

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2810**  
**OFFERED BY MR. LANGEVIN OF RHODE ISLAND**

At the appropriate place in title III, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 3 \_\_\_\_ . REPORT ON EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON**  
2 **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.**

3 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
4 ings:

5 (1) Secretary of Defense James Mattis has  
6 stated: “It is appropriate for the Combatant Com-  
7 mands to incorporate drivers of instability that im-  
8 pact the security environment in their areas into  
9 their planning.”.

10 (2) Secretary of Defense James Mattis has  
11 stated: “I agree that the effects of a changing cli-  
12 mate — such as increased maritime access to the  
13 Arctic, rising sea levels, desertification, among oth-  
14 ers — impact our security situation.”.

15 (3) Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Jo-  
16 seph Dunford has stated: “It’s a question, once  
17 again, of being forward deployed, forward engaged,  
18 and be in a position to respond to the kinds of nat-

1        ural disasters that I think we see as a second or  
2        third order effect of climate change.”.

3            (4) Former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates  
4        has stated: “Over the next 20 years and more, cer-  
5        tain pressures-population, energy, climate, economic,  
6        environmental-could combine with rapid cultural, so-  
7        cial, and technological change to produce new  
8        sources of deprivation, rage, and instability.”.

9            (5) Former Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army  
10        Gordon Sullivan has stated: “Climate change is a  
11        national security issue. We found that climate insta-  
12        bility will lead to instability in geopolitics and impact  
13        American military operations around the world.”.

14            (6) The Office of the Director of National Intel-  
15        ligence (ODNI) has stated: “Many countries will en-  
16        counter climate-induced disruptions—such as weath-  
17        er-related disasters, drought, famine, or damage to  
18        infrastructure—that stress their capacity to respond,  
19        cope with, or adapt. Climate-related impacts will also  
20        contribute to increased migration, which can be par-  
21        ticularly disruptive if, for example, demand for food  
22        and shelter outstrips the resources available to assist  
23        those in need.”.

24            (7) The Government Accountability Office  
25        (GAO) has stated: “DOD links changes in precipita-

1       tion patterns with potential climate change impacts  
2       such as changes in the number of consecutive days  
3       of high or low precipitation as well as increases in  
4       the extent and duration of droughts, with an associ-  
5       ated increase in the risk of wildfire. . . this may re-  
6       sult in mission vulnerabilities such as reduced live-  
7       fire training due to drought and increased wildfire  
8       risk.”.

9           (8) A three-foot rise in sea levels will threaten  
10       the operations of more than 128 United States mili-  
11       tary sites, and it is possible that many of these at-  
12       risk bases could be submerged in the coming years.

13          (9) As global temperatures rise, droughts and  
14       famines can lead to more failed states, which are  
15       breeding grounds of extremist and terrorist organi-  
16       zations.

17          (10) In the Marshall Islands, an Air Force  
18       radar installation built on an atoll at a cost of  
19       \$1,000,000,000 is projected to be underwater within  
20       two decades.

21          (11) In the western United States, drought has  
22       amplified the threat of wildfires, and floods have  
23       damaged roads, runways, and buildings on military  
24       bases.

1           (12) In the Arctic, the combination of melting  
2           sea ice, thawing permafrost, and sea-level rise is  
3           eroding shorelines, which is damaging radar and  
4           communication installations, runways, seawalls, and  
5           training areas.

6           (13) In the Yukon Training Area, units con-  
7           ducting artillery training accidentally started a wild-  
8           fire despite observing the necessary practices during  
9           red flag warning conditions.

10          (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
11       gress that—

12           (1) climate change is a direct threat to the na-  
13           tional security of the United States and is impacting  
14           stability in areas of the world both where the United  
15           States Armed Forces are operating today, and where  
16           strategic implications for future conflict exist;

17           (2) there are complexities in quantifying the  
18           cost of climate change on mission resiliency, but the  
19           Department of Defense must ensure that it is pre-  
20           pared to conduct operations both today and in the  
21           future and that it is prepared to address the effects  
22           of a changing climate on threat assessments, re-  
23           sources, and readiness; and

24           (3) military installations must be able to effec-  
25           tively prepare to mitigate climate damage in their

1 master planning and infrastructure planning and de-  
2 sign, so that they might best consider the weather  
3 and natural resources most pertinent to them.

4 (c) REPORT.—

5 (1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than one  
6 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
7 Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees  
8 on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of  
9 Representatives a report on vulnerabilities to mili-  
10 tary installations and combatant commander re-  
11 quirements resulting from climate change over the  
12 next 20 years.

13 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report on vulnerabilities  
14 to military installations and combatant commander  
15 requirements required by paragraph (1) shall include  
16 the following:

17 (A) A list of the ten most vulnerable mili-  
18 tary installations within each service based on  
19 the effects of rising sea tides, increased flood-  
20 ing, drought, desertification, wildfires, thawing  
21 permafrost, and any other categories the Sec-  
22 retary determines necessary.

23 (B) An overview of mitigations that may  
24 be necessary to ensure the continued oper-  
25 ational viability and to increase the resiliency of

1 the identified vulnerable military installations  
2 and the cost of such mitigations.

3 (C) A discussion of the climate-change re-  
4 lated effects on the Department, including the  
5 increase in the frequency of humanitarian as-  
6 sistance and disaster relief missions and the  
7 theater campaign plans, contingency plans, and  
8 global posture of the combatant commanders.

9 (D) An overview of mitigations that may  
10 be necessary to ensure mission resiliency and  
11 the cost of such mitigations.

12 (3) FORM.—The report required subparagraph  
13 (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may  
14 contain a classified annex.

