

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3405

To establish a standing consultative group within the Congress to facilitate consultations between the Congress and the Executive Branch with respect to the use of United States military force abroad.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 28, 1993

Mr. HAMILTON (for himself, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. JOHNSTON of Florida, and Mr. DELLUMS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Rules

A BILL

To establish a standing consultative group within the Congress to facilitate consultations between the Congress and the Executive Branch with respect to the use of United States military force abroad.

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 “Consultation Act of
5 1993”.

6 **SEC. 2. STANDING CONSULTATIVE GROUP.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There shall be within the
8 Congress a group of Members of Congress to be known

1 as the Standing Consultative Group (hereinafter in this
2 Act referred to as the “Consultative Group”).

3 (b) PURPOSE.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—(A) The purpose of the Con-
5 sultative Group shall be to facilitate improved inter-
6 action between the Executive branch and the Con-
7 gress with respect to the use of United States mili-
8 tary force abroad, including any such use described
9 in section 3 and section 4(a) of the War Powers
10 Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1542 and 1543(a)).

11 (B) To the fullest extent practicable, consulta-
12 tions in accordance with this subsection should occur
13 before the United States engages in discussions
14 within the United Nations, within any regional orga-
15 nization in which the United States participates, or
16 with other countries on the possible use of United
17 States military force abroad, including in particular
18 any such use under Chapter VII of the United Na-
19 tions Charter and any such use that might involve
20 placing elements of the United States Armed Forces
21 under the operational control of a foreign national.

22 (2) REGULAR CONSULTATIONS.—In carrying
23 out paragraph (1), the Consultative Group and the
24 President (or senior members of the administration

1 involved with national security issues) should meet
2 regularly for discussions and consultations.

3 (3) SPECIAL CONSULTATIONS.—The Consultative
4 Group and the President (or senior members of
5 the administration involved with national security is-
6 sues) should also meet whenever United States mili-
7 tary action abroad is being considered by the Presi-
8 dent and senior members of the administration.

9 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—The Consultative Group shall
10 consist of the following Members of Congress:

11 (1) HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—Those
12 Members of the House of Representatives designated
13 by the Speaker of the House (after consultation with
14 the minority leader of the House). The Members so
15 designated should include majority and correspond-
16 ing minority representatives of the House leadership
17 and the following committees: the Committee on
18 Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Armed Services,
19 the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence,
20 and the Committee on Appropriations.

21 (2) SENATE.—Those Senators designated by
22 the majority leader of the Senate (after consultation
23 with the minority leader of the Senate). The Sen-
24 ators so designated should include majority and cor-
25 responding minority representatives of the Senate

1 leadership and the following committees: the Com-
2 mittee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on
3 Armed Services, the Select Committee on Intel-
4 ligence, and the Committee on Appropriations.

5 (d) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term
6 “Member” includes, in the case of the House of Rep-
7 resentatives, the Resident Commissioner to the United
8 States from Puerto Rico and Delegates to the House.

9 **SEC. 3. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

10 The conduct of consultations pursuant to section 2(b)
11 of this Act with respect to a possible or an ongoing United
12 States military action abroad shall not be construed as
13 a grant of authority from the Congress to the President
14 to conduct such military action.

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