

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1689

To require a report on the current United States policy and strategy regarding counter-narcotics assistance for Colombia, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 5, 1999

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. HELMS, and Mr. DEWINE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To require a report on the current United States policy and strategy regarding counter-narcotics assistance for Colombia, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. REPORT ON UNITED STATES POLICY AND**
4 **STRATEGY REGARDING COUNTER-NAR-**
5 **COTICS ASSISTANCE FOR COLOMBIA.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
7 ings:

1 (1) Relations between the United States and
2 Colombia are an important element in the National
3 Drug Control Strategy.

4 (2) A majority of the cocaine and heroin smug-
5 gled into the United States is produced in Colombia.

6 (3) Colombia received the third highest amount
7 of foreign assistance from the United States in fiscal
8 year 1999, most of which was dedicated to counter-
9 narcotics activities.

10 (4) The United States has provided counter-
11 narcotics assistance to Colombia for more than 20
12 years in an effort to reduce the supply of illegal nar-
13 cotics to the United States.

14 (5) United States priorities in recent years have
15 been to support eradication efforts in Colombia,
16 which now has the largest illegal crop eradication
17 program in the world.

18 (6) The net number of hectares of coca and
19 poppy available for harvest in Colombia increased
20 steadily in 1996, 1997, and 1998 despite ongoing
21 eradication efforts. Production for 1999 is also ex-
22 pected to be significantly higher than the previous
23 year.

24 (7) The quality of coca grown in Colombia has
25 increased. While previous reports have assumed that

1 the alkaloid content of coca grown in Columbia was
2 significantly less than that grown in other coca pro-
3 ducing regions, new data indicates that the quality
4 of coca grown in Colombia has increased and is now
5 at least equivalent to that available in other growing
6 areas.

7 (8) Recently elected Colombian President An-
8 dres Pastrana has initiated new peace negotiations
9 with the FARC guerrilla organization, which has in-
10 cluded a demilitarized zone the size of New Hamp-
11 shire and Vermont.

12 (9) Numerous paramilitary groups continue sig-
13 nificant activity in Colombia, especially in northern
14 Colombia.

15 (10) There are increasing indications that the
16 funding of the guerrilla organizations has increased
17 significantly because of a closer association with
18 drug trafficking organizations.

19 (b) REPORT ON UNITED STATES POLICY AND
20 STRATEGY REGARDING COLOMBIA.—(1) Not later than
21 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
22 Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on For-
23 eign Relations and the Caucus on International Narcotics
24 Control of the Senate and the Committee on International
25 Relations of the House of Representatives a report on the

1 current United States policy and strategy regarding
2 United States counter-narcotics assistance for Colombia.

3 (2) The report shall address the following:

4 (A) The primary and secondary priorities of the
5 United States in its relations with Colombia.

6 (B) The actions of the United States to support
7 and promote such priorities.

8 (C) A schedule for such actions in order to
9 meet such priorities.

10 (D) The role of the United States in the efforts
11 of the Colombia Government to deal with illegal
12 drug production in Colombia.

13 (E) The role of the United States in the efforts
14 of the Colombia Government to deal with insurgency
15 in Colombia.

16 (F) The role of the United States in the efforts
17 of the Colombia Government to deal with
18 paramilitaries in Colombia.

19 (G) How the strategy set forth in the report fits
20 with the overall United States strategy for the re-
21 gion.

22 (H) How the strategy fits with overall United
23 States counter-narcotics goals.

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