

109TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3690

To authorize the Secretary of State to pay the costs of evacuating nationals of the United States from the Middle East in response to the hostilities between Israel and its neighbors that began in July 2006, and to require, except in limited circumstances, the reimbursement of such costs.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 19, 2006

Ms. STABENOW introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of State to pay the costs of evacuating nationals of the United States from the Middle East in response to the hostilities between Israel and its neighbors that began in July 2006, and to require, except in limited circumstances, the reimbursement of such costs.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. PAYMENT OF COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE**  
4 **EVACUATION OF UNITED STATES NATIONALS**  
5 **FROM LEBANON.**

6 (a) AUTHORITY.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State is  
2           authorized to make expenditures under section 4 of  
3           the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956  
4           (22 U.S.C. 2671) to cover the costs of evacuating  
5           nationals of the United States from the Middle East  
6           in response to the hostilities between Israel and  
7           Hezbollah that began in July 2006.

8           (2) SCOPE.—The authority under paragraph  
9           (1) is not subject to the requirement under section  
10          4(a)(1) of the State Department Basic Authorities  
11          Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2671(a)(1)) that an emer-  
12          gency arise in the diplomatic and consular service or  
13          the requirement under section 4(b)(1)(A) of such  
14          Act (22 U.S.C. 2671(a)(1)) that expenditures serve  
15          to further the realization of foreign policy objectives.

16          (b) REIMBURSEMENT.—The Secretary shall, in ac-  
17          cordance with section 4(b)(2)(A)(ii) of such Act (22  
18          U.S.C. 2671(b)(2)(A)(ii)), seek reimbursement for ex-  
19          penditures under subsection (a)(1) of this section for the  
20          evacuation of private United States citizens or third-coun-  
21          try nationals, except that the Secretary may waive such  
22          reimbursement requirement—

23                 (1) in the case of any evacuated person for  
24                 whom the imposition of such requirement would re-  
25                 sult in undue financial hardship; and

1           (2) in the case of any person who is unable to  
2           obtain reimbursement or credit from an air carrier  
3           for the unused portion of a round-trip commercial  
4           air fare or to otherwise reuse such air fare.

5           (c) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts available  
6           pursuant to section 4(a)(1) of the State Department Basic  
7           Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2671(a)(1)) for  
8           unforeseen emergencies arising in the diplomatic and con-  
9           sular service shall be available for expenditures made  
10          under this section.

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