118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To prohibit the use of materials that use the term “West Bank”, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. Tenney introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To prohibit the use of materials that use the term “West Bank”, and for other purposes.

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 “Retiring the Egregious
5 Confusion Over the Genuine Name of Israel’s Zone of In-
6 fluence by Necessitating Government-use of Judea and
7 Samaria Act” or the “RECOGNIZING Judea and Sama-
8 ria Act”.
SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of the Congress that the United States Government—

(1) should refer to the land annexed by Israel from Jordan during the 1967 Six-Day War by its historical names of “Judea and Samaria”, with the land south of Jerusalem being considered “Judea” and the land north of Jerusalem being considered “Samaria”; and

(2) should no longer use the term “West Bank” in official government materials.

SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON USE OF MATERIALS THAT USE THE TERM “WEST BANK”.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available after the date of the enactment of this Act may be obligated or expended to prepare or promulgate any policy, guidance, regulation, notice, Executive order, materials, briefing, press release, communications, or other work product that refers to Judea and Samaria as the “West Bank”.

(b) EXCEPTION.—The prohibition in this section shall not apply with respect to the obligation or expenditure of funds relating to obligations of the United States under international treaties or other agreements.
(c) Waiver.—The Secretary of State may waive the prohibition in this section if the Secretary—

(1) determines that is in the interests of the United States to do so; and

(2) submits to Congress an explanation for the waiver not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary makes the determination.

SEC. 4. CONFORMING CHANGES TO UNITED STATES LAW.

(a) Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.—The Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 is amended as follows:

(1) In section 620K(f)(3) (22 U.S.C. 2378b(f)(3)), by striking “the West Bank” and inserting “Judea and Samaria”.

(2) In section 620L (22 U.S.C. 2378c)—

(A) in the section heading, by striking “THE WEST BANK” and inserting “JUDEA AND SAMARIA”;

(B) by striking “the West Bank” each place it appears and inserting “Judea and Samaria”.

(b) Taylor Force Act.—Section 1004 of the Taylor Force Act (22 U.S.C. 2378c–1) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “THE WEST BANK” and inserting “JUDEA AND SAMARIA”;
(2) by striking “the West Bank” each place it appears and inserting “Judea and Samaria”.

(c) MULTINATIONAL FORCE AND OBSERVERS PARTICIPATION RESOLUTION.—Section 2 of the Multinational Force and Observers Participation Resolution (22 U.S.C. 3421) is amended by striking “the West Bank” and inserting “Judea and Samaria”.


(1) in the section heading, by striking “WEST BANK” and inserting “JUDEA AND SAMARIA”;

(2) by striking “the West Bank” and inserting “Judea and Samaria”.

(e) UNITED STATES-ISRAEL FREE TRADE AREA IMPLEMENTATION ACT OF 1985.—Section 9 of the United States-Israel Free Trade Area Implementation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 2112 note) is amended by striking “the West Bank” each place it appears and inserting “Judea and Samaria”.

(f) IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 9/11 COMMISSION ACT OF 2007.—Section 2021(i) of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act
of 2007 (22 U.S.C. 2151 note) is amended by striking “the West Bank” and inserting “Judea and Samaria”.

(g) FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEAR 2003.—Section 699 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (22 U.S.C. 2301 note) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “WEST BANK” and inserting “JUDEA AND SAMARIA”; and

(2) in subsection (a), by striking “the West Bank” and inserting “Judea and Samaria”.

(h) NITA M. LOWEY MIDDLE EAST PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE ACT.—Section 8005 of the Nita M. Lowey Middle East Partnership for Peace Act (Pub. L. 116–260) is amended by striking “the West Bank” each place it appears and inserting “Judea and Samaria”.