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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/18/14

SPONSOR SFI LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Swift Resolution of International Conflicts SJM 8/SFLS

ANALYST Armstrong

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY14	FY15		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Floor substitute for Senate Joint Memorial 8 calls for support of the strategic partnership between the U.S.A. and the Republic of Azerbaijan, and requests that the USA reinvigorate efforts to achieve a political settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The joint memorial recognizes the desire for a political settlement to the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict that continues to threaten regional peace and stability. The joint memorial further recognizes the importance of Azerbaijan's assistance to the United States of America in Afghanistan and in the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), especially with the Northern Distribution Route.

The Northern Distribution Network (NDN) was established in 2009 in response to the increased risk of sending supplies through Pakistan. Initial permission for the U.S. military to move troop supplies through the region was given on January 20, 2009, after a visit to the region by General David Petraeus. The first shipment along the NDN left on February 20, 2009.

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Azerbaijan, which also sent its peacekeeping forces to be a part of ISAF, provided its airspace and airports for transportation of vital supplies for the U.S. Army in Afghanistan. Apart from usage of Azerbaijani airspace by the U.S. Air Force, over one-third of all of the nonlethal equipment, including fuel, clothing, and food, used by the U.S. military in Afghanistan travels through Baku, Azerbaijan's capital city.

After the close of Pakistani routes in 2011, the NDN became the primary means of moving fuel into Afghanistan. By February 2012, 85 percent of the coalition's fuel supplies were transported by means of this route. It is also used for moving equipment out of Afghanistan as part of the NATO drawdown.

JA/jl