

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 199

Condemning woke foreign aid programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 6, 2025

Mr. BURCHETT submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Condemning woke foreign aid programs.

Whereas the United States spent \$2,000,000 on a transgender health grant in Guatemala, awarded in 2024 to Asociación Lambda for “gender-affirming health care”, plus economic empowerment and advocacy for trans-led groups, with \$350,000 disbursed so far;

Whereas the United States spent \$20,000,000 on Iraqi Sesame Street, entitled “Ahlan Simsim”, funded to support educational programming for children in Iraq, with disbursements ongoing;

Whereas the United States spent \$1,500,000 on diversity, equity, and inclusion workplace programs in Serbia, a United States Agency for International Development (USAID) grant from 2023 to 2024 to Grupa Izadji to push diversity, equity, and inclusion in workplaces, aim-

ing to boost LGBTQI+ economic engagement, with about \$1,140,000 paid out so far;

Whereas the United States spent \$45,000,000 on diversity, equity, and inclusion scholarships in Burma, funded to provide diversity, equity, and inclusion-focused educational opportunities, with details on disbursements unavailable at this time;

Whereas the United States spent \$10,000,000 on male circumcision in Mozambique;

Whereas the United States spent \$250,000 on gender equality workshops in Morocco, through a 2023 Department of State grant to Association Marocaine pour les Droits des Femmes for workshops promoting gender equality and women’s entrepreneurship;

Whereas the United States spent \$100,000 on a drag HIV awareness campaign in South Africa;

Whereas the United States spent \$85,000 on a bee conservation musical in Brazil, funded in 2023 to raise awareness about bee conservation through a musical performance in São Paulo;

Whereas the United States spent \$70,000 on an Irish diversity, equity, and inclusion musical, funded a “live musical event” in Ireland in 2022 to promote United States-Ireland shared values of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, not a full musical, but a concert-style gig at the United States Embassy;

Whereas the United States spent \$60,000 on indigenous diversity, equity, and inclusion training in Bolivia, through a 2023 USAID grant for diversity and inclusion workshops for indigenous leaders in La Paz;

Whereas the United States spent \$50,000 on vegan cooking classes in Kenya, and USAID funded this 2023 program to teach plant-based cooking in Nairobi to promote sustainability;

Whereas the United States spent \$40,000 on a feminist podcast series in Chile, funded in 2022 by the Department of State for a podcast on feminist issues in Santiago;

Whereas the United States spent \$32,000 on a transgender comic book in Peru, through Department of State funding in 2021 to Peru's Education Department via Fulbright for "The Power of Education", a comic featuring an LGBTQ+ hero tackling social and mental health issues;

Whereas the United States spent \$30,000 on a trans youth art exhibit in Vietnam, through a 2022 Department of State grant for an art exhibit by transgender youth in Ho Chi Minh City;

Whereas the United States spent \$25,000 on a transgender opera in Colombia, through a Department of State grant in 2022 to Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá for "As One", an opera about a transgender woman's coming-of-age story, framed as public diplomacy (total project \$47,020 with non-Federal funds);

Whereas the United States spent \$25,000 on a transgender fashion show in Thailand, through a 2024 grant for a fashion show featuring transgender designers in Bangkok;

Whereas the United States spent \$20,000 on drag queen training in Pakistan, funded in 2022 by the Department

of State to train drag performers in Pakistan as part of a cultural exchange program;

Whereas the United States spent \$15,000 on a queer film festival in Ecuador, through a 2024 grant to fund an LGBTQ+ film festival in Quito, Ecuador, for “public diplomacy”; and

Whereas the United States spent \$10,000 on a queer poetry slam in India, through a 2024 grant for a poetry event in New Delhi celebrating queer voices: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) is firmly opposed to funding these programs
3 and programs like these, viewing them as wasteful
4 expenditures of taxpayer dollars on frivolous or ideologically driven initiatives;

6 (2) requests more oversight of Federal aid programs, including a comprehensive audit by the Government Accountability Office of all grants awarded
8 by the Department of State and United States
10 Agency for International Development since 2021;

11 (3) urges the immediate suspension of similar
12 discretionary grants pending a review of their alignment with core national interests and fiscal responsibility;

15 (4) demands transparency by mandating public
16 disclosure of all grant applications, justifications,
17 and outcomes on a searchable online database not

1 later than 90 days after the date on which such a
2 grant is awarded;

3 (5) recommends redirecting funds from such
4 programs to domestic priorities, including infrastruc-
5 ture repair, veteran health care, or disaster relief ef-
6 forts;

7 (6) encourages the inspector general of each
8 relevant agency to conduct annual reviews of grant
9 efficacy, with findings reported to Congress and
10 made available to the public;

11 (7) proposes a cap on annual spending for cul-
12 tural exchange and advocacy grants abroad, limiting
13 such expenditures to no more than 0.1 percent of
14 the Federal discretionary budget;

15 (8) insists on a requirement that all future
16 grants over \$10,000 receive explicit congressional
17 approval via a streamlined review process; and

18 (9) expresses its intent to draft legislation pro-
19 hibiting the use of Federal funds for overseas pro-
20 grams promoting niche social agendas absent a clear
21 and direct benefit to United States national security
22 or economic interests.

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