To establish a Department of Peacebuilding, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 18, 2021

Ms. Lee of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform

A BILL

To establish a Department of Peacebuilding, and for other purposes.

Section 1. Short title; table of contents.

(a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the “Department of Peacebuilding Act of 2021”.

(b) Table of Contents.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Findings.

Title I—Establishment of Department of Peacebuilding

Sec. 101. Establishment of Department of Peacebuilding.
Sec. 102. Responsibilities and powers.
Sec. 103. Principal officers.
Sec. 104. Office of Peace Education and Training.
Sec. 105. Office of Domestic Peacebuilding Activities.
Sec. 106. Office of International Peacebuilding Activities.
Sec. 107. Office of Technology for Peace.
Sec. 108. Office of Arms Control and Disarmament.
Sec. 109. Office of Peacebuilding Information and Research.
Sec. 111. Intergovernmental Advisory Council on Peace.
Sec. 112. Federal Interagency Committee on Peace.
Sec. 113. Staff.
Sec. 114. Consultation required.
Sec. 115. Collaboration.

TITLE II—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 201. Legislative recommendations of the Secretary.
Sec. 203. Definitions.
Sec. 204. Authorization of appropriations.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) On July 4, 1776, the Second Continental Congress unanimously declared the independence of the 13 colonies, and the achievement of peace was recognized as one of the highest duties of the new organization of free and independent States by declaring, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”.

(2) The Constitution of the United States, in its preamble, further sets forth the insurance of the cause of peace in stating, “We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tran-
quility, provide for the common defence, promote the
general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty
to ourselves and our Posterity”.

(3) The United States has been at peace for
only 21 entire years since its birth during the Revo-
lutionary War. During the course of the 20th cen-
tury, more than 100,000,000 people perished in
wars. Many of our citizens today have never known
a peaceful year in their lifetimes.

(4) Thus far in the 21st century, nearly
1,000,000 people have died in conflict and war. The
United Nations reports that as of 2019 over 79.6
million people have fled their homes due to war, per-
secution and conflict. Since late 2001, the United
States appropriated and was obligated to spend an
estimated $6.4 trillion through Fiscal Year 2020 in
budgetary costs related to and caused by post 9/11
wars and an additional minimum of $1 trillion to
care for veterans of these wars for several decades.

(5) The physical, emotional, monetary, and
other costs of violence are enormous, cut across all
sectors of society in the United States, dispropor-
tionately impact people of color, and are inter-
related. A World Health Organization report esti-
mates that interpersonal violence within the United
States costs approximately $300 billion annually, not including war-related costs. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports one in four children experience some form of child abuse or neglect in their lifetimes; nearly one in four women report having experienced severe physical violence from an intimate partner; Native American women are sexually assaulted, murdered and disappeared at higher rates than other American women. There are 3.3 million reports of violence against children that result in foster care placements every year; 25 percent of kids in foster care experience PTSD, fewer than 3 percent earn a college degree; 20 percent become homeless after the age of 18; and only 50 percent will be employed by the age of 24. One in five high school students reported being bullied at school during 2017 and cyberbullying impacts many young people. Criminalization disproportionately impacts African Americans and other people of color, including high rates of school suspensions and expulsions and incarceration. African Americans are incarcerated at more than five times the rate of Whites. Suicide impacts young people in both affluent and non-affluent communities. In 2015, 17 percent of students considered attempting suicide. Suicide is the second
leading cause of death among American Indian and Alaska Natives aged 10 to 34. Approximately 20 veterans a day commit suicide nationwide. About 14 young people die from homicides each day. Research shows victims of one form of violence are more likely to experience other forms of violence. A past history of violence, including domestic violence; use of alcohol or illegal drugs; being young and male; or a personal history of physical or sexual abuse or trauma, increases the risk of more violence, obesity, high-risk sexual behavior, depression, academic difficulties, school dropout and suicide.

(6) More people have died from guns in the United States since 1968 than on battlefields of all the wars in United States history. Every year 250,000 people are killed by gun violence around the world, a third of those in Brazil and the United States. Firearms are the second leading cause of death for American children and teens and the first leading cause of death for Black children and teens. Every day 47 children and teens in the United States are shot and 96 Americans are killed by gun violence. During 2017 and 2018, there was one mass shooting almost every day in the United States. Young people go to school wondering where to hide
when a shooter enters their classroom. Each gun injury and fatality results in trauma to family members and loved ones.

(7) According to a report by the Institute of Economics and Peace, which measures the economic impact of violence and conflict to the global economy, the economic impact of violence to the global economy was $14.76 trillion in 2017. The report also found that the regional impact of violence in North America, 99 percent of which can be attributed to the United States, amounted to $2.73 trillion in 2017. If violence containment spending was reduced by 15 percent, the world would save $1.4 trillion, which would be the funding required to achieve the United Nations Millennium Development Goals of halving extreme poverty rates, ensuring healthy lives for all, halting the spread of HIV and AIDS, providing universal primary education, decent jobs, gender equality, promoting peaceful, inclusive and just societies, and more. Three percent of United States military spending could end starvation on earth.

(8) Peace is the essential prerequisite for the survival of humanity as we know it in the 21st century. Preventing violence and redirecting funds spent
on the costs of violence free monies and resources to
create conditions that are conducive to a culture of
peace.

(9) Violence prevention is cost effective. For
every dollar spent on violence prevention and
peacebuilding, thousands of lives and dollars are
saved. Research indicates that investing early to pre-
vent conflicts from escalating into violent crises is,
on average, 60 times more cost effective than inter-
vening after violence erupts. The philosophy and
techniques of nonviolence and the science of
peacebuilding provide tools and techniques that can
be applied not only at the levels of individual and
community growth, but also within the Federal Gov-
ernment and at national and international levels.

(10) The United Nations recognizes that pro-
motion of peace is vital for the full enjoyment of all
human rights and the United Nations Declaration
on the Right of Peoples to Peace mandates that
preservation of the right to peace is a fundamental
obligation of each country. In 1999, the United Na-
tions adopted a Programme of Action on a Culture
of Peace, stating that a culture of peace is an inte-
gral approach to preventing violence and violent con-
flicts, an alternative to the culture of war and vio-
lence, and is based on education for peace, the pro-
motion of sustainable economic and social develop-
ment, respect for human rights, equality between
women and men, democratic participation, tolerance,
the free flow of information, and disarmament. The
United Nations declared the years 2001 through
2010 an International Decade for a Culture of Peace
and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, and
the United Nations supports a culture of peace. In
2015, the United Nations adopted 17 sustainable
development goals, including promotion of peaceful
and inclusive societies which recognize the link be-
tween justice, human rights, and government based
on the rule of law and peace.

(11) Peacebuilding is defined by the United Na-
tions as a range of measures targeted to reduce the
risk of lapsing or relapsing into conflict by strength-
ening national capacities at all levels for conflict
management and to lay the foundations for sustain-
able peace and development. Peacebuilding is built
upon research into the root causes of violence in the
United States and the world, through promotion and
promulgation of effective policies and programs that
ameliorate those root causes of violence, and through
providing all citizens, organizations, and govern-
mental bodies with opportunities to learn about and
practice the essential tools of nonviolent conflict res-
olution and peacebuilding.

(12) In 2000, the Earth Charter Commission
released the Earth Charter, an international declara-
tion of fundamental values and principles created to
build a just, sustainable, and peaceful global society.
The preamble of the Earth Charter provides, “To
move forward we must recognize that in the midst
of a magnificent diversity of cultures and life forms
we are one human family and one Earth community
with a common destiny. We must join together to
bring forth a sustainable global society founded on
respect for nature, universal human rights, economic
justice, and a culture of peace.”. Peacebuilding is
working together with all countries to protect both
life and land and hold the Earth in balance.

(13) Systemic racism is a significant driver of
violence and key obstacle to peace in the United
States. Confronting and uprooting systemic racism
in America will require efforts by the Federal Gov-
ernment both to properly acknowledge, memorialize,
and be a catalyst for progress toward permanently
eliminating persistent racial inequities, including
through a United States Commission on Truth, Ra-
cial Healing, and Transformation, and to develop
material remedies for the institution of slavery, in-
cluding through a United States Commission to
Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for Afri-
can-Americans.

**TITLE I—ESTABLISHMENT OF**
**DEPARTMENT OF**
**PEACEBUILDING**

**SEC. 101. ESTABLISHMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF**
**PEACEBUILDING.**

(a) **Establishment.**—There is hereby established a
Department of Peacebuilding, which shall—

(1) be within the executive branch of the Fed-
eral Government; and

(2) be dedicated to peacebuilding, peacemaking,
and the study and promotion of conditions conducive
to both domestic and international peace and a cul-
ture of peace.

(b) **Secretary of Peacebuilding.**—There shall be
at the head of the Department a Secretary of
Peacebuilding, who shall be appointed by the President,
by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

c) **Mission.**—The Department shall—

(1) cultivate peace and peacebuilding as a stra-
tegic national policy objective;
(2) reduce and prevent violence in the United States and internationally through peacebuilding and effective nonviolent conflict resolution;

(3) strengthen nonmilitary means of peacemaking;

(4) take a proactive, strategic approach in the development of field-tested best practices and policies that promote national and international conflict prevention, nonviolent intervention, mediation, peaceful resolution of conflict, and structured mediation of conflict;

(5) address matters both domestic and international in scope;

(6) address the interconnection of all life and the intersectionality of peace and justice, equality, health, healing, national security, education, the economy, rule of law, democracy, planetary survival, and other aspects of civil rights, civil liberties, and human rights;

(7) provide an institutional platform for the growing wealth of expertise in peacebuilding to dramatically reduce the national and global epidemic of violence;
(8) support local communities in finding, funding, replicating, and expanding programs to reduce and prevent violence;

(9) invest in nongovernmental organizations that have implemented successful initiatives to reduce and prevent violence, both internationally and domestically; and

(10) consult with other Federal agencies to apply and practice the science of peacebuilding in their respective fields of responsibility.

SEC. 102. RESPONSIBILITIES AND POWERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, on an ongoing basis—

(1) work proactively and interactively with each branch of the Federal Government on all policy matters relating to conditions of peace;

(2) call on the experience and expertise of individuals and seek participation in the development of policy from private, public, and nongovernmental organizations;

(3) monitor and analyze causative principles of conflict and make policy recommendations for developing conditions of peace and maintaining peaceful conduct;
(4) research effective violence reduction programs and promote and promulgate such programs within the Federal Government and society; and

(5) consult with private, public, and nongovernmental organizations to develop a metric model that provides the means to measure and report progress toward peace in the United States to the President, Congress, and the public, and issue reports on such progress annually with those reports to be available to the public on the website of the Department.

(b) DOMESTIC RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Secretary shall collaborate with governmental and nongovernmental organizations and individuals to promote personal and community security and peace by—

(1) developing new policies and supporting existing policies that effectively address personal and family violence, including suicide, domestic violence, spousal abuse, child abuse, and mistreatment of the elderly and others;

(2) creating new policies and programs and expanding existing policies and programs that effectively reduce drug and alcohol abuse;

(3) analyzing existing policies, employing successful, field-tested programs, and developing new approaches for dealing with the tools of violence, in-
including handguns and assault weapons, especially among youth;

(4) developing new and expanding effective programs that address and ameliorate societal challenges such as school violence, gangs, police violence, hate crimes, economic injustice, human trafficking, racial or ethnic violence, violence against LGBTQ+ individuals, and police-community relations disputes;

(5) making policy recommendations to the Attorney General of the United States regarding civil rights and labor law;

(6) assisting in the establishment and funding of community-based violence prevention programs, including virtual violence prevention programs for at-home participation, violence prevention counseling and peer mediation in schools and via video conferences, and unarmed civilian peacekeeping and crisis mitigation at a local level;

(7) providing counseling and advocacy on behalf of individuals victimized by violence, including those with mental health;

(8) providing for public education programs and counseling strategies that promote acceptance and respect for the diversity of all individuals in the United States without regard to race, religion, creed,
gender and gender identification, sexual orientation, age, ethnicity, national origin, class and economic status, and other perceived differences; and

(9) supporting local community initiatives that draw on neighborhood resources to create peace projects that facilitate the development of conflict resolution and healing of societal wounds such as patriarchy, racism, war, manifest destiny, and economic injustice to thereby inform and inspire national policy.

(c) INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Secretary shall—

(1) advise the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State on matters relating to national security, including the protection of human rights and the prevention of, amelioration of, and de-escalation of unarmed and armed international conflict;

(2) contribute to and participate in the development of training of all United States personnel who administer post-conflict reconstruction and demobilization in war-torn societies;

(3) sponsor national and regional conflict-prevention and dispute-resolution initiatives, create special task forces, and draw on local, regional, and national expertise to develop plans and programs for
addressing the root sources and issues of conflict in
troubled areas;

(4) develop violence prevention, amelioration
and violence de-escalation training for the general
public to provide tools and educate about
peacebuilding skills and to promote sustainable
peace, peacebuilding buy-in and peacebuilding
awareness;

(5) counsel and advocate on behalf of women
victimized by violence, including rape, situations
leading up to conflict, conflicts, and post-conflict sit-
uations;

(6) counsel and advocate on behalf of victims of
human trafficking both domestically and internation-
ally and work to end the trafficking of human
beings;

(7) provide for exchanges between the United
States and other countries that endeavor to develop
domestic and international peace-based initiatives;

(8) encourage the development of international
sister city programs, pairing United States cities
with cities around the world for artistic, cultural,
economic, educational, and faith-based exchanges;

(9) establish and administer a budget des-
ignated for the training and deployment of unarmed
civilian peacekeepers to participate in multinational nonviolent peacekeeping forces that may be conducted by civilian, governmental, or multilateral organizations;

(10) jointly with the Secretary of the Treasury, strengthen peace enforcement through hiring and training monitors and investigators to help with the enforcement of international arms embargoes;

(11) in consultation with the Secretary of State, bring together all stakeholders who are impacted by a conflict by facilitating peace summits where such stakeholders may gather under carefully prepared conditions to promote nonviolent communication and mutually beneficial solutions and to prevent future;

(12) submit to the President recommendations for reductions and elimination of weapons of mass destruction, and make annual reports to the President on the sale of arms from the United States to other countries, with an analysis of the impact of such sales on the defense of the United States, how such sales affect peace and security, and how reduction or cessation of such sales affect peace and security;
(13) in consultation with the Secretary of State, develop strategies for sustainability and management of the distribution of international funds;

(14) advise the Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations on matters pertaining to the United Nations Security Council;

(15) support the implementation of international peacebuilding strategies through a balanced use of peacebuilding, reconciliation, diplomacy, development, and defense with the goal of preventing and ending war and violence; and

(16) encourage all nations to create infrastructures for peace within their nations and among nations.

(d) Membership of the Secretary of Peacebuilding on the National Security Council.—Section 101(c) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3021(c)) is amended by inserting “the Secretary of Peacebuilding” after “Treasury”.

(e) Human Security Responsibilities.—The Secretary shall address and offer nonviolent conflict resolution strategies and suggest resources for unarmed civilian peacekeepers to the appropriate relevant parties on issues of human security if such security is threatened by conflict or crisis, whether such conflict or crisis is geographic, reli-
igious, ethnic, gender-based, racial, or class-based in its origin, derives from economic concerns, health concerns or is initiated through disputes concerning scarcity of natural resources (such as water and energy resources), food, health resources (such as life-saving medicine, medical and protective equipment and supplies, including viral and bacterial infection testing supplies and vaccines), trade, or climate and environmental concerns.

(f) Media-Related Responsibilities.—Respecting the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America and the requirement for free and independent media, the Secretary shall—

(1) seek assistance in the design and implementation of nonviolent policies from media professionals;

(2) study the role of the media in the escalation and de-escalation of conflict at domestic and international levels, including the role of fear-inducing and hate-inducing speech and actions, and making the findings of such study public; and

(3) make recommendations to professional media organizations in order to provide opportunities to increase media awareness of peacebuilding initiatives.
(g) **Educational Responsibilities.**—The Secretary shall—

(1) consult with the United States Institute of Peace, the Department of Education and other concerned individuals and organizations and develop a peace education curriculum that includes studies of—

(A) the civil rights movement in the United States and throughout the world and human rights and liberties movements, with special emphasis on the role of nonviolence and how individual endeavor and involvement have contributed to advancements in peace and justice;

(B) underlying causes of violence and conditions of peace;

(C) practices that enhance peace and peacebuilding;

(D) the contributions to the United States of its diverse ethnicities, races, and religious communities;

(E) peace agreements and circumstances in which peaceful intervention has worked to stop conflict; and
(F) the patriarchal structure of society and
the inherent violence of such structure in the
shaping of relationships and institutions;

(2) in consultation with the Secretary of Edu-
cation—

(A) commission and participate in the de-
velopment of such curriculum and make such
curriculum available to local school districts to
enable the use of peace education objectives at
pre-kindergarten schools, elementary schools,
and secondary schools in the United States;

(B) support in early childhood, pre-kindergar-
ten schools, elementary schools, secondary
schools, and institutions of higher education a
well-resourced, balanced education that includes
math, environmental stewardship, science,
English, history, ethnic studies, economics, jus-
tice, critical thinking, social studies, health,
physical education, foreign languages, the arts,
and music that will prepare students for success
in a globally interconnected world; and

(C) offer incentives in the form of grants
and training to encourage the development of
State peace curricula and assist schools in ap-
plying for such grants and training;
(3) work with educators to equip students to become skilled in achieving peace through reflection, and facilitate instruction in the ways of peaceful conflict resolution;

(4) ensure that schools are nonviolence zones that provide a peaceful educational environment;

(5) create school and community cultures where students and staff do not feel threatened and are free from bullying and harassment by developing and implementing curricula in nonviolent conflict resolution education, mindfulness, and restorative practices for teachers, students, parents, the school community, and the community at large;

(6) maintain a public website to solicit and receive ideas for the development of peace from the wealth of the politically, socially, and culturally diverse public;

(7) proactively engage the critical thinking capabilities, including civic education on citizen duties to foster democratic principles, of students and teachers of pre-kindergarten schools, elementary schools, secondary schools, and institutions of higher education through the internet and other media and issue periodic reports concerning any submissions from such students and teachers;
(8) establish a Peace Academy that shall—

(A) be modeled after the military service
academies; and

(B) provide a 4-year course of instruction
in peace education, after which graduates will
be required to serve 5 years in public service in
programs dedicated to domestic or international
nonviolent conflict resolution; and

(9) provide grants for peace studies depart-
ments in institutions of higher education throughout
the United States.

SEC. 103. PRINCIPAL OFFICERS.

(a) UNDER SECRETARY OF PEACEBUILDING.—The
President shall appoint an Under Secretary of
Peacebuilding in the Department, by and with the advice
and consent of the Senate. During the absence or dis-
ability of the Secretary, or in the event of a vacancy in
the office of the Secretary, the Under Secretary shall act
as Secretary. The Secretary shall designate the order in
which other officials of the Department shall act and per-
form the functions of the Secretary during the absence
or disability of both the Secretary and Under Secretary
or in the event of vacancies in both offices.

(b) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall appoint in the Department, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate—

(A) an Assistant Secretary for Peace Education and Training;

(B) an Assistant Secretary for Domestic Peacebuilding Activities;

(C) an Assistant Secretary for International Peacebuilding Activities;

(D) an Assistant Secretary for Technology for Peace;

(E) an Assistant Secretary for Arms Control and Disarmament;

(F) an Assistant Secretary for Peacebuilding Information and Research;

(G) an Assistant Secretary for Human and Economic Rights; and

(H) a General Counsel.


(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “Peacebuilding,” after “Homeland Security,”; and
(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “Peacebuilding,” after “Homeland Security,”.

(3) ADDITIONAL OFFICERS.—The President shall appoint 4 additional officers in the Department, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The officers appointed under this paragraph shall perform such functions as the Secretary shall prescribe, including—

(A) congressional relations functions;

(B) public information functions, including providing, through the use of the latest technologies, useful information about peace and the work of the Department;

(C) management and budget functions; and

(D) planning, evaluation, and policy development functions, including development of policies to promote the efficient and coordinated administration of the Department and its programs and encourage improvements in conflict resolution and violence prevention.

(4) DESCRIPTION OF FUNCTIONS.—In any case in which the President submits the name of an individual to the Senate for confirmation as an officer of the Department under this subsection, the Presi-
dent shall state the particular functions such indi-
vidual will exercise upon taking office.

(c) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY.—Each officer de-
scribed in this section shall report directly to the Secretary
and shall, in addition to any functions vested in or re-
quired to be delegated to such officer, perform such addi-
tional functions as the Secretary may prescribe.

SEC. 104. OFFICE OF PEACE EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be in the Department
an Office of Peace Education and Training, the head of
which shall be the Assistant Secretary for Peace Edu-
cation and Training. The Assistant Secretary for Peace
Education and Training shall carry out those functions
of the Department relating to the creation, encourage-
ment, and impact of peace education and training at the
pre-kindergarten, elementary, secondary, university, and
postgraduate levels, and disseminate applicable policies
and research in consultation with entities of the Depart-
ment of Health and Human Services, including—
(1) the Administration for Children and Fami-
lies;
(2) the Administration on Aging;
(3) the Centers for Disease Control and Preven-
tion; and
(4) the National Institutes of Health.
(b) **Peace Curriculum.**—The Assistant Secretary of Peace Education and Training, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, the United States Institute of Peace, nongovernmental organizations, public institutions, peace and conflict studies programs of institutions of higher education, and Federal agencies that provide effective peace training materials and curricula, shall create and support the development and dissemination of effective peace curricula and supporting materials for distribution to the State educational agency in each State and territory of the United States and any other interested institutions.

Each peace curriculum shall include—

1. building communicative peace skills and nonviolent conflict resolution skills;
2. teaching and fostering compassion, empathy, mindfulness, kindness, acceptance, understanding, respect, inclusion, and forgiveness;
3. teaching about historical and contemporary events utilizing nonviolent and peacebuilding principles to promote a culture of peace and about individuals and organizations employing nonviolent and peacebuilding principles to improve society;
4. teaching about the benefits of a peaceful society, including economic, health, social, and scientific implications of peace; and
(5) promoting other objectives to increase the knowledge of peace processes.

(c) GRANTS.—The Assistant Secretary of Peace Education and Training shall—

(1) provide peace education grants to institutions of higher education for the creation and expansion of peace studies departments and the education and training of teachers in peace studies, violence prevention, peacebuilding, community building, and nonviolent conflict resolution skills; and

(2) establish a grant program to be known as the Community Peace Block Grant program under which the Secretary shall make grants to nonprofit organizations and nongovernmental organizations for the purposes of developing innovative school and neighborhood programs for nonviolent conflict resolution and creating local peacebuilding initiatives.

SEC. 105. OFFICE OF DOMESTIC PEACEBUILDING ACTIVITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be in the Department an Office of Domestic Peacebuilding Activities, the head of which shall be the Assistant Secretary for Domestic Peacebuilding Activities. The Assistant Secretary for Domestic Peacebuilding Activities shall carry out those functions in the Department affecting domestic peace activi-
ties, including the development of policies that prevent do-
mestic violence and that increase awareness about inter-
vention and counseling on domestic violence and conflict.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Assistant Secretary for
Domestic Peacebuilding Activities shall—

(1) develop policy and disseminate best prac-
tices from the field for the treatment of drug and al-
cohol abuse;

(2) develop community-based strategies for cele-
brating diversity and promoting acceptance;

(3) develop new policies and build upon existing
proven programs to prevent the school-to-prison
pipeline by promoting restorative and conflict resolu-
tion practices at pre-kindergarten, elementary, sec-
ondary, university, and post graduate levels and in
police academies, with funding for teacher, staff,
student, and community training in nonviolence, re-
storative practices, conflict resolution, and diversity
understanding and appreciation;

(4) develop new policies and build on existing
proven programs—

(A) to assist in the prevention of hate, a
culture of violence and domination, violence and
crime, including the development of non-threat-
ening, non-harassing community policing strate-
gies, mindfulness, and conflict de-escalation training, and other peaceful settlement skills among police and other public safety officers;

(B) to assist in the re-entry into the community by individuals who have been incarcerated by providing trauma healing, including training in anger management, conflict resolution, peacebuilding skills, life skills, and educational and job skills;

(C) to assist in creating strong, happy, and healthy families, including supporting mental health services, domestic violence prevention, gang prevention, anti-bullying programs, animal cruelty prevention, substance abuse prevention, and the development of peaceful parenting skills;

(D) to promote peacebuilding and community-building and to provide restorative justice and restorative practice programs at all levels of the criminal justice system that bring together offenders, victims, and community members in an effort to repair the damage caused by criminal activity through accountability and rehabilitation;
(E) to develop violence prevention and vio-

lence de-escalation training for the general pub-
lic to provide peacebuilding tools for all and to
promote sustainable peace, peacebuilding buy-
in, and peacebuilding awareness;

(F) to provide for training and deployment
into neighborhoods of nonmilitary domestic con-
flict prevention and peacemaking personnel, in-
cluding violence interrupters, community safety
task force, and civilian community peace-
keepers;

(G) to implement respectful, non-targeting,
and non-harassing community-based policing to
break down barriers between law enforcement
officers and the people such officers serve; and

(H) to encourage and facilitate formation
of locally and State-run and administered citi-
zen’s boards to recommend any appropriate
training as needed for working compassionately
and effectively with local, regional, and State
populations and to review and hold accountable
actions of all local, regional, and State police
and law enforcement departments in the United
States;
(5) promote informal and cultural exchanges between individuals and groups of proximate neighborhoods and regions to encourage understanding and acceptance; and

(6) disseminate applicable policies and research in consultation with—

(A) the Department of Justice;

(B) the Department of Health and Human Services;

(C) the Department of State; and

(D) the Department of Education.

(c) GRANTS.—The Assistant Secretary for Domestic Peacebuilding Activities shall establish a grant program to be known as the Cultural Diplomacy for Peace grant program under which the Secretary shall make grants to pre-kindergarten schools, elementary schools, secondary schools, institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, and nongovernmental organizations for the purpose of developing domestic cultural exchanges, including exchanges relating to the arts, sports, science, and other academic disciplines, that promote diplomacy and cultural understanding between neighborhoods and members of such neighborhoods.
SEC. 106. OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACEBUILDING ACTIVITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be in the Department an Office of International Peacebuilding Activities, the head of which shall be the Assistant Secretary for International Peacebuilding Activities. The Assistant Secretary for International Peacebuilding Activities shall carry out those functions in the Department affecting international peace activities.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Assistant Secretary for International Peacebuilding Activities shall—

(1) develop new programs and promote existing proven programs to—

(A) provide for the training and deployment of graduates of the Peace Academy established under section 102(g) and other non-military conflict prevention and peacemaking personnel;

(B) support national and regional conflict-prevention, de-escalation, and peaceful dispute-resolution initiatives in countries experiencing social, political, medical, or economic strife and among all nations;

(C) develop violence prevention, amelioration and de-escalation training for the general public to educate about peacebuilding skills and

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to promote sustainable peace, peacebuilding buy-in and peacebuilding awareness;

(D) provide training for the administration of post-conflict reconstruction and demobilization in war-torn societies;

(E) address root causes of violence;

(F) eradicate extreme hunger, infectious and other diseases, and poverty;

(G) eradicate genocide;

(H) achieve universal primary education;

(I) empower women and girls;

(J) eradicate human trafficking; and

(K) eradicate dehumanization and mistreatment of individuals;

(2) support the creation of a multinational non-violent peace force;

(3) provide for exchanges between individuals of the United States and other countries that are endeavoring to develop domestic and international peace-based initiatives; and

(4) disseminate applicable policies and research in consultation with—

(A) the Department of State;

(B) the Department of Labor;

(C) the Peace Corps; and
(D) the United States Institute of Peace.
(e) GRANTS.—The Assistant Secretary for International Peacebuilding Activities shall establish a grant program to be known as the International Cultural Diplomacy for Peace grant program under which the Secretary shall make grants to pre-kindergarten schools, elementary schools, secondary schools, institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, and nongovernmental organizations for the purpose of developing international cultural exchanges, including exchanges related to the arts, sports, science, and other academic disciplines, that promote diplomacy and cultural understanding between the United States and other countries.

SEC. 107. OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY FOR PEACE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be in the Department an Office of Technology for Peace, the head of which shall be the Assistant Secretary for Technology for Peace. The Assistant Secretary for Technology for Peace shall carry out those functions in the Department affecting the awareness, study, ethical implications and impact of evolving existing technologies and developing new technologies, including artificial intelligence and data science and information, on the creation and maintenance of domestic and international peace, and disseminate applicable policies.
and research in consultation with appropriate entities of
the Department of State.

(b) GRANTS. — The Assistant Secretary for Tech-
ology for Peace shall make grants for the research and
development of technologies in transportation, commu-
nications, agriculture, medicine, and energy that—

(1) are nonviolent in application;

(2) encourage the conservation and sustain-
ability of natural resources, including air, water,
land, in order to prevent future conflicts regarding
scarce resources due to overuse or natural or
human-caused disasters, including climate change
and pandemics; and

(3) promote a green, peaceful economy.

SEC. 108. OFFICE OF ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL. — There shall be in the Department
an Office of Arms Control and Disarmament, the head
of which shall be the Assistant Secretary for Arms Control
and Disarmament. The Assistant Secretary for Arms Con-
trol and Disarmament shall carry out those functions in
the Department affecting arms control programs and
arms limitation agreements.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES. — The Assistant Secretary for
Arms Control and Disarmament shall—
(1) advise the Secretary on interagency discussions and international negotiations, including discussions involving the United Nations, the Secretary of State, the Atomic Energy Commission, and the Secretary of Defense, regarding the increase or reduction and elimination of weapons of mass destruction throughout the world, including the dismantling of such weapons and the safe and secure storage of materials related thereto and efforts to limit or cease development, testing, manufacture or possession of nuclear weapons or threats to use them or to allow any nuclear arms to be stationed in the territory of any nation;

(2) assist countries, international agencies, and nongovernmental organizations in assessing the locations of the buildup of nuclear arms and other weapons of mass destruction;

(3) develop nonviolent strategies to prevent and deter testing or use of offensive or defensive nuclear weapons, weaponized drones, assault weapons, and other weapons of mass destruction, whether based on land, underground, air, sea, or in space;

(4) serve as a depository for copies of all contracts, agreements, and treaties that address the reduction and elimination of nuclear weapons and
other weapons of mass destruction, and the protec-
tion of space from militarization;

(5) provide technical support and legal assist-
ance for the implementation of such contracts,
agreements, and treaties;

(6) disseminate applicable policies and research in consultation with the Department of State and the Department of Commerce; and

(7) address and support nuclear waste cleanup at nuclear test sites, nuclear research facilities and laboratories, Superfund Sites of former and present military bases in the United States and abroad and at lands, in waters, and in the air adjacent to old and new nuclear reactors and nuclear-contaminated sites.

SEC. 109. OFFICE OF PEACEBUILDING INFORMATION AND RESEARCH.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be in the Department an Office of Peacebuilding Information and Research, the head of which shall be the Assistant Secretary for Peacebuilding Information and Research. The Assistant Secretary for Peacebuilding Information and Research shall carry out those functions in the Department affecting research and analysis relating to creating, initiating,
and modeling approaches to peaceful coexistence and non-
violent conflict resolution.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Assistant Secretary for
Peacebuilding Information and Research shall—

(1) commission or compile studies on the im-
pact of war, mass shootings, police violence and
other types of violence, especially on the physical
and mental condition of children (using the 10-point
anti-war agenda in the United Nations Children’s
Fund report, State of the World’s Children 1996, as
a guide) that shall include the study of the effect of
war on the environment and public health;

(2) commission or compile studies on the im-
pact of war and other types of violence on soldiers,
veterans and civilians;

(3) commission or compile studies on the effect
of war and other types of violence on the environ-
ment, public health, the economy, and national secu-

(4) commission or compile studies on the im-
pact of violence, racism and inequality on such con-
ditions of peace as health care, employment, edu-
cation, economic equity, food security, voting rights,
housing, justice, and rule of law;
(5) compile information on effective community peacebuilding activities and disseminate such information to local governments and nongovernmental organizations in the United States and abroad;

(6) commission or compile research on the effect of violence in the media, including the use of untruths, misinformation and false information and make such reports available to Congress annually;

(7) commission or compile research on the number and circumstances of deaths caused by law enforcement using guns or other weapons, devices or methods, the number and circumstances of deaths to law enforcement officials caused by guns or other weapons, devices or methods, the effects of gun violence in the United States, and make such reports available to Congress annually;

(8) commission or compile research on the effect of teaching nonviolent conflict resolution skills and practices and social emotional education in schools and disseminate such information to educational institutions, Congress and the public annually;

(9) commission or compile any other such research that will foster understanding of the root
causes of violence, the root conditions of peace, and
policies and practices to promote a culture of peace;
(10) publish a monthly journal of the activities
of the Department and encourage scholarly partici-
pation;
(11) sponsor conferences throughout the United
States to create awareness of the work of the De-
partment;
(12) make available to the public reports, stud-
ies, and compiled research described in this Act; and
(13) where applicable, work to carry out the re-
sponsibilities under this subsection in consultation
with the United States Institute of Peace and other
governmental and nongovernmental organizations,
including—
(A) the Department of Health and Human
Services;
(B) the Department of Justice; and
(C) the Department of State.

SEC. 110. OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND ECONOMIC
RIGHTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There shall be in the Department
an Office of Human Rights and Economic Rights, the
head of which shall be the Assistant Secretary for Human
Rights and Economic Rights. The Assistant Secretary for
Human Rights and Economic Rights shall carry out those functions in the Department that support the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 10, 1948.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Assistant Secretary for Human Rights and Economic Rights shall—

(1) assist the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State, in furthering the incorporation of the principles of human rights, as enunciated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, into all agreements between the United States and other countries to help prevent and reduce the causes of violence;

(2) consult with the Secretary of State, the United Nations, the Atrocities Prevention Board of the White House, the Department of Justice, and other similarly concerned governmental and non-governmental organizations to gather information on and document domestic and international human rights abuses, including genocide, torture, State executions, police brutality, detention for profit, caging of children and other individuals, murder of unarmed civilians, solitary confinement (especially among children), human trafficking, child soldiers,
child labor, and slave labor and recommend to the Secretary nonviolent responses to promote awareness, understanding, and correction of abuses;

(3) make such information available to other governmental and nongovernmental organizations in order to facilitate nonviolent conflict resolution;

(4) provide trained observers to work with nongovernmental organizations for purposes of creating a climate conducive to the respect for human rights;

(5) conduct economic analyses of the scarcity of human and natural resources as a source of conflict and make recommendations to the Secretary for nonviolent prevention of such scarcity, nonviolent intervention in case of such scarcity, and the development of programs to assist people facing such scarcity, whether due to armed conflict, greed, misdistribution of resources, overuse or other human causes, including climate disruption, or natural causes;

(6) conduct economic analyses of the impact of violence within and among nations as a source of human displacement and criminalization, vilification, victimization and mistreatment of those fleeing their homes to seek better and safer lives and make recommendations to the Secretary for nonviolent solu-
tions and development of programs to assist people facing such conditions;

(7) assist the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Treasury, in developing strategies regarding the sustainability and the management of the distribution of funds from international agencies, the conditions regarding the receipt of such funds, and the impact of those conditions on the peace and stability of the recipient countries;

(8) assist the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Labor, in developing strategies to promote full compliance with domestic and international labor rights law;

(9) conduct policy analysis to ensure that the international development investments of the United States positively impact the peace and stability of the recipient country; and

(10) disseminate policies and research in consultation with appropriate entities of the Department of State.

SEC. 111. INTERGOVERNMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON PEACE.

(a) In General.—There shall be in the Department an advisory committee known as the Intergovernmental
Advisory Council on Peace (in this section referred to as the “Council”). The Council shall provide assistance and make recommendations to the President and the Secretary concerning intergovernmental policies relating to peace and nonviolent conflict resolution.

(b) Responsibilities.—The Council shall—

(1) provide a forum for representatives of international bodies, the Federal Government, Tribal governments, and State and local governments to discuss peace issues, including practices, traditions and policies that promote peacebuilding and crises and wellness issues;

(2) promote better intergovernmental relations and offer professional mediation services to ameliorate and resolve intergovernmental and intragovernmental conflict as needed, including elimination of inflammatory rhetoric; and

(3) submit biennially, or more frequently if determined necessary by the Council, a report to the President, the Secretary, and Congress reviewing the impact of Federal peace activities on the Federal Government and on State and local governments.

(e) Membership.—The Secretary shall appoint the members of the Council.
SEC. 112. FEDERAL INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON PEACE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Federal Interagency Committee on Peace (in this section referred to as the “Committee”). The Committee shall—

(1) assist the Secretary in providing a mechanism to assure that the procedures and actions of the Department and other Federal agencies are fully coordinated; and

(2) study and make recommendations for assuring effective coordination of Federal programs, policies, and administrative practices affecting peace, peacebuilding and violence prevention, and wellness.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Secretary shall appoint the members of the Committee.

SEC. 113. STAFF.

The Secretary may appoint and fix the compensation of such employees as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Secretary and the Department. Except as otherwise provided by law, such employees shall be appointed in accordance with applicable laws and the compensation of such employees fixed in accordance with title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 114. CONSULTATION REQUIRED.

(a) CONSULTATION IN CASES OF CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which a conflict between the United States and any other government or entity is foreseeable, imminent, or occurring, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State shall consult with the Secretary of Peacebuilding concerning violence prevention, non-violent means of conflict resolution, and peacebuilding.

(2) DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES.—In any case in which a conflict described in paragraph (1) is ongoing or recently concluded, the Secretary shall conduct an independent study of diplomatic initiatives undertaken by the United States and other parties to such conflict.

(3) INITIATIVE ASSESSMENT.—In any case in which a conflict described in paragraph (1) has recently concluded, the Secretary shall assess the effectiveness of any initiatives in ending such conflict.

(4) CONSULTATION PROCESS.—The Secretary shall establish a formal process of consultation in a timely manner with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the National Security Council—

(A) prior to the initiation of policies or withdrawal of resources that may lead to vio-
lence and of any armed conflict between the
United States and any other country; and

(B) for any matter involving—

(i) the use of Department of Defense
personnel within the United States; or

(ii) the proposed or actual distribution
of equipment of the Department of De-
fense to local or State law enforcement en-
tities or to other individuals or entities.

(b) Consultation in Drafting Treaties and
Agreements.—The head of each appropriate Federal
agency shall consult with the Secretary in drafting treaties
and peace agreements.

SEC. 115. COLLABORATION.

The Secretary shall, for the greatest effectiveness in
promoting peace and peacebuilding, collaborate with other
Federal agencies, applicable experts, nongovernmental or-
organization stakeholders, appropriate non-profit organiza-
tion stakeholders and State, Tribal, and local leaders and
stakeholders regarding all related programs in all Federal
agencies. The collaboration shall include and prioritize
those who are most impacted by the programs for the pur-
pose implementing or updating such programs and for the
purpose of evaluating the effectiveness and impacts of
such programs.
TITLE II—OTHER MATTERS

SEC. 201. LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECRETARY.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the appointment of the first Secretary, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to Congress proposed legislation containing any necessary and appropriate amendments to the laws of the United States to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 202. PEACE DAYS.

The Secretary shall encourage citizens to observe and celebrate the blessings of peace and endeavor to create peace on Peace Days. Such days shall include discussions of the professional activities and the achievements in the lives of peacemakers.

SEC. 203. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department” means the Department of Peacebuilding established under section 101(a).

(2) ESEA TERMS.—The terms “elementary school”, “secondary school”, and “State educational agency” have the meaning given those terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).
(3) Federal Agency.—The term “Federal agency” has the meaning given the term “agency” in section 551(1) of title 5, United States Code.

(4) Institution of Higher Education.—The term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given that term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

(5) Nonprofit Organization.—The term “nonprofit organization” means an entity that—

(A) is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3)); and

(B) is exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code.

(6) Secretary.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Peacebuilding appointed under section 101(b).

SEC. 204. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) In General.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act such sums as may be necessary.

(b) Limitation on Use of Funds.—Of the amounts appropriated pursuant to subsection (a), at least 85 percent shall be used for domestic peace programs, in-
1 cluding administrative costs associated with such pro-
2 grams.