

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1906

To establish the Office of Net Assessment within the Department of Defense.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 9, 2014

Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. KAINE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To establish the Office of Net Assessment within the
Department of Defense.

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. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OFFICE OF NET AS-**
4 **SESSMENT.**

5 (a) POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States to
6 maintain an independent organization within the Depart-
7 ment of Defense to develop and coordinate net assess-
8 ments of the standing, trends, and future prospects of the
9 military capabilities and potential of the United States in
10 comparison with the military capabilities and potential of

1 other countries or groups of countries so as to identify
2 emerging or future threats or opportunities for the United
3 States.

4 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 4 of title 10, United
6 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the
7 following new section:

8 **“§ 145. Office of Net Assessment**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There is in the Office of the Sec-
10 retary of Defense an office known as the Office of Net
11 Assessment.

12 “(b) HEAD.—(1) The head of the Office of Net As-
13 sessment shall be appointed by the Secretary of Defense.
14 The head shall be a member of the Senior Executive Serv-
15 ice.

16 “(2) The head of the Office of Net Assessment may
17 communicate views on matters within the responsibility of
18 the head directly to the Secretary without obtaining the
19 approval or concurrence of any other official within the
20 Department of Defense.

21 “(3) The head of the Office of Net Assessment shall
22 report directly to the Secretary. The Secretary may not
23 delegate the authority under this paragraph.

24 “(c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Office of Net Assess-
25 ment shall develop and coordinate net assessments with

1 respect to the standing, trends, and future prospects of
 2 the military capabilities and potential of the United States
 3 in comparison with the military capabilities and potential
 4 of other countries or groups of countries to identify emerg-
 5 ing or future threats or opportunities for the United
 6 States.

7 “(d) BUDGET.—In the budget materials submitted to
 8 the President by the Secretary of Defense in connection
 9 with the submittal to Congress, pursuant to section 1105
 10 of title 31, of the budget for any fiscal year after fiscal
 11 year 2014, the Secretary shall ensure that a separate,
 12 dedicated program element is assigned for the Office of
 13 Net Assessment.

14 “(e) NET ASSESSMENT DEFINED.—In this section,
 15 the term ‘net assessment’ means the comparative analysis
 16 of military, technological, political, economic, and other
 17 factors governing the relative military capability of na-
 18 tions.”.

19 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
 20 tions at the beginning of chapter 4 of such title is
 21 amended by adding at the end the following new
 22 item:

“145. Office of Net Assessment.”.

