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## AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5658, AS REPORTED

## OFFERED BY MR. SESSIONS OF TEXAS

At the end of subtitle C of title II, add the following new section:

**SEC. 223. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS RELATING TO THE BOOST PHASE COMPONENT OF BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE.**

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds as follows:

(1) An effective ballistic missile defense system must include boost phase, midcourse phase, and terminal phase components to provide a truly comprehensive defense against ballistic missiles.

(2) All ballistic missiles undergo a boost phase of flight, during which the missiles accelerate under their own power after launch. The boost phase of flight presents the earliest opportunity to engage ballistic missiles after the missiles have been launched.

(3) The aftermath of intercepting ballistic missiles is potentially hazardous (including threats such as the release of post-intercept shrapnel, the detonation of warheads, or the release of deadly chemicals), and a boost phase intercept would largely confine

1 these harmful elements to the adversary's territory
2 instead of near or above the United States and its
3 allies.

4 (4) The present array of threat ballistic missiles
5 (TBM's) do not deploy radar-defeating counter-
6 measures until the TBM's transition into the mid-
7 course phase of flight, but adversaries of the United
8 States will doubtlessly continue to improve upon bal-
9 listic missile design to enhance countermeasures.

10 (5) The United States has the detection and
11 tracking advantage of radar and aerial and space-
12 based infrared sensors to detect and track missiles
13 during the boost phase. After the boost phase, the
14 missile boosters burn out and detection is restricted
15 to radar alone.

16 (6) The United States presently has intercep-
17 tors that are operationally capable of engaging bal-
18 listic missiles in the midcourse and terminal phases
19 of flight, but not the boost phase of flight.

20 (b) SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.—It is the sense of
21 the Congress that Congress should support the develop-
22 ment, testing, and fielding of the capability to intercept
23 ballistic missiles in their boost phase, whether by directed

1 energy or kinetic intercept, as soon as technologically pos-

2 sible.

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