

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4015

To amend the United States-Caribbean Strategic Engagement Act of 2016 to require the submission of an updated multi-year strategy for United States engagement to support the efforts of interested nations in the Caribbean region.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 12, 2023

Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, and Ms. CLARKE of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To amend the United States-Caribbean Strategic Engagement Act of 2016 to require the submission of an updated multi-year strategy for United States engagement to support the efforts of interested nations in the Caribbean region.

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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “United States–Carib-
5 bean Strategic Engagement Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

2 Section 2 of the United States-Caribbean Strategic
3 Engagement Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–291; 130 Stat.
4 1497) is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (6) through
6 (9) as paragraphs (15) through (18), respectively;
7 and

8 (2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(6) reduce the flow of illicit United States fire-
11 arms to the Caribbean region and provide technical
12 support, training, and information-sharing to Carib-
13 bean security forces charged with monitoring mari-
14 time borders, including formal and informal ports of
15 entry;

16 “(7) enhance efforts to investigate and pros-
17 ecute the regional criminal organizations engaged in
18 the lottery scams that afflict United States citizens;

19 “(8) augment training, capacity-building, and
20 information-sharing with local law enforcement
21 agencies combating criminal gangs and transnational
22 criminal organizations threatening the security and
23 stability of partner nations;

24 “(9) improve energy security, resiliency, and
25 independence by working to finance increasing ac-

1 cess to diverse, reliable, secure, and affordable re-
2 newable power solutions;

3 “(10) support regional adaptation and resilience
4 to the climate-driven effects of severe weather events
5 and natural disasters;

6 “(11) advance cooperation on democracy and
7 human rights throughout the region and in multilat-
8 eral fora;

9 “(12) improve public health cooperation and in-
10 frastructure to mitigate health concerns and threats
11 to the Caribbean region, including increasing profes-
12 sional exchanges, medical education, and United
13 States exports of medical services, technology, and
14 pharmaceuticals to prepare for future pandemics
15 and health emergencies, expand the accessibility of
16 health services to marginalized populations, and re-
17 duce dependence on medical imports from malign ac-
18 tors in the region and elsewhere;

19 “(13) continue to support regional initiatives to
20 advance food security throughout the Caribbean;

21 “(14) expand internet access throughout the re-
22 gion, especially for marginalized communities, while
23 working cooperatively to enhance data privacy and
24 security;

1 “(15) advance access to education and critical
2 skills for at-risk youth, women, and girls in the Car-
3 ibbean region;”.

4 **SEC. 3. REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT UPDATED MULTI-YEAR**
5 **STRATEGY FOR UNITED STATES ENGAGE-**
6 **MENT TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF INTER-**
7 **ESTED NATIONS IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION.**

8 Section 3 of the United States-Caribbean Strategic
9 Engagement Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–291; 130 Stat.
10 1497) is amended—

11 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

12 (A) by striking “this Act” and inserting
13 “the United States–Caribbean Strategic En-
14 gagement Act of 2023”; and

15 (B) by striking “a multi-year strategy”
16 and inserting “an updated multi-year strategy”;
17 and

18 (2) in paragraph (1), by inserting after “other
19 executive branch agencies” the following: “, includ-
20 ing the Department of Defense, the Department of
21 Justice, and the Department of the Treasury”.

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