

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2674

To amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to conduct or support capacity-building programs for foreign security forces to counter illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 1, 2025

Mr. YOUNG introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to conduct or support capacity-building programs for foreign security forces to counter illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, 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 “Helping Allies Respond
5 to Piracy, Overfishing, and Oceanic Negligence Act” or
6 the “HARPOON Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) COMMANDANT.—The term “Commandant”
4 means the Commandant of the Coast Guard.

5 (2) ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED, AND UNREGU-
6 LATED FISHING; IUU FISHING.—The terms “illegal,
7 unreported, and unregulated fishing” and “IUU
8 fishing” means activities described as illegal fishing,
9 unreported fishing, or unregulated fishing in para-
10 graph 3 of the International Plan of Action to Pre-
11 vent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and
12 Unregulated Fishing, adopted at the 24th Session of
13 the Committee on Fisheries in Rome on March 2,
14 2001.

15 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
16 the Secretary of the Navy.

17 **SEC. 3. MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY TO BUILD CAPACITY**
18 **OF FOREIGN SECURITY FORCES.**

19 Section 333(a) of title 10, United States Code, is
20 amended by adding at the end the following new para-
21 graph:

22 “(10) Counter-illegal, unreported, and unregu-
23 lated fishing operations.”.

24 **SEC. 4. COUNTER-IUU FISHING PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT.**

25 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary and the Com-
26 mandant shall seek to engage with foreign partners to es-

1 tablish joint patrols to enhance counter-IUU fishing ef-
 2 forts, combat transnational crime, and enhance regional
 3 security.

4 (b) REPORT.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year
 6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and an-
 7 nually thereafter, the Secretary and the Com-
 8 mandant shall jointly submit to the appropriate com-
 9 mittees of Congress a report on engagements with
 10 foreign partners under subsection (a), including—

11 (A) an identification of specific regions and
 12 countries interested in increased cooperation;

13 (B) a description of any limitations on en-
 14 hanced partnerships due to insufficient re-
 15 sources;

16 (C) recommendations for increased pro-
 17 gram effectiveness;

18 (D) an assessment of the effectiveness of
 19 ongoing partner operations; and

20 (E) any other information the Secretary
 21 and the Commandant consider appropriate.

22 (2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS
 23 DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “appro-
 24 priate committees of Congress” means—

1 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
2 and Transportation and the Committee on
3 Armed Services of the Senate; and

4 (B) the Committee on Science, Space, and
5 Technology and the Committee on Armed Serv-
6 ices of the House of Representatives.

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