

“(A) representative democracy is indispensable for the stability, peace, and development of the Western Hemisphere; and

“(B) a purpose of the Organization of American States is to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention.

“(2) The United States supports the purposes and principles enshrined in—

“(A) the Charter of the Organization of American States;

“(B) the Inter-American Democratic Charter; and

“(C) the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man.

“(3) The United States supports the Organization of American States in its efforts with all member states to meet our commitments under the instruments set forth in paragraph (2).

“(4) Congress supports the Organization of American States as it operates in a manner consistent with the Inter-American Democratic Charter.”

#### STATEMENT OF POLICY

Pub. L. 113–41, §3, Oct. 2, 2013, 127 Stat. 548, provided that: “It is the policy of the United States—

“(1) to promote democracy and the rule of law throughout the Western Hemisphere;

“(2) to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Western Hemisphere; and

“(3) to support the practices, purposes, and principles expressed in the Charter of the Organization of American States, the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man, the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and other fundamental instruments of democracy.”

### CHAPTER 8—FOREIGN SERVICE BUILDINGS

Sec.	
291.	Lease of buildings, etc., for offices, living quarters, heat, light, and equipment.
292.	Acquisition of sites and buildings for diplomatic and consular establishments; allotment of space; credit of payments without regard to limitations of amounts.
292a.	Demonstration of solar and other renewable energy technologies in foreign countries.
293.	Repealed.
294.	Manner of use of buildings; contracts for construction, etc.
294a.	Contracts requiring payment in foreign currency.
295.	Authorization of appropriations; Foreign Service Building Fund; expenditures; foreign currencies.
295a, 295b.	Omitted.
296.	Duties of Secretary of State with respect to commission and properties.
296a.	Maintenance management of overseas property.
297.	Acquisition of property by lease.
297a, 298.	Omitted.
299.	Short title.
300.	Dispositions of property; damage payments; acceptance of gifts or services.
301.	Lease or rental arrangements of not less than ten years; approval by Secretary; delegation of authority; information to Congress.
302.	Award of contracts.
303.	Repealed.
304.	Annual report on embassy construction costs.

#### § 291. Lease of buildings, etc., for offices, living quarters, heat, light, and equipment

The Secretary of State may lease or rent, for periods not exceeding ten years, such buildings and grounds for the use of the Foreign Service as may be necessary; and he may, in accordance with existing practice without cost to them, and

within the limit of any appropriation made by Congress, furnish the officers and employees in the Foreign Service with living quarters, heat, light, and household equipment in Government-owned or rented buildings, at places where, in his judgment, it would be in the public interest to do so, notwithstanding the provisions of section 5536 of title 5; and appropriations for “Contingent expenses, foreign missions,” and “Contingent expenses, consulates,” are made available for such purposes.

(Apr. 18, 1930, ch. 184, title I, 46 Stat. 177.)

#### CODIFICATION

Section was not enacted as part of the Foreign Service Buildings Act, 1926, which comprises this chapter.

“Section 5536 of title 5” substituted in text for “section 1765 of the Revised Statutes (U.S.C., title 5, sec. 70; U.S.C., Supp. III, title 5, sec. 70)” on authority of Pub. L. 89–554, §7(b), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 631, the first section of which enacted Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

#### § 292. Acquisition of sites and buildings for diplomatic and consular establishments; allotment of space; credit of payments without regard to limitations of amounts

##### (a) Authority of Secretary of State

The Secretary of State is empowered to acquire by purchase or construction in the manner hereinafter provided, within the limits of appropriations made to carry out this chapter, by exchange, in whole or in part, of any building or grounds of the United States in foreign countries and under the jurisdiction and control of the Secretary of State, sites and buildings in foreign capitals and in other foreign cities, and to alter, repair, and furnish such buildings for the use of the diplomatic and consular establishments of the United States, or for the purpose of consolidating within one or more buildings, the embassies, legation, consulates, and other agencies of the United States Government there maintained. The space in such buildings shall be allotted by the Secretary of State among the several agencies of the United States Government.

##### (b) Payments from other than appropriated funds for acquisition of property

Payments made for rent or otherwise by the United States from funds other than appropriations made to carry out this chapter may be credited toward the acquisition of property under this chapter without regard to limitations of amounts imposed by this chapter.

##### (c) Authorization for improvements and construction

The Secretary of State may improve or construct facilities overseas for other Federal departments and agencies on an advance-of-funds or reimbursable basis if such advances or reimbursements are credited to the Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance account and remain available until expended.

(May 7, 1926, ch. 250, §1, 44 Stat. 403; May 29, 1928, ch. 876, §1, 45 Stat. 971; Pub. L. 88–94, §2(b), Aug. 12, 1963, 77 Stat. 122; Pub. L. 89–636, §2, Oct. 10, 1966, 80 Stat. 881; Pub. L. 95–105, title I, §106(a), Aug. 17, 1977, 91 Stat. 845; Pub. L. 114–323, title I, §119, Dec. 16, 2016, 130 Stat. 1912.)