

“(a) INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING OPERATIONS FUND.—In addition to amounts otherwise authorized for the Broadcasting Board of Governors’ International Broadcasting Operations Fund, there is authorized to be appropriated \$15,000,000 to expand Farsi language programming and to provide for the dissemination of accurate and independent information to the Iranian people through radio, television, Internet, cellular telephone, short message service, and other communications.

“(b) BROADCASTING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND.—In addition to amounts otherwise authorized for the Broadcasting Board of Governors’ Broadcasting Capital Improvements Fund, there is authorized to be appropriated \$15,000,000 to expand transmissions of Farsi language programs to Iran.

“(c) USE OF AMOUNTS.—In pursuit of the objectives described in subsections (a) and (b), amounts in the International Broadcasting Operations Fund and the Capital Improvements Fund may be used—

“(1) develop additional transmission capability for Radio Farda and the Persian News Network to counter ongoing efforts to jam transmissions, including through additional shortwave and medium wave transmissions, satellite, and Internet mechanisms;

“(2) develop additional proxy server capability and anti-censorship software to counter efforts to block Radio Farda and Persian News Network Web sites;

“(3) develop technologies to counter efforts to block SMS text message exchange over cellular phone networks;

“(4) expand program coverage and analysis by Radio Farda and the Persian News Network, including the development of broadcast platforms and programs, on the television, radio and Internet, for enhanced interactivity with and among the people of Iran;

“(5) hire, on a permanent or short-term basis, additional staff for Radio Farda and the Persian News Network; and

“(6) develop additional Internet-based, Farsi-language television programming, including a Farsi-language, Internet-based news channel.”

IRANIAN ELECTRONIC EDUCATION, EXCHANGE, AND MEDIA FUND

Pub. L. 111-84, div. A, title XII, §1263, Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2553, provided that:

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States the Iranian Electronic Education, Exchange, and Media Fund (referred to in this section as the ‘Fund’), consisting of amounts appropriated to the Fund pursuant to subsection (f).

“(b) ADMINISTRATION.—The Fund shall be administered by the Secretary of State.

“(c) OBJECTIVE.—The objective of the Fund shall be to support the development of technologies, including Internet Web sites, that will aid the ability of the Iranian people to—

“(1) gain access to and share information;

“(2) exercise freedom of speech, freedom of expression, and freedom of assembly through the Internet and other electronic media;

“(3) engage in Internet-based education programs and other exchanges between Americans and Iranians; and

“(4) counter efforts—

“(A) to block, censor, and monitor the Internet; and

“(B) to disrupt or monitor cellular phone networks or SMS text exchanges.

“(d) USE OF AMOUNTS.—In pursuit of the objective described in subsection (c), amounts in the Fund may be used for grants to United States or foreign universities, nonprofit organizations, or companies for targeted projects that advance the purpose of the Fund, including projects that—

“(1) develop Farsi-language versions of existing social-networking Web sites;

“(2) develop technologies, including Internet-based applications, to counter efforts—

“(A) to block, censor, and monitor the Internet; and

“(B) to disrupt or monitor cellular phone networks or SMS text message exchanges;

“(3) develop Internet-based, distance learning programs for Iranian students at United States universities; and

“(4) promote Internet-based, people-to-people educational, professional, religious, or cultural exchanges and dialogues between United States citizens and Iranians.

“(e) TRANSFERS.—Amounts in the Fund may be transferred to the United States Agency for International Development, the Broadcasting Board of Governors, or any other agency of the Federal Government to the extent that such amounts are used to carry out activities that will further the objective described in subsection (c).

“(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated \$20,000,000 to the Fund.”

BUYING POWER MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT

Pub. L. 110-252, title I, §1408(c), June 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2342, provided that: “The Broadcasting Board of Governors may transfer funds into its Buying Power Maintenance Account, notwithstanding the requirement that such funds be provided in advance in appropriations Acts. The authority in this subsection may be exercised only with respect to funds appropriated or otherwise made available after fiscal year 2008.”

PILOT PROJECT FOR TRANSCRIPTION OF CERTAIN PROGRAMMING INTO ENGLISH

Pub. L. 110-53, title XX, §2032, Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 516, provided that:

“(a) TRANSCRIPTION OF PERSIAN AND ARABIC LANGUAGE BROADCASTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 3, 2007], the Broadcasting Board of Governors shall initiate a pilot project to transcribe into the English language news and information programming broadcast by Radio Farda, Radio Sawa, the Persian Service of the Voice of America, and Alhurra.

“(b) RANDOM SAMPLING; PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The transcription required under subsection (a) shall consist of a random sampling of such programming. The transcripts shall be available to Congress and the public on the Internet site of the Board.

“(c) REPORT.—Not later than May 1, 2008, the Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report on the feasibility and utility of continuing the pilot project required under subsection (a).

“(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the ‘International Broadcasting Operations’ account of the Broadcasting Board of Governors \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2008 to carry out the pilot project required under subsection (a).”

§ 6205. Role of Secretary of State

(a) Foreign policy guidance

To assist the Board in carrying out its functions, the Secretary of State shall provide information and guidance on foreign policy issues to the Board, as the Secretary may deem appropriate.

(b) Certain Worldnet programming

The Secretary of State is authorized to use Worldnet broadcasts for the purposes of continuing interactive dialogues with foreign media and other similar overseas public diplomacy programs sponsored by the Department of State. The Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors shall provide access to Worldnet for this purpose on a nonreimbursable basis.

(Pub. L. 103-236, title III, §306, Apr. 30, 1994, 108 Stat. 436; Pub. L. 105-277, div. G, subdiv. A, title XIII, §1323(j), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-780.)

AMENDMENTS

1998—Pub. L. 105-277, §1323(j)(1), substituted “Role of Secretary of State” for “Foreign policy guidance” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 105-277, §1323(j)(2)–(4), designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, substituted “State” for “State, acting through the Director of the United States Information Agency,” and inserted before period at end “, as the Secretary may deem appropriate”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 105-277, §1323(j)(5), added subsec. (b).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 105-277 effective Oct. 1, 1999, see section 1301 of Pub. L. 105-277, set out as an Effective Date note under section 6531 of this title.

§ 6206. International Broadcasting Bureau

(a) Establishment

There is hereby established an International Broadcasting Bureau under the Board (hereafter in this chapter referred to as the “Bureau”), to carry out all nonmilitary international broadcasting activities supported by the United States Government other than those described in sections 6207 and 6208 of this title.

(b) Selection of Director of Bureau

The Director of the Bureau shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Director of the Bureau shall be entitled to receive compensation at the rate prescribed by law for level IV of the Executive Schedule.

(c) Responsibilities of Director

The Director shall organize and chair a coordinating committee to examine and make recommendations to the Board on long-term strategies for the future of international broadcasting, including the use of new technologies, further consolidation of broadcast services, and consolidation of currently existing public affairs and legislative relations functions in the various international broadcasting entities. The coordinating committee shall include representatives of Radio Free Asia, RFE/RL, Incorporated, the Broadcasting Board of Governors, and, as appropriate, the Office of Cuba Broadcasting, the Voice of America, and Worldnet.

(Pub. L. 103-236, title III, §307, Apr. 30, 1994, 108 Stat. 436; Pub. L. 105-277, div. G, subdiv. A, title XIII, §1323(k), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-780.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original “this title”, meaning title III of Pub. L. 103-236, Apr. 30, 1994, 108 Stat. 432, known as the United States International Broadcasting Act of 1994, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of title III to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 6201 of this title and Tables.

Level IV of the Executive Schedule, referred to in subsec. (b), is set out in section 5315 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

AMENDMENTS

1998—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 105-277, §1323(k)(1), substituted “under the Board” for “within the United States Information Agency”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 105-277, §1323(k)(2)–(4), redesignated par. (1) as entire subsec. (b), substituted “President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate” for “Chairman of the Board, in consultation with the Director of the United States Information Agency and with the concurrence of a majority of the Board”, and struck out par. (2) which amended section 5315 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 105-277, §1323(k)(5), added subsec. (c).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 105-277 effective Oct. 1, 1999, see section 1301 of Pub. L. 105-277, set out as an Effective Date note under section 6531 of this title.

PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTING PILOT PROGRAM

Pub. L. 107-228, div. A, title V, §504, Sept. 30, 2002, 116 Stat. 1393, as amended by Pub. L. 109-140, §6, Dec. 22, 2005, 119 Stat. 2652; Pub. L. 109-472, §9, Jan. 11, 2007, 120 Stat. 3556; Pub. L. 110-161, div. J, title VI, §634(r), Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2330; Pub. L. 110-321, §5, Sept. 19, 2008, 122 Stat. 3536, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the International Broadcasting Bureau (in this section referred to as the ‘Director’) may establish a pilot program (in this section referred to as the ‘program’) for the purpose of hiring United States citizens or aliens as personal services contractors, without regard to Civil Service and classification laws, for service in the United States as broadcasters and other broadcasting specialists in the International Broadcasting Bureau to respond to new or emerging broadcast needs or to augment broadcast services.

“(b) CONDITIONS.—The Director is authorized to use the authority of subsection (a) subject to the following conditions:

“(1) The Director determines that existing personnel resources are insufficient and the need is not of permanent duration.

“(2) The Director approves each employment of a personal services contractor.

“(3) The contract length, including options, may not exceed 2 years, unless the Director makes a finding that exceptional circumstances justify an extension of up to one additional year.

“(4) Not more than a total of 60 United States citizens or aliens are employed at any one time as personal services contractors under the program.

“(c) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority to award personal services contracts under the pilot program authorized by this section shall terminate on December 31, 2009. A contract entered into prior to the termination date under this subsection may remain in effect for a period not to exceed 6 months after such termination date.”

[Pub. L. 113-235, div. J, title I, Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2580, provided in part: “That the authority provided by section 504(c) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107-228; 22 U.S.C. 6206 note) shall remain in effect through September 30, 2015.”]

[Pub. L. 113-76, div. K, title I, Jan. 17, 2014, 128 Stat. 471, provided in part: “That the authority provided by section 504(c) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107-228; 22 U.S.C. 6206 note) shall remain in effect through September 30, 2014.”]

[Pub. L. 112-74, div. I, title I, Dec. 23, 2011, 125 Stat. 1171, provided in part: “That the authority provided by section 504(c) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107-228; 22 U.S.C. 6206 note) shall remain in effect through September 30, 2012.”]

[Pub. L. 111-117, div. F, title I, Dec. 16, 2009, 123 Stat. 3318, provided in part: “That the authority provided by section 504(c) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107-228; 22 U.S.C. 6206 note) shall remain in effect through September 30, 2010.”]