitoring and inspection protocols.
- v. Imposing heightened safety monitoring and inspection fees associated with trade tariffs for non-compliance by merchants and nations.

SEC. 3. FUNDING

(a) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS**—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of State such sums as may be necessary to carry out the activities of the Office for each of the fiscal month periods 2024 through 2029.

(b) **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS**—Funds appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in subsection (a) shall remain available until expended

SEC. 4. ANNUAL TESTIMONY

(a) **TESTIMONY REQUIREMENT**—The Secretary of State shall testify annually before the Senate Committee on Relations on the state of safety and security in the Strait of Hormuz. This testimony shall include:

- i. A detailed report on the activities and progress of the Office.
- ii. An assessment of the current security situation in the Strait of Hormuz.
- iii. Recommendations for legislative or policy changes to enhance maritime safety and security in the region.

(b) **INITIAL TESTIMONY**—The initial testimony as required by subsection (a) shall be provided no later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5. COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

(a) **REGULATIONS**—The Secretary of State shall promulgate all regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, including the imposition of safety monitoring and inspection fees.

(b) **NON-COMPLIANCE CONSEQUENCES**—Merchants and nations that fail to comply with established safety protocols and communication channels as determined by the Office shall be subject to:

- i. Heightened safety monitoring and inspection fees in compliance with U.S. law.
- ii. Sanctions imposed under and as defined by US law.

SEC. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE

EFFECTIVE DATE—This Act shall take effect 90 days after the date of enactment.

SEC. 7. SEVERABILITY

SEVERABILITY—If any provision of this Act, or the application thereof, is held invalid, the remainder of this Act and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

SEC. 8. SUNSET PROVISION

This Act shall expire when the President of the United States has deemed the situation in the Straits of Hormuz to no longer require the provisions of this act.
