

§ 7817. Special Envoy on North Korean human rights issues

(a) Special Envoy

The President shall appoint a special envoy for North Korean human rights issues within the Department of State (hereafter in this section referred to as the “Special Envoy”), by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Special Envoy should be a person of recognized distinction in the field of human rights who shall have the rank of ambassador and shall hold the office at the pleasure of the President.

(b) Central objective

The central objective of the Special Envoy is to coordinate and promote efforts to improve respect for the fundamental human rights of the people of North Korea, including, in coordination with the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, the protection of those people who have fled as refugees.

(c) Duties and responsibilities

The Special Envoy shall—

(1) participate in the formulation and the implementation of activities carried out pursuant to this chapter;

(2) engage in discussions with North Korean officials regarding human rights;

(3) support international efforts to promote human rights and political freedoms in North Korea, including coordination and dialogue between the United States and the United Nations, the European Union, North Korea, and the other countries in Northeast Asia;

(4) consult with non-governmental organizations who have attempted to address human rights in North Korea;

(5) make recommendations regarding the funding of activities authorized in sections 7812 and 7814 of this title;

(6) review strategies for improving protection of human rights in North Korea, including technical training and exchange programs; and

(7) develop an action plan for supporting implementation of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights Resolution 2004/13.

(d) Report on activities

Not later than 180 days after October 18, 2004, and annually thereafter through 2022, the Special Envoy shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the activities undertaken in the preceding 12 months under subsection (c).

(Pub. L. 108-333, title I, §107, Oct. 18, 2004, 118 Stat. 1292; Pub. L. 110-346, §8, Oct. 7, 2008, 122 Stat. 3941; Pub. L. 112-172, §7, Aug. 16, 2012, 126 Stat. 1309; Pub. L. 115-198, §7(c), July 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 1523.)

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 115-198 substituted “2022” for “2017”.

2012—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 112-172 substituted “2017” for “2012”.

2008—Pub. L. 110-346, §8(1), substituted “North Korean human rights issues” for “human rights in North Korea” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 110-346, §8(2), in first sentence, substituted “North Korean human rights issues” for

“human rights in North Korea” and inserted “, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate” before period at end and, in second sentence, inserted “who shall have the rank of ambassador and shall hold the office at the pleasure of the President” before period at end.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 110-346, §8(3), inserted “, including, in coordination with the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, the protection of those people who have fled as refugees” after “North Korea”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 110-346, §8(4), added par. (1), redesignated former pars. (1) to (6) as (2) to (7), respectively, and substituted “sections 7812 and 7814” for “section 7812” in par. (5).

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 110-346, §8(5), substituted “thereafter through 2012” for “for the subsequent 5 year-period”.

SUBCHAPTER II—ASSISTING NORTH KOREANS IN NEED

§ 7831. Report on United States humanitarian assistance

(a) Report

Not later than 180 days after October 18, 2004, and annually thereafter through 2022, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, in conjunction with the Secretary of State, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that describes—

(1) all activities to provide humanitarian assistance inside North Korea, and to North Koreans outside of North Korea, that receive United States funding;

(2) any improvements in humanitarian transparency, monitoring, and access inside North Korea during the previous 1-year period, including progress toward meeting the conditions identified in subparagraphs (A) through (D) of section 7832(b)(1) of this title; and

(3) specific efforts to secure improved humanitarian transparency, monitoring, and access inside North Korea made by the United States and United States grantees, including the World Food Program, during the previous 1-year period.

(b) Needs assessment

The report shall include a needs assessment to inform the distribution of humanitarian assistance inside North Korea.

(c) Form

The information required by subsection (a)(1) may be provided in classified form if necessary.

(Pub. L. 108-333, title II, §201, Oct. 18, 2004, 118 Stat. 1293; Pub. L. 108-447, div. D, title V, §534(j), Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 3007; Pub. L. 110-346, §9, Oct. 7, 2008, 122 Stat. 3942; Pub. L. 112-172, §8, Aug. 16, 2012, 126 Stat. 1309; Pub. L. 115-198, §7(d), July 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 1523.)

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 115-198, §7(d)(1), substituted “2022” for “2017” in introductory provisions.

Subsecs. (b), (c). Pub. L. 115-198, §7(d)(2), (3), added subsec. (b) and redesignated former subsec. (b) as (c).

2012—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 112-172 substituted “2017” for “2012” in introductory provisions.

2008—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 110-346 substituted “annually thereafter through 2012” for “in each of the 2 years thereafter” in introductory provisions.

2004—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 108-447 substituted “subparagraphs (A) through (D) of section 7832(b)(1) of this

title” for “paragraphs (1) through (4) of section 7832(b) of this title”.

§ 7832. Assistance provided inside North Korea

(a) Humanitarian assistance through nongovernmental and international organizations

It is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) at the same time that Congress supports the provision of humanitarian assistance to the people of North Korea on humanitarian grounds, such assistance also should be provided and monitored so as to minimize the possibility that such assistance could be diverted to political or military use, and to maximize the likelihood that it will reach the most vulnerable North Koreans;

(2) significant increases above current levels of United States support for humanitarian assistance provided inside North Korea should be conditioned upon substantial improvements in transparency, monitoring, and access to vulnerable populations throughout North Korea; and

(3) the United States should encourage other countries that provide food and other humanitarian assistance to North Korea to do so through monitored, transparent channels, rather than through direct, bilateral transfers to the Government of North Korea.

(b) United States assistance to the government of North Korea

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) United States humanitarian assistance to any department, agency, or entity of the Government of North Korea shall—

(A) be delivered, distributed, and monitored according to internationally recognized humanitarian standards;

(B) be provided on a needs basis, and not used as a political reward or tool of coercion;

(C) reach the intended beneficiaries, who should be informed of the source of the assistance; and

(D) be made available to all vulnerable groups in North Korea, no matter where in the country they may be located; and

(2) United States nonhumanitarian assistance to North Korea shall be contingent on North Korea’s substantial progress toward—

(A) respect for the basic human rights of the people of North Korea, including freedom of religion;

(B) providing for family reunification between North Koreans and their descendants and relatives in the United States;

(C) fully disclosing all information regarding citizens of Japan and the Republic of Korea abducted by the Government of North Korea;

(D) allowing such abductees, along with their families, complete and genuine freedom to leave North Korea and return to the abductees’ original home countries;

(E) reforming the North Korean prison and labor camp system, and subjecting such reforms to independent international monitoring; and

(F) decriminalizing political expression and activity.

(c) Report

Not later than 180 days after October 18, 2004, the Administrator of the Agency for International Development shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report describing compliance with this section.

(Pub. L. 108–333, title II, §202, Oct. 18, 2004, 118 Stat. 1293.)

§ 7833. Assistance provided outside of North Korea

(a) Assistance

The President is authorized to provide assistance to support organizations or persons that provide humanitarian assistance to North Koreans who are outside of North Korea without the permission of the Government of North Korea.

(b) Types of assistance

Assistance provided under subsection (a) should be used to provide—

(1) humanitarian assistance to North Korean refugees, defectors, migrants, and orphans outside of North Korea, which may include support for refugee camps or temporary settlements; and

(2) humanitarian assistance to North Korean women outside of North Korea who are victims of trafficking, as defined in section 7102(15)¹ of this title, or are in danger of being trafficked.

(c) Authorization of appropriations

(1) In general

In addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, there are authorized to be appropriated to the President \$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2018 through 2022 to carry out this section.

(2) Availability

Amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under paragraph (1) are authorized to remain available until expended.

(Pub. L. 108–333, title II, §203, Oct. 18, 2004, 118 Stat. 1294; Pub. L. 110–346, §10, Oct. 7, 2008, 122 Stat. 3942; Pub. L. 112–172, §9, Aug. 16, 2012, 126 Stat. 1309; Pub. L. 113–4, title XII, §1212(b)(2)(B), Mar. 7, 2013, 127 Stat. 144; Pub. L. 115–198, §7(e), July 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 1524.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 7102(15) of this title, referred to in subsec. (b)(2), was redesignated section 7102(17) of this title by Pub. L. 115–427, §2(1), Jan. 9, 2019, 132 Stat. 5503.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 115–198 substituted “2018 through 2022” for “2013 through 2017”.

2013—Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 113–4 substituted “section 7102(15)” for “section 7102(14)”.

2012—Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 112–172 substituted “\$5,000,000” for “\$20,000,000” and “2013 through 2017” for “2005 through 2012”.

2008—Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 110–346 substituted “2012” for “2008”.

¹ See References in Text note below.