

Calendar No. 968

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**H. R. 176****[Report No. 110-463]**

 IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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SEPTEMBER 15, 2008

Reported by Mr. REID (for Mr. BIDEN), with amendments

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in italic]

AN ACT

To authorize the establishment of educational exchange and development programs for member countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

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 Edu-
 6 cational Exchange Act of ~~2007~~2008”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
 2 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 Program.
- Sec. 5. Program to provide educational development assistance for CARICOM countries.
- Sec. 6. Administrative provisions.
- Sec. 7. Reporting requirements.
- Sec. 8. Authorization of appropriations.

3 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—Except as otherwise pro-
 6 vided, the term “Administrator” means the Adminis-
 7 trator of the United States Agency for International
 8 Development.

9 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
 10 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
 11 mittees” means—

12 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and
 13 the Committee on Appropriations of the House
 14 of Representatives; and

15 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations
 16 and the Committee on Appropriations of the
 17 Senate.

18 (3) CARICOM COUNTRY.—The term “CARICOM
 19 country”—

1 (A) means a member country of the Carib-
2 bean Community (CARICOM); but

3 (B) does not include—

4 (i) a country having observer status in
5 CARICOM; or

6 (ii) a country the government of which
7 the Secretary of State has determined, for
8 purposes of section 6(j) of the Export Ad-
9 ministration Act of 1979 (as continued in
10 effect pursuant to the International Emer-
11 gency Economic Powers Act), section 40 of
12 the Arms Export Control Act, section
13 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of
14 1961, or any other provision of law, is a
15 government that has repeatedly provided
16 support for acts of international terrorism.

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

19 (5) UNITED STATES COOPERATING AGENCY.—
20 The term “United States cooperating agency”
21 means—

22 (A) an ~~accredited~~ institution of higher edu-
23 cation (*as that term is defined in section 101(a)*
24 *of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.*
25 *1001(a))*), including, to the maximum extent

1 practicable, an historically Black college or uni-
 2 versity that is a part B institution (as such
 3 term is defined in section 322(2) of the ~~Higher~~
 4 ~~Education~~*such* Act of ~~1965~~ (20 U.S.C.
 5 1061(2))) or an Hispanic-serving institution (as
 6 such term is defined in section 502(5) of such
 7 Act (20 U.S.C. 1101a(5)));

8 (B) a higher education association;

9 (C) a nongovernmental organization incor-
 10 porated in the United States; or

11 (D) a consortium consisting of two or more
 12 such institutions, associations, or nongovern-
 13 mental organizations.

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

15 ~~(a) FINDINGS.—~~Congress finds the following:

16 ~~(1) The United States and CARICOM countries~~
 17 have enjoyed long-standing friendly relations.

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

21 ~~(3) The decrease in tourism revenue in the~~
 22 aftermath of the tragic terrorist attacks on Sep-
 23 tember 11, 2001, had an adverse affect on the Car-
 24 ibbean region.

1 (4) According to a 2005 World Bank Report on
2 the Caribbean region, high rates of unemployment,
3 particularly youth unemployment, have had severe
4 implications on poverty and income distributions, as
5 well as drug trafficking and addiction.

6 (5) The 2005 World Bank Report also con-
7 cludes that better synchronization is needed between
8 curricula in CARICOM countries and the skills
9 needed in evolving national and regional job markets
10 and economies.

11 (6) Caribbean leaders have highlighted the need
12 for increased educational opportunities for Carib-
13 bean students in fields that will contribute to and
14 support an increasingly competitive regional econ-
15 omy.

16 (7) Enhancing United States cultural and edu-
17 cational exchange programs in CARICOM countries
18 will expand human resources, provide opportunities
19 that promote economic growth, and improve regional
20 security.

21 (8) Many Caribbean leaders studied at the un-
22 dergraduate or graduate level in the United States
23 before returning to their respective countries to con-
24 tribute toward the strengthening of democracy, the
25 economy, or the provision of social services.

1 (9) From 2003 through 2005, 217 Caribbean
2 leaders participated in exchange programs with the
3 United States that focused on good governance,
4 combating drug trafficking, anti-corruption, and
5 other regional issues of concern.

6 (10) The Department of State currently admin-
7 isters public outreach programs that include cul-
8 tural, academic, and citizen-exchange initiatives in
9 CARICOM countries through the public affairs sec-
10 tions at United States embassies with support from
11 the Office of Public Diplomacy in the Bureau of
12 Western Hemisphere Affairs.

13 (11) The Caribbean Center for Excellence in
14 Teacher Training (C-CETT), a Presidential Initia-
15 tive funded by the United States Agency for Inter-
16 national Development and implemented by the Uni-
17 versity of the West Indies, works to improve the
18 quality of reading instruction by training classroom
19 and student teachers in seven countries of the
20 English-speaking Caribbean: Belize, Jamaica, Gre-
21 nada, St. Lucia, Guyana, St. Vincent and the Gren-
22 adines, and Trinidad and Tobago have participated
23 in the C-CETT as a means to reducing illiteracy in
24 the most disadvantaged urban and remote rural
25 areas.

1 (12) In Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, the
2 Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, the Cayman Islands,
3 the Dominican Republic, Dominica, Grenada, Guy-
4 ana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St.
5 Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname,
6 and Trinidad and Tobago, the Bureau of Edu-
7 cational and Cultural Affairs of the Department of
8 State sponsors educational advisors to promote
9 study in the United States.

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

13 (14) Shirley Anita Chisholm, who served as a
14 member of the United States House of Representa-
15 tives from 1968 to 1983, had family roots in the
16 Caribbean nation of Barbados, was a staunch advo-
17 cate for educational opportunity and access, and in-
18 creased support for historically Black colleges and
19 universities and other minority-serving institutions
20 in the United States.

21 (b) *Statement of Purpose.*—The purpose of this Act
22 is to establish—

23 (1) an educational exchange program between
24 the United States and CARICOM countries, to be
25 known as the “Shirley A. Chisholm United States-

1 Caribbean Educational Exchange Program”, pursu-
2 ant to section 4, ~~of this Act~~ to assist in educating
3 promising students and scholars from CARICOM
4 countries who will invest the knowledge and experi-
5 ences they gain in the United States back into the
6 community of CARICOM countries; and

7 (2) a program to provide educational develop-
8 ment assistance for CARICOM countries pursuant
9 to section 5 ~~of this Act~~.

10 **SEC. 4. SHIRLEY A. CHISHOLM UNITED STATES-CARIBBEAN**
11 **EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM.**

12 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary ~~of State~~
13 is authorized to establish an educational exchange pro-
14 gram between the United States and CARICOM countries,
15 ~~to~~ *which shall* be known as the “Shirley A. Chisholm
16 United States-Caribbean Educational Exchange Pro-
17 gram,” under which—

18 (1) secondary school students from CARICOM
19 countries will—

20 (A) attend a public or private secondary
21 school in the United States; *and*

22 (B) participate in activities designed to
23 promote a greater understanding of the values
24 and culture of the United States; and

1 ~~(C) have the option to live with a United~~
2 ~~States host family and experience life in a~~
3 ~~United States host community; and~~

4 (2) undergraduate students, graduate students,
5 post-graduate students, and scholars from
6 CARICOM countries will—

7 (A) attend a public or private college or
8 university, including a community college, in
9 the United States; *and*

10 (B) participate in activities designed to
11 promote a greater understanding of the values
12 and culture of the United States; ~~and~~.

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

17 (b) ELEMENTS OF PROGRAM.—The program author-
18 ized under subsection (a) shall meet the following require-
19 ments:

20 (1) The program will offer scholarships to stu-
21 dents and scholars based on merit and need. It is
22 the sense of Congress that scholarships should be of-
23 fered ~~under the program~~ to students and scholars
24 who evidence merit, achievement, and strong poten-
25 tial for the studies such students and scholars wish

1 to undertake under the program and 40 percent of
2 scholarships offered under the program should be
3 based on financial need.

4 (2) The program will seek to achieve gender
5 equality in granting scholarships under the program.

6 (3) The program will limit participation to—

7 (A) two years of study for secondary school
8 students;

9 (B) four years of study for undergraduate
10 students;

11 (C) 30 months of study for graduate stu-
12 dents; and

13 (D) one year of study for post-graduate
14 students and scholars.

15 (4) For a period of time equal to the period of
16 time of participation in the program, but not to ex-
17 ceed 2 years, the program will require participants
18 who are students and scholars described in sub-
19 section (a)(2) to—

20 (A) agree to return to live in a CARICOM
21 country and maintain residence in such coun-
22 try, within 6 months of completion of academic
23 studies; or

24 (B) agree to obtain employment that di-
25 rectly benefits the growth, progress, and devel-

1 opment of one or more CARICOM countries
2 and the people of such countries.

3 (5) The Secretary of State ~~shall have the dis-~~
4 ~~cretion to~~ may waive, shorten the duration, or other-
5 wise alter the requirements of paragraph ~~(5)~~(4) in
6 limited circumstances of hardship, humanitarian
7 needs, for specific educational purposes, or in fur-
8 therance of the national interests of the United
9 States.

10 (c) ROLE OF UNITED STATES COOPERATING AGEN-
11 CIES.—The Secretary shall consult with United States co-
12 operating agencies in developing the program authorized
13 under subsection (a). ~~and shall make grants~~ *The Secretary*
14 *is authorized to provide grants* to United States cooper-
15 ating agencies in carrying out the program authorized
16 under subsection (a).

17 (d) MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF PROGRAM.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ~~establish~~
19 ~~and implement a system to~~ monitor and evaluate the
20 effectiveness and efficiency of the program author-
21 ized under subsection (a). In ~~carrying out the sys-~~
22 ~~tem~~ *so doing*, the Secretary shall, *inter alia*, evaluate
23 the program's positive or negative effects on brain-
24 drain from the participating CARICOM countries
25 and suggest ways in which the program may be im-

1 proved to promote the basic goal of alleviating brain-
2 drain from the participating CARICOM countries.

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

6 (A) financial information relating to the
7 program;

8 (B) budget plans for the program;

9 (C) adjustments to plans established for
10 the program;

11 (D) graduation rates of participants in the
12 program;

13 (E) the percentage of participants who are
14 students described in subsection (a)(1) who
15 pursue higher education;

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

19 (G) the types of careers pursued by par-
20 ticipants in the program and the extent to
21 which such careers are linked to the political,
22 economic, and social development needs of
23 CARICOM countries; and

24 (H) the impact of gender, country of ori-
25 gin, financial need of students, and other rel-

1 evant factors on the data collected under sub-
2 paragraphs (D) through (G).

3 (c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
4 gress that the Secretary should seek to work with
5 CARICOM countries to establish an educational exchange
6 program under which—

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

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

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

17 (a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of
18 State, acting through the Administrator of the United
19 States Agency for International Development, is author-
20 ized to establish a program to provide educational develop-
21 ment assistance for CARICOM countries.

22 (b) PURPOSE OF PROGRAM.—The purpose of the pro-
23 gram authorized under subsection (a) is to improve pri-
24 mary and secondary education in CARICOM countries by
25 enhancing teacher training, strengthening curriculum and

1 instructional materials, and assisting improvements in
2 school management and public administration of edu-
3 cation.

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

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

10 (2) classroom and school management;

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

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

15 (5) local, regional, and national government pol-
16 icy planning on the elements described in para-
17 graphs (1) through (4).

18 (d) ROLE OF UNITED STATES COOPERATING AGEN-
19 CIES.—The Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of
20 Education ~~and~~ *officials of* United States cooperating
21 agencies, *and officials of CARICOM countries* in developing
22 the program authorized under subsection (a). ~~and shall~~ *The*
23 *Secretary is authorized to* make grants to United States
24 cooperating agencies in carrying out the program author-
25 ized under subsection (a).

1 (e) MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF PROGRAM.—
2 The Secretary shall establish and implement a system to
3 monitor and evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of
4 the program authorized under subsection (a).

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

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

12 (a) FUNDING FROM PRIVATE SOURCES AND PART-
13 NERSHIPS WITH OTHER APPROPRIATE ENTITIES.—To
14 the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary of State
15 and the Administrator of the United States Agency for
16 International Development should implement the pro-
17 grams authorized under sections 4 and 5 of this Act
18 through utilization of funding from private sources to
19 maximize the impact of United States funds under this
20 Act, and through partnerships with appropriate United
21 States organizations, institutions, and corporations.

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

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

5 (2) United States cooperating agencies and
6 partner institutions in CARICOM countries are ac-
7 credited by national or regional accrediting bodies.

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

15 **SEC. 7. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

16 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than ~~90~~120 days
17 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
18 ~~of State~~ shall submit to the appropriate congressional
19 committees a report on plans to implement the programs
20 authorized under sections 4 and 5 ~~of this Act~~.

21 (b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report re-
22 quired by subsection (a) shall include—

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

1 (A) a plan for selecting participants in the
2 program, including an estimate of the number
3 of secondary school students, undergraduate
4 students, graduate students, post-graduate stu-
5 dents, and scholars from each country, by edu-
6 cational level, who will be selected as partici-
7 pants in the program for each fiscal year;

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

11 (C) a financial plan that—

12 (i) identifies budget plans for each
13 educational level under the program; and

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

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

1 (2) a plan outlining implementation of the pro-
2 gram authorized under section 5, identifying the ini-
3 tial countries in which the program will be imple-
4 mented and a timeline for implementation.

5 (c) UPDATES OF REPORT.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall submit
7 to the appropriate congressional committees updates
8 of the report required by subsection (a) for each fis-
9 cal year for which amounts are appropriated pursu-
10 ant to the authorization of appropriations under sec-
11 tion 8 of this Act.

12 (2) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—Such updates
13 shall include the following:

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

18 (B) An analysis of the positive and nega-
19 tive impacts the program authorized under sec-
20 tion 4 will have or is having on brain drain
21 from the participating CARICOM countries.

22 (C) A description of efforts made by the
23 Secretary of State, acting through and the Ad-
24 ministrator of the United States Agency for

1 ~~International Development~~, to implement the
2 program authorized under section 5.

3 (D) A description of the programs estab-
4 lished in each CARICOM country receiving as-
5 sistance under the program authorized under
6 section 5. ~~that provides a~~ *Such description shall*
7 *include a* detailed explanation of the extent to
8 which the program and the assistance provided
9 are contributing to the purpose of the program
10 described in section 5(b) in the CARICOM
11 country.

12 (E) An evaluation of additional educational
13 development goals in CARICOM countries,
14 identifying those goals that could be maximized
15 or achieved with United States assistance
16 through the program authorized under section
17 5. In addition to standard or necessary areas of
18 education review, the evaluation should give at-
19 tention to factors affecting academic achieve-
20 ment, attrition, and graduation rates in
21 CARICOM countries. The evaluation should
22 suggest ways in which United States assistance
23 can maximize success factors and address fac-
24 tors contributing to poor achievement.

1 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 To carry out this Act, there are authorized to be ap-
3 propriated such sums as may be necessary for each of the
4 fiscal years 2008 through 2012. Amounts appropriated
5 pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under this
6 section are in addition to amounts otherwise available for
7 such purposes.

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