

SUBCHAPTER VI—FUNDING FOR  
PROMOTION OF DEMOCRACY

**§ 8261. The United Nations Democracy Fund**

**(a) Sense of Congress**

It is the sense of Congress that the United States should work with other countries to enhance the goals and work of the United Nations Democracy Fund, an essential tool to promote democracy, and in particular support civil society in foreign countries in their efforts to help consolidate democracy and bring about transformational change.

**(b) Authorization of appropriations**

There is authorized to be appropriated \$14,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009 to the Secretary for a United States contribution to the United Nations Democracy Fund.

(Pub. L. 110-53, title XXI, §2161, Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 536.)

**§ 8262. United States democracy assistance programs**

**(a) Sense of Congress regarding use of instruments of democracy promotion**

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) United States support for democracy is strengthened by using a variety of different instrumentalities, such as the National Endowment for Democracy, the United States Agency for International Development, and the Department; and

(2) the purpose of the Department's Human Rights and Democracy Fund should be to support innovative programming, media, and materials designed to uphold democratic principles, practices, and values, support and strengthen democratic institutions, promote human rights and the rule of law, and build civil societies in countries around the world.

**(b) Sense of Congress regarding mechanisms for delivering assistance**

**(1) Findings**

Congress finds the following:

(A) Democracy assistance has many different forms, including assistance to promote the rule of law, build the capacity of civil society, political parties, and legislatures, improve the independence of the media and the judiciary, enhance independent auditing functions, and advance security sector reform.

(B) There is a need for greater clarity on the coordination and delivery mechanisms for United States democracy assistance.

**(2) Sense of Congress**

It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development should develop guidelines, in consultation with the appropriate congressional committees, building on the existing framework for grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, and other acquisition mechanisms to guide United States missions in foreign countries in coordinating United States democracy assistance and selecting the appropriate combination of such mechanisms for such assistance.

(Pub. L. 110-53, title XXI, §2162, Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 536.)

**CHAPTER 90—VOLUNTEERS FOR  
PROSPERITY PROGRAM**

Sec.	
8301.	Findings.
8302.	Definitions.
8303.	Office of Volunteers for Prosperity.
8304.	Authorization of appropriations.

**§ 8301. Findings**

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Americans engaged in international volunteer service, and the organizations deploying them—

(A) play critical roles in responding to the needs of people living throughout the developing world; and

(B) advance the international public diplomacy of the United States.

(2) The Volunteers for Prosperity Program has successfully promoted international volunteer service by skilled American professionals.

(3) In its first 4 years, the VfP Program helped to mobilize 74,000 skilled Americans, including doctors, nurses, engineers, businesspeople, and teachers, through a network of 250 nonprofit organizations and companies in the United States, to carry out development and humanitarian efforts for those affected by great global challenges in health, the environment, poverty, illiteracy, financial literacy, disaster relief, and other challenges.

(4) The VfP Program has undertaken activities, including—

(A) direct outreach to leading nonprofit organizations and companies in the United States;

(B) promotion of the work of skilled Americans and nonprofit organizations and companies in the United States as it relates to international volunteer service;

(C) public recognition of skilled American volunteers;

(D) support for organizations that utilize skilled Americans as volunteers;

(E) participation in the development of special initiatives to further opportunities for skilled Americans; and

(F) leadership of an innovative public-private partnership to provide eligible skilled<sup>1</sup> with financial assistance for volunteer assignments.

(Pub. L. 111-13, title V, §5101, Apr. 21, 2009, 123 Stat. 1597.)

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Chapter effective Oct. 1, 2009, see section 6101(a) of Pub. L. 111-13, set out as an Effective Date of 2009 Amendment note under section 4950 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.

**EX. ORD. NO. 13317. VOLUNTEERS FOR PROSPERITY**

Ex. Ord. No. 13317, Sept. 25, 2003, 68 F.R. 56515, as amended by Ex. Ord. No. 13418, Dec. 14, 2006, 71 F.R. 75647, provided:

<sup>1</sup>So in original. Probably should be "eligible skilled professionals".