

Calendar No. 293

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1779

[Report No. 107-125]

To authorize the establishment of “Radio Free Afghanistan”, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 6, 2001

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

DECEMBER 14, 2001

Reported by Mr. BIDEN, with an amendment

[Insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

To authorize the establishment of “Radio Free Afghanistan”, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Radio Free Afghani-
5 stan Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF RADIO FREE AFGHANISTAN.**

2 (a) REQUIREMENT OF A DETAILED PLAN.—Not later
3 than 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
4 RFE/RL, Incorporated, shall submit to the Broadcasting
5 Board of Governors a report setting forth a detailed plan
6 for the provision by RFE/RL, Incorporated, of surrogate
7 broadcasting services in the Dari and Pashto languages
8 to Afghanistan. Such broadcasting services shall be known
9 as “Radio Free Afghanistan”.

10 (b) GRANT AUTHORITY.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Effective 15 days after the
12 date of enactment of this Act, or the date on which
13 the report required by subsection (a) is submitted,
14 whichever is later, the Broadcasting Board of Gov-
15 ernors is authorized to make grants to support
16 Radio Free Afghanistan.

17 (2) SUPERSEDES EXISTING LIMITATION ON
18 TOTAL ANNUAL GRANT AMOUNTS.—Grants made to
19 RFE/RL, Incorporated, during the fiscal year 2002
20 for support of Radio Free Afghanistan may be made
21 without regard to section 308(c) of the United
22 States International Broadcasting Act of 1994 (22
23 U.S.C. 6207(c)).

24 (c) AVAILABLE AUTHORITIES.—In addition to the
25 authorities in this Act, the authorities applicable to carry
26 out United States Government broadcasting activities

1 under the United States Information and Educational Ex-
2 change Act of 1948, the United States International
3 Broadcasting Act of 1994, the Foreign Affairs Reform
4 and Restructuring Act of 1998, and other provisions of
5 law consistent with such purpose may be used to carry
6 out the grant authority of subsection (b).

7 (d) *STANDARDS; OVERSIGHT.*—*Radio Free Afghani-*
8 *stan shall adhere to the same standards of professionalism*
9 *and accountability, and shall be subject to the same over-*
10 *sight mechanisms, as other services of RFE/RL, Incor-*
11 *porated.*

12 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

13 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—In addition to such amounts as
14 are otherwise available for such purposes, the following
15 amounts are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
16 United States Government broadcasting activities under
17 the United States Information and Educational Exchange
18 Act of 1948, the United States International Broadcasting
19 Act of 1994, the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restruc-
20 turing Act of 1998, and this Act, and to carry out other
21 authorities in law consistent with such purposes:

22 (1) For “International Broadcasting Oper-
23 ations”, \$8,000,000 for the fiscal year 2002.

24 (2) For “Broadcasting Capital Improvements”,
25 \$9,000,000 for the fiscal year 2002.

1 (b) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts appro-
2 priated pursuant to subsection (a) are authorized to re-
3 main available until expended.

4 **SEC. 4. REPEAL OF BAN ON UNITED STATES TRANSMITTER**
5 **IN KUWAIT.**

6 Section 226 of the Foreign Relations Authorization
7 Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (Public Law 103–236;
8 108 Stat. 423), is repealed.

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