

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2458

To enhance United States public diplomacy, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 6, 2002

Mrs. HUTCHISON introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To enhance United States public diplomacy, 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. ESTABLISHMENT OF INITIATIVES FOR PRE-**
4 **DOMINANTLY MUSLIM COUNTRIES.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress makes the following
6 findings:

7 (1) Surveys indicate that, in countries of pre-
8 dominantly Muslim population, opinions of the
9 United States and American foreign policy among
10 the general public and select audiences are signifi-
11 cantly distorted by highly negative and hostile beliefs

1 and images and that many of these beliefs and im-
2 ages are the result of misinformation and propa-
3 ganda by individuals and organizations hostile to the
4 United States.

5 (2) These negative opinions and images are
6 highly prejudicial to the interests of the United
7 States and to its foreign policy.

8 (3) As part of a broad and long-term effort to
9 enhance a positive image of the United States in the
10 Muslim world, a key element should be the establish-
11 ment of programs to promote a greater familiarity
12 with American society and values among the general
13 public and select audiences in countries of predomi-
14 nantly Muslim population.

15 (b) ESTABLISHMENT OF INITIATIVES.—The Sec-
16 retary of State shall establish the following programs with
17 countries with predominantly Muslim populations as part
18 of the educational and cultural exchange programs of the
19 Department of State:

20 (1) JOURNALISM PROGRAM.—A program for
21 foreign journalists and postsecondary students of
22 journalism which, in cooperation with private sector
23 sponsors to include universities, shall sponsor work-
24 shops and professional training in techniques, stand-
25 ards, and practices in the field of journalism to as-

1 sist the participants to achieve the highest standards
2 of professionalism.

3 (2) LIBRARIES.—The Secretary of State shall
4 develop and implement a demonstration program to
5 assist foreign governments to establish or upgrade
6 their public library systems to improve literacy, sup-
7 port public education, and provide youth recreation
8 centers. The program shall provide training in the li-
9 brary sciences, including exchange opportunities for
10 postsecondary study in the United States. The pur-
11 pose of the program shall be to advance American
12 values and society, particularly the importance of
13 freedom and democracy.

14 (3) ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING.—The Sec-
15 retary shall establish a program to provide grants to
16 United States citizens to work in middle and sec-
17 ondary schools as English language teaching assist-
18 ants for not less than an academic year. If feasible,
19 the host government or local educational agency
20 shall share the salary costs of the assistants.

21 (4) SISTER CITY PARTNERSHIPS.—The Sec-
22 retary shall expand and enhance sister-city partner-
23 ships between United States and foreign municipali-
24 ties in an effort to increase global cooperation at the
25 community level. Such partnerships shall encourage

1 economic development, municipal cooperation, health
2 care initiatives, youth and educational programs,
3 disability advocacy, emergency preparedness, and
4 humanitarian assistance.

5 (5) YOUTH AMBASSADORS.—The Secretary
6 shall establish a program for visits by middle and
7 secondary school students to the United States dur-
8 ing school holidays in their home country for periods
9 not to exceed 4 weeks. Participating students shall
10 reflect the economic and geographic diversity of their
11 countries. Activities shall include cultural and edu-
12 cational activities designed to familiarize partici-
13 pating students with American society and values.
14 To the extent practicable, such visits shall be coordi-
15 nated with middle and secondary schools in the
16 United States to provide for school-based activities
17 and interactions. The Secretary shall encourage the
18 establishment of direct school-to-school linkages
19 under the program.

20 (6) FULBRIGHT EXCHANGE PROGRAM.—The
21 Secretary shall seek to substantially increase the
22 number of awards under the J. William Fulbright
23 Educational Exchange Program to graduate stu-
24 dents, scholars, professionals, teachers, and adminis-
25 trators from the United States who are applying for

1 such awards to study, teach, conduct research, or
2 pursue scholarship in predominantly Muslim coun-
3 tries. Part of such increase shall include awards for
4 scholars and teachers who plan to teach subjects re-
5 lating to American studies.

6 (7) HUBERT H. HUMPHREY FELLOWSHIPS.—
7 The Secretary shall seek to substantially increase
8 the number of Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowships
9 awarded to candidates from predominantly Muslim
10 countries.

11 (c) GENERAL PROVISION.—Programs established
12 under this section shall be carried out under the provisions
13 of the United States Information and Educational Ex-
14 change Act of 1948 and the Mutual Educational and Cul-
15 tural Exchange Act of 1961.

16 **SEC. 2. DATABASE OF ALUMNI OF AMERICAN AND FOREIGN**
17 **PARTICIPANTS IN EXCHANGE PROGRAMS.**

18 The Secretary, in coordination with the heads of
19 other agencies that conduct international exchange and
20 training programs, shall establish and maintain a data-
21 base listing all American and foreign alumni of such pro-
22 grams in order to encourage networking, interaction, and
23 communication with alumni.

1 **SEC. 3. REPORT ON INCLUSION OF FREEDOM AND DEMOC-**
2 **RACY ADVOCATES IN EDUCATIONAL AND**
3 **CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS.**

4 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-
5 ment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to
6 the Congress a report concerning the implementation of
7 section 102 of the Human Rights, Refugee, and Other
8 Foreign Relations Provisions Act of 1996 (22 U.S.C. 2452
9 note). The report shall include information concerning the
10 number of grants to conduct exchange programs to coun-
11 tries described in such section that have been submitted
12 for competitive bidding, what measures have been taken
13 to ensure that willingness to include supporters of freedom
14 and democracy in such programs is given appropriate
15 weight in the selection of grantees, and an evaluation of
16 whether United States exchange programs in the countries
17 described in such section are fully open to supporters of
18 freedom and democracy, and, if not, what obstacles remain
19 and what measures are being taken to implement such pol-
20 icy.

21 **SEC. 4. STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.**

22 Nothing in this Act may be construed to authorize
23 the issuance of any visa to, or the admission to the United
24 States of, any alien who is inadmissible to the United
25 States.

1 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 There is authorized to be appropriated for the De-
3 partment of State \$35,000,000 for each of the fiscal years
4 2003 and 2004 to carry out this Act.

5 **SEC. 6. SECRETARY DEFINED.**

6 In this Act, the term “Secretary” means the Sec-
7 retary of State.

