

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1211

To establish an Office of Foreign Science and Technology Assessment to enable the United States to effectively analyze trends in foreign science and technology, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 9, 2005

Mr. BINGAMAN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To establish an Office of Foreign Science and Technology Assessment to enable the United States to effectively analyze trends in foreign science and technology, 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 “Foreign Science and
5 Technology Assessment Act of 2005”.

1 **SEC. 2. OFFICE OF FOREIGN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**
2 **ASSESSMENT.**

3 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established within
4 the Department of State an Office of Foreign Science and
5 Technology Assessment.

6 (b) **DIRECTOR.**—The head of the Office shall be a
7 Director, who shall be the Science Advisor to the Secretary
8 of State.

9 (c) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of the Office shall be to
10 assess foreign science and technologies that have the capa-
11 bility to cause a loss of high technology industrial leader-
12 ship in the United States.

13 (d) **OPERATION.**—In preparing an assessment of
14 science and technology for a foreign country, the Director
15 shall utilize, to the extent feasible, United States entities
16 capable of operating effectively within such foreign coun-
17 try.

18 (e) **AVAILABILITY OF ASSESSMENTS.**—The Director
19 shall make each assessment of foreign science and tech-
20 nology prepared by the Office available to the public in
21 a timely manner.

22 (f) **AUTHORITIES.**—In order to gain access to tech-
23 nical knowledge, skills, and expertise necessary to prepare
24 an assessment of foreign science and technology, the Sec-
25 retary of State may utilize individuals and enter into con-
26 tracts or other arrangements to acquire needed expertise

1 with any agency or instrumentality of the United States,
 2 with any State, territory, possession, or any political sub-
 3 division thereof, or with any person, firm, association, cor-
 4 poration, or educational institution, with or without reim-
 5 bursement, and without regard to section 3709 of the Re-
 6 vised Statutes (41 U.S.C. 5) or section 3324 of title 31,
 7 United States Code.

8 **SEC. 3. FOREIGN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT**
 9 **PANEL.**

10 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State shall
 11 establish a Foreign Science and Technology Assessment
 12 Panel.

13 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Panel shall be to
 14 provide advice on assessments performed by the Office of
 15 Foreign Science and Technology Assessment, including re-
 16 view of foreign science and technology assessment reports,
 17 methodologies, subjects of study, and the means of im-
 18 proving the quality and timeliness of the Office.

19 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—The Panel shall consist of 5
 20 members who, by reason of professional background and
 21 experience, are specially qualified to provide advice on the
 22 activities of science and technology in foreign countries as
 23 such activities apply to the United States.

24 (d) APPOINTMENT.—The Secretary of State, in con-
 25 sultation with the Director of the Office of Science and

1 Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the Presi-
2 dent, shall appoint the panel members.

3 (e) TERM.—A member shall be appointed to the
4 Panel for a term of 3 years.

5 (f) AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT SERVICES.—Notwith-
6 standing section 1342 of title 31, United States Code, the
7 Secretary of State may accept and employ voluntary and
8 uncompensated services (except for reimbursement of
9 travel expenses) for the purposes of the Panel. An indi-
10 vidual providing such a voluntary and uncompensated
11 service may not be considered a Federal employee, except
12 for purposes of chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code,
13 with respect to job-incurred disability and title 28, United
14 States Code, with respect to tort claims.

15 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
17 as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

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