

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. _____

Expressing the sense of the Senate that it values the active participation of the Republic of Kosovo as the state partner of the Iowa National Guard over the past 15 years.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Ms. ERNST) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that it values the active participation of the Republic of Kosovo as the state partner of the Iowa National Guard over the past 15 years.

Whereas the National Guard State Partnership Program was created by the Department of the Army in 1993 to link foreign partner countries with segments of the National Guard to foster mutual interests and establish long-term relationships;

Whereas, in 2011, the Iowa National Guard and the Kosovo Security Force were joined via the National Guard Bureau's State Partnership Program;

Whereas, since 2011, Iowa and Kosovo have participated in numerous joint activities;

Whereas several members of the Ministry of Defense and the Kosovo Security Force have received knowledge and training according to the standards, tactics, and strategies of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas the joint activities of the Iowa-Kosovo state partnership have shown the Kosovo Security Force how the United States military operates and have prepared and trained soldiers for international engagements, civil-military operations, crisis management, economic development, higher education, and environmental policy;

Whereas, in 2021, Kosovo Security Force deployed to Kuwait for the first time in a joint mission with the Iowa National Guard;

Whereas, in May 2024, 165 Kosovo Security Force personnel trained alongside the Iowa National Guard for over three weeks at the Joint Readiness Training Center in Louisiana, focusing on tactical training for joint deployments on peacekeeping missions;

Whereas, in the interest of building on the excellent joint cooperation between the Kosovo Security Force and the Iowa National Guard, the Ministry of Defense of Kosovo is currently in the process of designating a military liaison officer, who is expected to deploy to Iowa in the near future to facilitate and coordinate military activities;

Whereas the Kosovo Security Force's continued development in accordance with democratic principles, civilian control, and Euro-Atlantic standards contributes to the security and resilience of Kosovo and the broader Western Balkans;

Whereas the Government of Kosovo has continued to strengthen defense diplomacy by expanding the network

of military attachés and deepening cooperation with strategic partners through Euro-Atlantic integration;

Whereas the Government of Kosovo participates in regional cooperation initiatives and provides assistance to neighboring countries;

Whereas the Government of Kosovo has expressed strong public support and a commitment to pursuing full membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO); and

Whereas sustained United States engagement with Kosovo sends a clear message of United States commitment to regional security, deterrence, and the peaceful resolution of disputes in the Western Balkans: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) recognizes the cooperation between the
3 State of Iowa and the Republic of Kosovo and the
4 joint military partnership between the Iowa National
5 Guard and the Kosovo Security Force for the past
6 15 years;

7 (2) greatly appreciates these efforts by the Iowa
8 National Guard and the Republic of Kosovo, and
9 congratulates the Government and people of Kosovo
10 on their commitment to and participation with the
11 Government and people of the United States and
12 other countries in advancing peace, democracy, sta-
13 bility, and mutual understanding among govern-
14 ments and people around the world; and

1 (3) expresses appreciation for the joint endeav-
2 ors of the Iowa National Guard, the Republic of
3 Kosovo, and the United States in combating malign
4 activities around the world.