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FOR MARYLAND

The Preserving Arms Control Treaties (PACT) Act

BACKGROUND: On February 2, 2019, the Trump administration formally suspended its obligations under the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty while formally announcing its intent to withdraw from the treaty in six months. The PACT Act unconditionally restricts the use of funds for activities that would constitute a violation of INF Treaty during the six-month withdrawal period. It prevents the Trump administration from taking any near-term escalatory steps, such as flight-testing a modified system, that would further exacerbate the INF crisis and strain relations with our NATO allies. Additionally, the legislation mandates a report on measures the U.S. is pursuing to bring the Russian Federation back into compliance, providing much-needed oversight of the administration's withdrawal from the INF Treaty.

Prohibition of funds

- No funds will be used to take any INF-prohibited action during the six-month withdrawal period.

Mandated Report

- A description of diplomatic, economic, and INF-compliant military measures that the United States has undertaken in order to bring the Russian Federation back into compliance during the six-month withdrawal period.
- A description of the status the Russian Federation's INF-range systems, their capabilities, current deployment levels, and the threat they may pose to the United States' European and Asian allies and assets in the region.
- A detailed description of the arms control proposal that the President referenced in his State of the Union Address.