116TH CONGRESS
2D Session

S. RES. ______

Requesting information on the Government of Turkey’s human rights practices pursuant to section 502B(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. REED) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on

RESOLUTION

Requesting information on the Government of Turkey’s human rights practices pursuant to section 502B(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

Resolved,

SECTION 1. REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY’S HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES.

(a) Statement Required.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the adoption of this resolution, the Secretary of State shall, pursuant to section 502B(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2304(c)), transmit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the
Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a statement, prepared with the assistance of the Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, with respect to Turkey.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The statement submitted under subsection (a) shall include the following elements:

(1) All the available information about observance of and respect for human rights and fundamental freedom in Turkey, and a detailed description of practices by the Government of Turkey with respect thereto, including alleged violations of such rights and freedoms by the Government of Turkey, including—

(A) arbitrary killings;

(B) suspicious deaths of persons in detention;

(C) forced disappearances;

(D) torture;

(E) arbitrary arrest and detention without charges and trial;

(F) restrictions on freedom of expression, the press, and the internet;

(G) restrictions on freedoms of assembly, association, and movement;

(H) refoulement of refugees; and
(I) discrimination and violence against women, minorities, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) persons.

(2) The steps the United States Government has taken to—

(A) promote respect for and observance of human rights in Turkey and to discourage any practices in Turkey that are inimical to internationally recognized human rights; and

(B) publicly or privately call attention to, and to disassociate the United States and any security assistance provided for Turkey from such practices.

(3) Whether, in the opinion of the Secretary of State, notwithstanding any such practices, extraordinary circumstances exist that necessitate a continuation of security assistance for Turkey and, if so, a description of the circumstances and the extent to which the assistance should be continued (subject to such conditions as Congress may impose under section 502B of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2304)), and all the facts pursuant to which it is in the national interest of the United States to provide such assistance.

(4) Other information, including—
(A) all available credible information concerning alleged violations of internationally recognized human rights or international humanitarian law by the Government of Turkey, its armed forces, and associated groups and persons in the South Caucasus, Syria, Libya, and Iraq, including through indiscriminate or disproportionate attacks, the displacement of civilian populations, and attacks on civilian infrastructure and houses of worship;

(B) whether United States-built F–16s have been used by the Government of Turkey in the South Caucasus since conflict in the region escalated on September 27, 2020, in a manner inimical to internationally recognized human rights; and

(C) a description of the steps the United States has taken to—

(i) discourage any practices by the Government of Turkey, its armed forces, or associated groups or persons in the South Caucasus, Syria, Libya, or Iraq that are inimical to internationally recognized human rights; and
(ii) publicly or privately call attention
to, and disassociate the United States and
any security assistance provided to the
Government of Turkey from such practices
in the South Caucasus, Syria, Libya, or
Iraq.