

corruption and human rights promotion in the Americas;

“(2) a summary of the steps taken by the United States Mission to the OAS to strengthen anti-corruption and anti-impunity efforts in the Americas;

“(3) an assessment of necessary reforms and initiatives to prioritize and reinforce the OAS Secretary General and Secretariat’s efforts to advance human rights and combat corruption and impunity in the Americas;

“(4) a detailed plan to facilitate increased OAS collaboration, as appropriate, with relevant stakeholders, including elected national legislators and civil society, in support of an approach to promote human rights and combat transnational criminal activities, corruption, and impunity in the Americas; and

“(5) a detailed plan for implementing the strategy set forth in this section of the Act.

“SEC. 6. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on OAS processes, initiatives, and reforms undertaken to implement section 4, actions taken to implement the strategy required under section 5(b), and steps taken to implement the Organization of American States Revitalization and Reform Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-41) [see Short Title note set out above]. The report should include—

“(1) an analysis of the progress made by the OAS to adopt and effectively implement reforms and initiatives to advance human rights and combat corruption and impunity in the Americas; and

“(2) a detailed assessment of OAS efforts to increase stakeholder engagement to advance human rights and combat corruption and impunity in the Americas.

“(b) BRIEFINGS.—Not later than one year after the Secretary of State submits the report required under subsection (a), and annually thereafter for two additional years, the Secretary shall provide to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a briefing on the information required to be included in such report.

“SEC. 7. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON ELECTED NATIONAL LEGISLATOR.

“It is the sense of Congress that an elected national legislator participating in the activities outlined in this Act should be an individual that—

“(1) was elected as a result of periodic, free and fair elections; and

“(2) is not known to be under investigation or convicted for corruption or transnational criminal activities, including trafficking of people, goods, or illicit narcotics, money-laundering, terrorist financing, acts of terrorism, campaign finance violations, bribery, or extortion.”

FINDINGS

Pub. L. 113-41, § 2, Oct. 2, 2013, 127 Stat. 548, provided that: “Congress makes the following findings:

“(1) The Charter of the Organization of American States recognizes that—

“(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.

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| 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. | Biannual report on overseas capital construction projects. |
| 305. | Growth projections for new embassies and consulates. |
| 306. | Contracting methods in capital construction. |

§ 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.)

Editorial Notes

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.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2016—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 114-323 added subsec. (c).

1977—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-105, §106(a)(1), substituted “to carry out” for “pursuant to”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 95-105, §106(a)(2), substituted “to carry out” for “under authority of”.

1966—Pub. L. 89-636 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

1963—Pub. L. 88-94 struck out “, subject to the direction of the commission hereinafter established,” after “is empowered”, “under such terms and conditions as in the judgment of the commission may best protect the interests of the United States,” after “in part,” and “, to the extent deemed advisable by the commission,” after “consolidating” and substituted “. The space in such buildings shall be allotted by the Secretary of State” for “, which buildings shall be appropriately designated by the commission, and the space in which shall be allotted by the Secretary of State under the direction of the commission.”

1928—Act May 29, 1928, inserted “or by exchange, in whole or in part, under such terms and conditions as in the judgment of the commission may best protect the interest of the United States, of any building or grounds of the United States in foreign countries and under the jurisdiction and control of the Secretary of State”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

STANDARD DESIGN IN CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION

Pub. L. 117-81, div. E, title LII, §5202, Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 2353, provided that:

“(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Department’s Bureau of Overseas Building Operations (OBO) or successor office should give appropriate consideration to standardization in construction, in which each new United States embassy and consulate starts with a standard design and keeps customization to a minimum.

“(b) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall carry out any new United States embassy compound or new consulate compound project that utilizes a non-standard design, including those projects that are in the design or pre-design phase as of the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 27, 2021], only in consultation with the appropriate congressional committees and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Secretary shall provide the appropriate congressional committees and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, for each such project, the following documentation:

“(1) A comparison of the estimated full lifecycle costs of the project to the estimated full lifecycle costs of such project if it were to use a standard design.

“(2) A comparison of the estimated completion date of such project to the estimated completion date of such project if it were to use a standard design.

“(3) A comparison of the security of the completed project to the security of such completed project if it were to use a standard design.

“(4) A justification for the Secretary’s selection of a non-standard design over a standard design for such project.

“(5) A written explanation if any of the documentation necessary to support the comparisons and justification, as the case may be, described in paragraphs (1) through (4) cannot be provided.

“(c) SUNSET.—The consultation requirement under subsection (b) shall expire on the date that is 4 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.”

[For definitions of “Department”, “Secretary”, and “appropriate congressional committees” as used in section 5202 of Pub. L. 117-81, set out above, see section 5002 of Pub. L. 117-81, set out as a note under section 263c of this title.]

[For definition of “non-standard design” as used in section 5202 of Pub. L. 117-81, set out above, see section 5214 of Pub. L. 117-81, set out as a note under section 306 of this title.]