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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To limit the use of certain funds for the deactivation of Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigades, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LUTTRELL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To limit the use of certain funds for the deactivation of Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigades, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Prohibit Deactivation  
5 of the ECABs Act of 2026”.

1 **SECTION 1. LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR DEACTIVA-**  
2 **TION OF EXPEDITIONARY COMBAT AVIATION**  
3 **BRIGADES.**

4 (a) **LIMITATION.**—None of the funds authorized to  
5 be appropriated or otherwise made available for any of fis-  
6 cal years 2027 through 2031 for the Army may be obli-  
7 gated or expended to retire, deactivate, schedule to deacti-  
8 vate, or proceed with any other action that would reduce  
9 the capabilities, resources, aircraft, or personnel available,  
10 as of the date of the enactment of this Act, for the Expedi-  
11 tionary Combat Aviation Brigades unless the Secretary of  
12 the Army submits to the congressional defense commit-  
13 tees—

14 (1) a certification that the Secretary of the  
15 Army plans to recapitalize any such aircraft for the  
16 Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigades and to oth-  
17 erwise restore any such capabilities, resources, or  
18 personnel levels reduced; and

19 (2) the plan of the Secretary of the Army for  
20 the actions specified in paragraph (1).

21 (b) **REQUIREMENT TO RESTORE.**—

22 (1) **REQUIREMENT.**—Not later than one year  
23 after the date of the enactment of this Act, for any  
24 Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade that, prior  
25 to such date of enactment, the Secretary of the  
26 Army retired or deactivated (or carried out any

1 other activity to reduce the capabilities, resources,  
2 aircraft, or personnel thereof), the Secretary of the  
3 Army shall reinstate or reactivate such brigade, or  
4 otherwise restore such brigade to the levels pre-  
5 ceding such reduction, as the case may be.

6 (2) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the  
7 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of  
8 the Army shall submit to the congressional defense  
9 committees a report on the implementation of this  
10 subsection.

11 (c) PLAN REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after  
12 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of  
13 the Army shall submit to the congressional defense com-  
14 mittees a plan to sustain and modernize the aircraft used  
15 by the Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigades.

16 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
17 authorized to be appropriated to the Department of the  
18 Army for the operation of aircraft, and training for such  
19 operation, by the Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigades  
20 \$35,000,000 for fiscal year 2027.

21 (e) CONGRESSIONAL DEFENSE COMMITTEES DE-  
22 FINED.—In this section, the term “congressional defense  
23 committees” has the meaning given such term in section  
24 101 of title 10, United States Code.