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{ REPORT
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NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

CONFERENCE REPORT

TO ACCOMPANY

S. 1790



DECEMBER XX, 2019.—Ordered to be printed

1 (2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
2 House of Representatives and the Committee on
3 Foreign Relations of the Senate.

4 **SEC. 1674. INDEPENDENT STUDY ON RISKS OF NUCLEAR**
5 **TERRORISM AND NUCLEAR WAR.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the
7 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense
8 shall enter into an agreement with the National Academy
9 of Sciences to conduct a study on—

10 (1) whether a risk assessment framework is ap-
11 plicable to determining the potential risks of nuclear
12 terrorism and nuclear war; and

13 (2) the implications for national security of as-
14 sumptions in nuclear policy and doctrine.

15 (b) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The study under sub-
16 section (a) shall—

17 (1) identify risks described in paragraph (1) of
18 that subsection;

19 (2) assess prior literature on such risks;

20 (3) assess the role that quantitative and non-
21 quantitative analytical methods can play in assessing
22 such risks, including the limitations of such analysis;

23 (4) identify and examine the assumptions about
24 nuclear risks that underlie the national security
25 strategy of the United States; and

1 (5) describe the consequences of the methods
2 and assumptions that have been, are, or could be
3 used in developing the nuclear security strategy of
4 the United States.

5 (c) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Based on findings under
6 subsection (b), the study may provide recommendations
7 with respect to improving the use of a risk assessment
8 framework described in subsection (a)(1).

9 (d) SUBMISSION.—Not later than one year after the
10 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall sub-
11 mit to the congressional defense committees the study
12 under subsection (a), without change.

13 (e) FORM.—The study shall be submitted in unclassi-
14 fied form, but may include a classified annex.

15 **SEC. 1675. REPORT ON MILITARY-TO-MILITARY DIALOGUE**
16 **TO REDUCE RISKS OF MISCALCULATION**
17 **LEADING TO NUCLEAR WAR.**

18 Not later than 120 days after the date of the enact-
19 ment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination
20 with the Secretary of State, shall submit to the congres-
21 sional defense committees, the Committee on Foreign Af-
22 fairs of the House of Representatives, and the Committee
23 on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report containing
24 the following:

25 (1) A description of—