NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

CONFERENCE REPORT

TO ACCOMPANY

S. 1790

DECEMBER XX, 2019.—Ordered to be printed
and the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria Khorasan”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(9) MONITORING AND EVALUATION MEASURES RELATING TO ASFF.—A description of the monitoring and evaluation measures that the Department of Defense and the Government of Afghanistan are taking to ensure that funds of the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund provided to the Government of Afghanistan as direct government-to-government assistance are not subject to waste, fraud, or abuse.”.

SEC. 1215. SPECIAL IMMIGRANT VISA PROGRAM REPORTING REQUIREMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of State shall submit a report, which may contain a classified annex, to—

(1) the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.
(b) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under subsection (a) shall evaluate the obstacles to effective protection of Afghan and Iraqi allies through the special immigrant visa programs and suggestions for improvements in future programs, including information relating to—

(1) the hiring of locally employed staff and contractors;

(2) documenting the identity and employment of locally employed staff and contractors of the United States Government, including the possibility of establishing a central database of employees of the United States Government and its contractors;

(3) the protection and safety of employees of locally employed staff and contractors;

(4) means of expediting processing at all stages of the process for applicants, including consideration of reducing required forms;

(5) appropriate staffing levels for expedited processing domestically and abroad;

(6) the effect of uncertainty of visa availability on visa processing;

(7) the cost and availability of medical examinations; and

(8) means to reduce delays in interagency processing and security checks.
(c) CONSULTATION.—In preparing the report under subsection (a), the Inspector General shall consult with current and, to the extent possible, former employees of—

(1) the Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Visa Office;

(2) the Department of State, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs and South and Central Asian Affairs, Executive Office;

(3) the United States embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan, Consular Section;

(4) the United States embassy in Baghdad, Iraq, Consular Section;

(5) the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services;

(6) the Department of Defense; and

(7) non-governmental organizations providing legal aid in the special immigrant visa application process.

SEC. 1216. MEANINGFUL INCLUSION OF AFGHAN WOMEN IN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall seek to ensure the meaningful participation of Afghan women in the peace process in Afghanistan in a manner consistent with the Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017 (22 U.S.C.
State, as necessary to facilitate a reconciliation activity.

(B) Exclusion.—The term “designated person or entity” does not include a Federal agency or department.

(4) Reconciliation activity.—The term “reconciliation activity” means any activity intended to support, facilitate, or enable a political settlement between the Government of Afghanistan and the Taliban for the purpose of ending the war in Afghanistan.

(5) Security.—The term “security” means any measure determined by the Secretary of Defense to be necessary to protect reconciliation activities from hostile acts.

SEC. 1219. MODIFICATION AND EXTENSION OF THE AFGHAN SPECIAL IMMIGRANT VISA PROGRAM.

(a) Principal Aliens.—Subclause (I) of section 602(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2009 (8 U.S.C. 1101 note) is amended to read as follows:

“(I) by, or on behalf of, the United States Government; or”.

(b) Extension of Afghan Special Immigrant Program.—Section 602(b)(3)(F) of the Afghan Allies
Protection Act of 2009 (8 U.S.C. 1101 note) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking “2015, 2016, AND 2017” and inserting “2015 THROUGH 2020”;

(2) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “18,500” and inserting “22,500”;

(3) in clause (i), by striking “December 31, 2020” and inserting “December 31, 2021”; and

(4) in clause (ii), by striking “December 31, 2020” and inserting “December 31, 2021”.

Subtitle C—Matters Relating to Syria, Iraq, and Iran

SEC. 1221. MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY AND LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO COUNTER THE ISLAMIC STATE OF IRAQ AND SYRIA.

(a) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2020 by this Act for activities under section 1236 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113–291; 128 Stat. 3558), as amended by this section, not more than 50 percent may be obligated or expended for such activities until the date on which the Secretary