

Union Calendar No. 163

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 176

[Report No. 110-254]

To authorize assistance to the countries of the Caribbean to fund educational development and exchange programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2007

Ms. LEE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

JULY 23, 2007

Additional sponsors: Ms. CLARKE, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. WATT, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HONDA, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. WYNN, Mr. RUSH, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Ms. WATERS, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. SIRES, Mr. FALCOMAVEGA, Ms. WATSON, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. FORTUÑO, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, and Ms. BORDALLO

JULY 23, 2007

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on January 4, 2007]

A BILL

To authorize assistance to the countries of the Caribbean to fund educational development and exchange programs.

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. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) *SHORT TITLE.*—*This Act may be cited as the*
 5 *“Shirley A. Chisholm United States-Caribbean Educational*
 6 *Exchange Act of 2007”.*

7 (b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—*The table of contents for*
 8 *this Act is as follows:*

Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

Sec. 3. Findings and statement of purpose.

Sec. 4. Shirley A. Chisholm United States-Caribbean Educational Exchange Pro-
gram.

Sec. 5. Program to provide educational development assistance for CARICOM
countries.

Sec. 6. Administrative provisions.

Sec. 7. Reporting requirements.

Sec. 8. Authorization of appropriations.

9 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

10 *In this Act:*

11 (1) *ADMINISTRATOR.*—*Except as otherwise pro-*
 12 *vided, the term “Administrator” means the Adminis-*
 13 *trator of the United States Agency for International*
 14 *Development.*

1 (2) *APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-*
2 *TEES.*—*The term “appropriate congressional commit-*
3 *tees” means—*

4 (A) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs and*
5 *the Committee on Appropriations of the House of*
6 *Representatives; and*

7 (B) *the Committee on Foreign Relations*
8 *and the Committee on Appropriations of the*
9 *Senate.*

10 (3) *CARICOM COUNTRY.*—*The term “CARICOM*
11 *country”—*

12 (A) *means a member country of the Carib-*
13 *bean Community (CARICOM); but*

14 (B) *does not include—*

15 (i) *a country having observer status in*
16 *CARICOM; or*

17 (ii) *a country the government of which*
18 *the Secretary of State has determined, for*
19 *purposes of section 6(j) of the Export Ad-*
20 *ministration Act of 1979 (as continued in*
21 *effect pursuant to the International Emer-*
22 *gency Economic Powers Act), section 40 of*
23 *the Arms Export Control Act, section 620A*
24 *of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, or*
25 *any other provision of law, is a government*

1 that has repeatedly provided support for
2 acts of international terrorism.

3 (4) *SECRETARY*.—*Except as otherwise provided,*
4 *the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of State.*

5 (5) *UNITED STATES COOPERATING AGENCY*.—*The*
6 *term “United States cooperating agency” means—*

7 (A) *an accredited institution of higher edu-*
8 *cation, including, to the maximum extent prac-*
9 *ticable, an historically Black college or univer-*
10 *sity that is a part B institution (as such term*
11 *is defined in section 322(2) of the Higher Edu-*
12 *cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061(2))) or an*
13 *Hispanic-serving institution (as such term is de-*
14 *fined in section 502(5) of such Act (20 U.S.C.*
15 *1101a(5))*);

16 (B) *a higher education association*;

17 (C) *a nongovernmental organization incor-*
18 *porated in the United States; or*

19 (D) *a consortium consisting of two or more*
20 *such institutions, associations, or nongovern-*
21 *mental organizations.*

22 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS AND STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.**

23 (a) *FINDINGS*.—*Congress finds the following:*

24 (1) *The United States and CARICOM countries*
25 *have enjoyed long-standing friendly relations.*

1 (2) *As an important regional partner for trade*
2 *and democratic values, the Caribbean region con-*
3 *stitutes a “Third Border” of the United States.*

4 (3) *The decrease in tourism revenue in the after-*
5 *math of the tragic terrorist attacks on September 11,*
6 *2001, had an adverse affect on the Caribbean region.*

7 (4) *According to a 2005 World Bank Report on*
8 *the Caribbean region, high rates of unemployment,*
9 *particularly youth unemployment, have had severe*
10 *implications on poverty and income distributions, as*
11 *well as drug trafficking and addiction.*

12 (5) *The 2005 World Bank Report also concludes*
13 *that better synchronization is needed between cur-*
14 *ricula in CARICOM countries and the skills needed*
15 *in evolving national and regional job markets and*
16 *economies.*

17 (6) *Caribbean leaders have highlighted the need*
18 *for increased educational opportunities for Caribbean*
19 *students in fields that will contribute to and support*
20 *an increasingly competitive regional economy.*

21 (7) *Enhancing United States cultural and edu-*
22 *cational exchange programs in CARICOM countries*
23 *will expand human resources, provide opportunities*
24 *that promote economic growth, and improve regional*
25 *security.*

1 (8) *Many Caribbean leaders studied at the un-*
2 *dergraduate or graduate level in the United States be-*
3 *fore returning to their respective countries to con-*
4 *tribute toward the strengthening of democracy, the*
5 *economy, or the provision of social services.*

6 (9) *From 2003 through 2005, 217 Caribbean*
7 *leaders participated in exchange programs with the*
8 *United States that focused on good governance, com-*
9 *bating drug trafficking, anti-corruption, and other re-*
10 *gional issues of concern.*

11 (10) *The Department of State currently admin-*
12 *isters public outreach programs that include cultural,*
13 *academic, and citizen-exchange initiatives in*
14 *CARICOM countries through the public affairs sec-*
15 *tions at United States embassies with support from*
16 *the Office of Public Diplomacy in the Bureau of West-*
17 *ern Hemisphere Affairs.*

18 (11) *The Caribbean Center for Excellence in*
19 *Teacher Training (C-CETT), a Presidential Initia-*
20 *tive funded by the United States Agency for Inter-*
21 *national Development and implemented by the Uni-*
22 *versity of the West Indies, works to improve the qual-*
23 *ity of reading instruction by training classroom and*
24 *student teachers in seven countries of the English-*
25 *speaking Caribbean. Belize, Jamaica, Grenada, St.*

1 *Lucia, Guyana, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and*
2 *Trinidad and Tobago have participated in the C-*
3 *CETT as a means to reducing illiteracy in the most*
4 *disadvantaged urban and remote rural areas.*

5 *(12) In Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, the Ba-*
6 *hamas, Barbados, Belize, the Cayman Islands, the*
7 *Dominican Republic, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana,*
8 *Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia,*
9 *St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trin-*
10 *idad and Tobago, the Bureau of Educational and*
11 *Cultural Affairs of the Department of State sponsors*
12 *educational advisors to promote study in the United*
13 *States.*

14 *(13) In the 2004–2005 academic year, approxi-*
15 *mately 14,000 Caribbean students were enrolled in*
16 *United States colleges and universities.*

17 *(14) Shirley Anita Chisholm, who served as a*
18 *member of the United States House of Representatives*
19 *from 1968 to 1983, had family roots in the Caribbean*
20 *nation of Barbados, was a staunch advocate for edu-*
21 *cational opportunity and access, and increased sup-*
22 *port for historically Black colleges and universities*
23 *and other minority-serving institutions in the United*
24 *States.*

1 (b) *STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.*—*The purpose of this*
2 *Act is to establish—*

3 (1) *an educational exchange program between*
4 *the United States and CARICOM countries, to be*
5 *known as the “Shirley A. Chisholm United States-*
6 *Caribbean Educational Exchange Program”, pursu-*
7 *ant to section 4 of this Act to assist in educating*
8 *promising students and scholars from CARICOM*
9 *countries who will invest the knowledge and experi-*
10 *ences they gain in the United States back into the*
11 *community of CARICOM countries; and*

12 (2) *a program to provide educational develop-*
13 *ment assistance for CARICOM countries pursuant to*
14 *section 5 of this Act.*

15 **SEC. 4. SHIRLEY A. CHISHOLM UNITED STATES-CARIBBEAN**
16 **EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM.**

17 (a) *PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.*—*The Secretary of State*
18 *is authorized to establish an educational exchange program*
19 *between the United States and CARICOM countries, to be*
20 *known as the “Shirley A. Chisholm United States-Carib-*
21 *bean Educational Exchange Program,” under which—*

22 (1) *secondary school students from CARICOM*
23 *countries will—*

24 (A) *attend a public or private secondary*
25 *school in the United States;*

1 (B) participate in activities designed to
2 promote a greater understanding of the values
3 and culture of the United States; and

4 (C) have the option to live with a United
5 States host family and experience life in a
6 United States host community; and

7 (2) undergraduate students, graduate students,
8 post-graduate students, and scholars from CARICOM
9 countries will—

10 (A) attend a public or private college or
11 university, including a community college, in the
12 United States;

13 (B) participate in activities designed to
14 promote a greater understanding of the values
15 and culture of the United States; and

16 (C) have the option to live with a United
17 States host family and experience life in a
18 United States host community or live in an on-
19 campus housing environment.

20 (b) *ELEMENTS OF PROGRAM.*—The program author-
21 ized under subsection (a) shall meet the following require-
22 ments:

23 (1) The program will offer scholarships to stu-
24 dents and scholars based on merit and need. It is the
25 sense of Congress that scholarships should be offered

1 *under the program to students and scholars who evi-*
2 *dence merit, achievement, and strong potential for the*
3 *studies such students and scholars wish to undertake*
4 *under the program and 40 percent of scholarships of-*
5 *fered under the program should be based on financial*
6 *need.*

7 (2) *The program will seek to achieve gender*
8 *equality in granting scholarships under the program.*

9 (3) *The program will limit participation to—*

10 (A) *two years of study for secondary school*
11 *students;*

12 (B) *four years of study for undergraduate*
13 *students;*

14 (C) *30 months of study for graduate stu-*
15 *dents; and*

16 (D) *one year of study for post-graduate stu-*
17 *dents and scholars.*

18 (4) *For a period of time equal to the period of*
19 *time of participation in the program, but not to ex-*
20 *ceed 2 years, the program will require participants*
21 *who are students and scholars described in subsection*
22 *(a)(2) to—*

23 (A) *agree to return to live in a CARICOM*
24 *country and maintain residence in such country,*

1 *within 6 months of completion of academic stud-*
2 *ies; or*

3 *(B) agree to obtain employment that di-*
4 *rectly benefits the growth, progress, and develop-*
5 *ment of one or more CARICOM countries and*
6 *the people of such countries.*

7 *(5) The Secretary of State shall have the discre-*
8 *tion to waive, shorten the duration, or otherwise alter*
9 *the requirements of paragraph (5) in limited cir-*
10 *cumstances of hardship, humanitarian needs, for spe-*
11 *cific educational purposes, or in furtherance of the*
12 *national interests of the United States.*

13 *(c) ROLE OF UNITED STATES COOPERATING AGEN-*
14 *CIES.—The Secretary shall consult with United States co-*
15 *operating agencies in developing the program authorized*
16 *under subsection (a) and shall make grants to United States*
17 *cooperating agencies in carrying out the program author-*
18 *ized under subsection (a).*

19 *(d) MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF PROGRAM.—*

20 *(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish*
21 *and implement a system to monitor and evaluate the*
22 *effectiveness and efficiency of the program authorized*
23 *under subsection (a). In carrying out the system, the*
24 *Secretary shall evaluate the program's positive or*
25 *negative effects on brain drain from the participating*

1 *CARICOM countries and suggest ways in which the*
2 *program may be improved to promote the basic goal*
3 *of alleviating brain-drain from the participating*
4 *CARICOM countries.*

5 (2) *REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out para-*
6 *graph (1), the Secretary shall review on a regular*
7 *basis—*

8 (A) *financial information relating to the*
9 *program;*

10 (B) *budget plans for the program;*

11 (C) *adjustments to plans established for the*
12 *program;*

13 (D) *graduation rates of participants in the*
14 *program;*

15 (E) *the percentage of participants who are*
16 *students described in subsection (a)(1) who pur-*
17 *sue higher education;*

18 (F) *the percentage of participants who re-*
19 *turn to their home country or another*
20 *CARICOM country;*

21 (G) *the types of careers pursued by partici-*
22 *pants in the program and the extent to which*
23 *such careers are linked to the political, economic,*
24 *and social development needs of CARICOM*
25 *countries; and*

1 (H) the impact of gender, country of origin,
2 financial need of students, and other relevant
3 factors on the data collected under subpara-
4 graphs (D) through (G).

5 (e) *SENSE OF CONGRESS.*—It is the sense of Congress
6 that the Secretary should seek to work with CARICOM
7 countries to establish an educational exchange program
8 under which—

9 (1) secondary school students from the United
10 States will attend a public or private equivalent
11 school in CARICOM countries; and

12 (2) undergraduate students, graduate students,
13 post-graduate students, and scholars from the United
14 States will attend a public or private college or uni-
15 versity in CARICOM countries.

16 **SEC. 5. PROGRAM TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL DEVELOP-**
17 **MENT ASSISTANCE FOR CARICOM COUN-**
18 **TRIES.**

19 (a) *PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.*—The Secretary of State,
20 acting through the Administrator of the United States
21 Agency for International Development, is authorized to es-
22 tablish a program to provide educational development as-
23 sistance for CARICOM countries.

24 (b) *PURPOSE OF PROGRAM.*—The purpose of the pro-
25 gram authorized under subsection (a) is to improve pri-

1 *mary and secondary education in CARICOM countries by*
2 *enhancing teacher training, strengthening curriculum and*
3 *instructional materials, and assisting improvements in*
4 *school management and public administration of education.*

5 *(c) ELEMENTS OF PROGRAM.—The program author-*
6 *ized under subsection (a) shall extend and expand upon ex-*
7 *isting primary and secondary school programs in*
8 *CARICOM countries to provide—*

9 *(1) teacher-training methods and training in*
10 *subject area studies;*

11 *(2) classroom and school management;*

12 *(3) development and modernization of cur-*
13 *riculum and instructional materials;*

14 *(4) increased community involvement in school*
15 *activities; and*

16 *(5) local, regional, and national government pol-*
17 *icy planning on the elements described in paragraphs*

18 *(1) through (4).*

19 *(d) ROLE OF UNITED STATES COOPERATING AGEN-*
20 *CIES.—The Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of*
21 *Education and United States cooperating agencies in devel-*
22 *oping the program authorized under subsection (a) and*
23 *shall make grants to United States cooperating agencies in*
24 *carrying out the program authorized under subsection (a).*

1 (e) *MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF PROGRAM.*—The
2 *Secretary shall establish and implement a system to mon-*
3 *itor and evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of the pro-*
4 *gram authorized under subsection (a).*

5 (f) *SENSE OF CONGRESS.*—It is the sense of Congress
6 *that the Secretary should seek to work with CARICOM*
7 *countries to establish an educational development program*
8 *under which education in the CARICOM countries is im-*
9 *proved and access to quality education for children in*
10 *CARICOM countries is increased.*

11 **SEC. 6. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.**

12 (a) *FUNDING FROM PRIVATE SOURCES AND PARTNER-*
13 *SHIPS WITH OTHER APPROPRIATE ENTITIES.*—To the
14 *maximum extent practicable, the Secretary of State and the*
15 *Administrator of the United States Agency for Inter-*
16 *national Development should implement the programs au-*
17 *thorized under sections 4 and 5 of this Act through utiliza-*
18 *tion of funding from private sources to maximize the im-*
19 *pact of United States funds under this Act, and through*
20 *partnerships with appropriate United States organizations,*
21 *institutions, and corporations.*

22 (b) *AVOIDANCE OF DUPLICATION.*—The Secretary and
23 *the Administrator shall consult with the Secretary of Edu-*
24 *cation to ensure that—*

1 (1) *activities under the programs authorized*
2 *under sections 4 and 5 of this Act are not duplicative*
3 *of other United States educational programs for*
4 *CARICOM countries; and*

5 (2) *United States cooperating agencies and part-*
6 *ner institutions in CARICOM countries are accred-*
7 *ited by national or regional accrediting bodies.*

8 (c) *REPORTING UNDER SEVIS.—To the extent nec-*
9 *essary, the Secretary shall provide support to United States*
10 *cooperating agencies that are participating in the program*
11 *authorized under section 4 of this Act in order to fulfill*
12 *the requirements for student data reporting under the Stu-*
13 *dent and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS).*

14 **SEC. 7. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

15 (a) *REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after*
16 *the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State*
17 *shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a*
18 *report on plans to implement the programs authorized*
19 *under sections 4 and 5 of this Act.*

20 (b) *MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required*
21 *by subsection (a) shall include—*

22 (1) *with respect to implementation of the pro-*
23 *gram authorized under section 4—*

24 (A) *a plan for selecting participants in the*
25 *program, including an estimate of the number of*

1 *secondary school students, undergraduate stu-*
2 *dents, graduate students, post-graduate students,*
3 *and scholars from each country, by educational*
4 *level, who will be selected as participants in the*
5 *program for each fiscal year;*

6 *(B) a timeline for selecting United States*
7 *cooperating agencies that will assist in imple-*
8 *menting the program;*

9 *(C) a financial plan that—*

10 *(i) identifies budget plans for each edu-*
11 *catational level under the program; and*

12 *(ii) identifies plans or systems to en-*
13 *sure that the costs to public school, college,*
14 *and university education under the pro-*
15 *gram and the costs to private school, college,*
16 *and university education under the pro-*
17 *gram are reasonably allocated; and*

18 *(D) a plan to provide outreach to and link-*
19 *ages with schools, colleges and universities, and*
20 *nongovernmental organizations in both the*
21 *United States and CARICOM countries for im-*
22 *plementation of the program; and*

23 *(2) a plan outlining implementation of the pro-*
24 *gram authorized under section 5, identifying the ini-*

1 *tial countries in which the program will be imple-*
2 *mented and a timeline for implementation.*

3 *(c) UPDATES OF REPORT.—*

4 *(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall submit to*
5 *the appropriate congressional committees updates of*
6 *the report required by subsection (a) for each fiscal*
7 *year for which amounts are appropriated pursuant to*
8 *the authorization of appropriations under section 8 of*
9 *this Act.*

10 *(2) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—Such updates*
11 *shall include the following:*

12 *(A) Information on United States cooper-*
13 *ating agencies that are selected to assist in im-*
14 *plementing the programs authorized under sec-*
15 *tions 4 and 5 of this Act.*

16 *(B) An analysis of the positive and negative*
17 *impacts the program authorized under section 4*
18 *will have or is having on brain drain from the*
19 *participating CARICOM countries.*

20 *(C) A description of efforts made by the*
21 *Secretary of State, acting through the Adminis-*
22 *trator of the United States Agency for Inter-*
23 *national Development, to implement the pro-*
24 *gram authorized under section 5.*

1 (D) A description of the programs estab-
2 lished in each CARICOM country receiving as-
3 sistance under the program authorized under sec-
4 tion 5 that provides a detailed explanation of the
5 extent to which the program and the assistance
6 provided are contributing to the purpose of the
7 program described in section 5(b) in the
8 CARICOM country.

9 (E) An evaluation of additional educational
10 development goals in CARICOM countries, iden-
11 tifying those goals that could be maximized or
12 achieved with United States assistance through
13 the program authorized under section 5. In addi-
14 tion to standard or necessary areas of education
15 review, the evaluation should give attention to
16 factors affecting academic achievement, attrition,
17 and graduation rates in CARICOM countries.
18 The evaluation should suggest ways in which
19 United States assistance can maximize success
20 factors and address factors contributing to poor
21 achievement.

22 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

23 To carry out this Act, there are authorized to be appro-
24 priated such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal
25 years 2008 through 2012. Amounts appropriated pursuant

1 *to the authorization of appropriations under this section*
2 *are in addition to amounts otherwise available for such*
3 *purposes.*

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to authorize the establishment of educational exchange and development programs for member countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).”.

Union Calendar No. 163

110TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

H. R. 176

[Report No. 110-254]

A BILL

To authorize assistance to the countries of the Caribbean to fund educational development and exchange programs.

JULY 23, 2007

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed