

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2869

To establish a pilot program of Central Asian scholarships for undergraduate and graduate level public policy internships in the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 26, 2007

Mr. PITTS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To establish a pilot program of Central Asian scholarships for undergraduate and graduate level public policy internships in the United States.

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 “Central Asia Education
5 Enhancement Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. CENTRAL ASIA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR PUB-**
7 **LIC POLICY INTERNSHIPS.**

8 (a) PILOT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—As part of the
9 educational and cultural exchange programs of the De-
10 partment of State, the Secretary of State shall establish

1 a pilot program for the fiscal years 2008, 2009, and 2010,
2 of scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students
3 from Central Asia for public policy internships in the
4 United States. Subject to the availability of appropria-
5 tions, for each fiscal year 50 students shall participate in
6 the program established under this section.

7 (b) GENERAL PROVISIONS.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise pro-
9 vided in this section, the program established pursu-
10 ant to subsection (a) shall be carried out under ap-
11 plicable provisions of the United States Information
12 and Educational Exchange Act of 1948 and the Mu-
13 tual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of
14 1961.

15 (2) SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY REQUIRE-
16 MENTS.—In addition to such other requirements as
17 may be established by the Secretary of State, a
18 scholarship recipient under this section—

19 (A) shall be proficient in the English lan-
20 guage;

21 (B) shall be a student at an undergraduate
22 or graduate school level at an accredited insti-
23 tution of higher education with a record of out-
24 standing academic achievement and dem-
25 onstrated intellectual abilities;

1 (C) may not have received an academic
2 scholarship or grant from the United States
3 Government in the 3 years preceding the award
4 of a scholarship under this section; and

5 (D) may not be or have been a member of
6 a terrorist organization or involved in any ter-
7 rorist armed insurrection or organized crime.

8 (3) INTERNSHIPS.—Internships under this sec-
9 tion shall be for periods of not more than 6 months.

10 (4) PRIORITY CONSIDERATION.—In the award
11 of internships under this section, the Secretary shall
12 give priority consideration to—

13 (A) students who are underprivileged or
14 members of ethnic, religious or cultural minori-
15 ties; and

16 (B) students from Kazakhstan,
17 Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan.

18 (5) DEFINITION.—For the purposes of this sec-
19 tion, the term “Central Asia” means the countries
20 of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan,
21 Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan,
22 and Uzbekistan.

23 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addi-
24 tion to such amounts as are otherwise authorized to be
25 appropriated for the Department of State for educational

1 and cultural exchange programs, there are authorized to
2 be appropriated for each of the fiscal years 2008, 2009,
3 and 2010, \$600,000 to carry out this section.

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