

The Afghanistan Partnership and Transparency Act

The February 2020 agreement between the United States and the Taliban established a [timetable](#) for troop withdrawal that is not based on conditions on the ground. As the Taliban, al Qaeda, the Islamic State, and other groups continue their operations in Afghanistan, it is critical that Congress and the American people have a thorough understanding of the ramifications of the drawdown. This legislation will help ensure proper oversight by requiring reporting on the effect of the withdrawal on America's diplomatic and security interests.

The Afghanistan Partnership and Transparency Act:

- Requires the Administration to submit a comprehensive, interagency (Department of Defense, Department of State, and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence) report and certification in order to draw down U.S. military personnel in Afghanistan below two separate troop levels: 8,000 and 5,000. The report and certification requirement include elements that require assessments of:
 - U.S. national security implications;
 - Relationship between the Taliban and al Qaeda (and affiliates);
 - Effect on allies and partners working in support of the U.S. and North Atlantic Treaty Organization-led missions;
 - Impact on human rights and civil rights, particularly for vulnerable populations; and
 - Influence of malign state actors on Afghan sovereignty.
- Requires that these reports be provided with limited classification controls to ensure maximum transparency with the American people.
- Requires the Secretary of Defense to submit a detailed written justification to Congress if the Secretary uses the waiver authority pertaining to either an extraordinary threat to U.S. personnel or for interests vital to U.S. national security.
- Provides a Sense of Congress that details the U.S. commitment to ensuring Afghanistan does not provide safe harbor to terrorists, provides human rights and civil rights protections for vulnerable populations, and achieves lasting peace.

Please contact Jon Green (jon.green@mail.house.gov) from Representative Crow's office or Jenna Lihits (jenna.lihits@mail.house.gov) from Representative Cheney's office with any questions or to be added as a cosponsor.