

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4215

To require the Secretary of State to promulgate expedited and fixed timelines for the decision-making process to license the export of certain defense articles and defense services, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 27, 2025

Mr. BAUMGARTNER (for himself, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. MOYLAN, and Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To require the Secretary of State to promulgate expedited and fixed timelines for the decision-making process to license the export of certain defense articles and defense services, and for other purposes.

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 “International Traffic
5 in Arms Regulations Licensing Reform Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. LIST OF COUNTRIES AND END-USERS TO RECEIVE**
2 **PRIORITY FOR DIRECT COMMERCIAL SALES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State
5 shall develop and maintain a list of countries and end-
6 users with respect to which expedited decision-making for
7 applications for licenses for the export of defense articles
8 and defense services is vital to the national security of the
9 United States, consistent with the requirements of the
10 Arms Export Control Act and other applicable provisions
11 of law.

12 (b) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30
13 days after the development of the list required by sub-
14 section (a), and annually thereafter, the Secretary of State
15 shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
16 House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign
17 Relations of the Senate an updated copy of the list.

18 **SEC. 3. DECISION-MAKING PROCESS FOR APPLICATIONS**
19 **FOR DIRECT COMMERCIAL SALES.**

20 Not later than 30 days after the date on which the
21 Secretary of State publishes the list required by section
22 2, the Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of De-
23 fense, shall initiate a rulemaking process to establish an
24 expedited timeline for the decision-making process with re-
25 spect to applications to export defense articles or defense
26 services under the Arms Export Control Act to countries

1 or end-users identified by such list and a fixed timeline
2 for decisions for all other applications for such exports.
3 The timelines so established shall provide that, to the max-
4 imum extent practicable—

5 (1) an application to export defense articles or
6 defense services to a listed country or end-user shall
7 be approved, returned, or denied not later than 45
8 days after the date on which the application is sub-
9 mitted to the Secretary;

10 (2) an application to export defense articles or
11 defense services to any country or end-user shall be
12 approved, returned, or denied not later than 60 days
13 after the date on which the application is submitted
14 to the Secretary; and

15 (3) the deadlines described in paragraphs (1)
16 and (2) may be suspended with respect to an appli-
17 cation if necessary—

18 (A) for applicable time periods specified in
19 subsection (b), (c), or (d) of section 36 of such
20 Act, during which Congress may enact a joint
21 resolution prohibiting the approval of such ap-
22 plication; or

23 (B) for such time as may be required to
24 receive a decision from the Secretary of Defense
25 with respect to an application that is subject to

1 approval by the Department of Defense, includ-
2 ing technology security and foreign disclosure
3 release determinations.

4 **SEC. 4. REPORTS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall sub-
6 mit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House
7 of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Rela-
8 tions of the Senate on a semi-annual basis a report, which
9 may be submitted in classified form, that identifies each
10 application to export defense articles or defense services
11 during the preceding 180-day period with respect to which
12 the time to reach a decision exceeded the applicable dead-
13 line described in section 3(1) or 3(2).

14 (b) MATTER TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required
15 by this section shall also include the following information
16 with respect to each application so identified:

17 (1) The defense articles or defense services in-
18 cluded in the application.

19 (2) The recipient country, end-user, and any
20 corporate entities involved in the application.

21 (3) Whether the United States has previously
22 exported similar defense articles or defense services
23 to the recipient country or end-user.

24 (4) A justification for the delay in reaching a
25 decision with respect to the application.

- 1 (5) The anticipated timeline for reaching a deci-
- 2 sion with respect to the application, if still pending
- 3 as of the date of the submission of the report.

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