

mines there is credible information of unlawful or wrongful detention abroad.

(B) Form

The report required under this paragraph shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex if necessary.

(2) Composition

The report required under paragraph (1) shall include current estimates of the number of individuals so detained, as well as relevant information about particular cases, such as—

(A) the name of the individual, unless the provision of such information is inconsistent with section 552a of title 5 (commonly known as the “Privacy Act of 1974”);

(B) basic facts about the case;

(C) a summary of the information that such individual may be detained unlawfully or wrongfully;

(D) a description of specific efforts, legal and diplomatic, taken on behalf of the individual since the last reporting period, including a description of accomplishments and setbacks; and

(E) a description of intended next steps.

(d) Resource guidance

(1) Establishment

Not later than 180 days after December 27, 2020, and after consulting with relevant organizations that advocate on behalf of United States nationals detained abroad and the Family Engagement Coordinator established pursuant to section 1741b(c)(2) of this title, the Secretary of State shall provide resource guidance in writing for government officials and families of unjustly or wrongfully detained individuals.

(2) Content

The resource guidance required under paragraph (1) should include—

(A) information to help families understand United States policy concerning the release of United States nationals unlawfully or wrongfully held abroad;

(B) contact information for officials in the Department of State or other government agencies suited to answer family questions;

(C) relevant information about options available to help families obtain the release of unjustly or wrongfully detained individuals, such as guidance on how families may engage with United States diplomatic and consular channels to ensure prompt and regular access for the detained individual to legal counsel, family members, humane treatment, and other services;

(D) guidance on submitting public or private letters from members of Congress or other individuals who may be influential in securing the release of an individual; and

(E) appropriate points of contacts, such as legal resources and counseling services, who have a record of assisting victims’ families.

(Pub. L. 116–260, div. FF, title III, § 302, Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 3091.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 116–260, div. FF, title III, § 301, Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 3091, provided that: “This subtitle [subtitle A

(§§ 301–308) of title III of div. FF of Pub. L. 116–260, enacting this subchapter] may be cited as the ‘Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act.’”

§ 1741a. Special Envoy for Hostage Affairs

(a) Establishment

There shall be a Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall report to the Secretary of State.

(b) Rank

The Special Envoy shall have the rank and status of ambassador.

(c) Responsibilities

The Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs shall—

(1) lead diplomatic engagement on United States hostage policy;

(2) coordinate all diplomatic engagements and strategy in support of hostage recovery efforts, in coordination with the Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell and consistent with policy guidance communicated through the Hostage Response Group;

(3) in coordination with the Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell as appropriate, coordinate diplomatic engagements regarding cases in which a foreign government has detained a United States national and the United States Government regards such detention as unlawful or wrongful;

(4) provide senior representation from the Special Envoy’s office to the Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell established under section 1741b of this title and the Hostage Response Group established under section 1741c of this title; and

(5) ensure that families of United States nationals unlawfully or wrongly detained abroad receive updated information about developments in cases and government policy.

(Pub. L. 116–260, div. FF, title III, § 303, Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 3093.)

§ 1741b. Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell

(a) Establishment

The President shall establish an interagency Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell.

(b) Participation

The President shall direct the heads of each of the following executive departments, agencies, and offices to make available personnel to participate in the Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell:

(1) The Department of State.

(2) The Department of the Treasury.

(3) The Department of Defense.

(4) The Department of Justice.

(5) The Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

(6) The Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(7) The Central Intelligence Agency.

(8) Other agencies as the President, from time to time, may designate.

(c) Personnel

The Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell shall include—