

Calendar No. 1045

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**S. 2609**

To establish a Global Service Fellowship Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 7 (legislative day, FEBRUARY 6), 2008

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. DODD, and Mr. HAGEL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

SEPTEMBER 23 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 17), 2008

Reported by Mr. DODD, with an amendment and an amendment to the title

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To establish a Global Service Fellowship Program, 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 “Global Service Fellow-
5 ship Program Act of 2008”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has
4 said that a critical component of the war on terror
5 is changing opinions and minds.

6 (2) Polling data from Terror Free Tomorrow
7 indicates that nearly 60 percent of the people of In-
8 donesia and 75 percent of the people of Pakistan
9 held more favorable views of the United States fol-
10 lowing humanitarian assistance after their tsunami
11 and earthquake tragedies, respectively, and these
12 changes in perception of the United States were sus-
13 tained beyond the initial period of aid and service.

14 (3) International volunteering opportunities are
15 effective means of addressing critical human needs,
16 building bridges across cultures, and promoting mu-
17 tual understanding.

18 (4) Current volunteer programs, such as the
19 Peace Corps, remain an important part of Federal
20 efforts to promote volunteer service and provide re-
21 lated programming.

22 (5) Financial limitations are a common obstacle
23 to volunteering overseas, and awarding financial fel-
24 lowships would reduce barriers for many individuals
25 otherwise unable to afford travel overseas.

1 (6) Allowing flexibility in the duration of volun-
 2 teering opportunities would reduce another barrier
 3 to volunteering.

4 (7) A global service fellowship program would
 5 provide funding and programmatic flexibility for vol-
 6 unteers of all backgrounds, ages, and geographical
 7 locations.

8 (8) Eligible organizations willing to participate
 9 in the fellowship program as sponsoring organiza-
 10 tions would be in a better position to recruit volun-
 11 teers for their programs overseas.

12 (9) The United States Agency for International
 13 Development has taken important steps towards en-
 14 couraging this kind of a program through the cre-
 15 ation of Volunteers for Prosperity.

16 **SEC. 3. GLOBAL SERVICE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.**

17 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State, in
 18 conjunction with the Administrator of the United States
 19 Agency for International Development, shall establish a
 20 program to be known as the Global Service Fellowship
 21 Program (in this section referred to as the “Program”);
 22 which will be administered by the United States Agency
 23 for International Development.

24 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Program is to
 25 fund fellowships to promote international volunteering op-

1 opportunities as a means of building bridges across cultures;
 2 addressing critical human needs; and promoting mutual
 3 understanding.

4 (c) FELLOWSHIPS.—Grants awarded under the Pro-
 5 gram shall be used to fund fellowships as follows:

6 (1) Fellowships lasting 90 days or less in dura-
 7 tion may be funded at levels of up to \$2,500.

8 (2) Fellowships lasting between 91 days and
 9 180 days may be funded at levels up to \$5,000.

10 (3) Fellowships lasting between 181 days and
 11 one year may be funded at levels up to \$7,500.

12 (d) COORDINATION WITH SPONSORING ORGANIZA-
 13 TIONS.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Fellowships funded under
 15 the Program shall be coordinated and supervised by
 16 participating volunteer sponsoring organizations.
 17 The sponsoring organizations shall be registered
 18 with the Secretary of State and shall collaborate
 19 with host country organizations in developing pro-
 20 grams that appropriately address local needs for the
 21 transfer of volunteer skills, capacity building, and
 22 cross-cultural service organizations.

23 (2) PRIORITIZATION OF PROJECTS.—Spon-
 24 soring organizations shall recommend and prioritize

1 fellowship projects based on one or more of the fol-
2 lowing objectives:

3 (A) ~~Eradication of extreme poverty in con-~~
4 ~~junction with the United Nations Millennium~~
5 ~~Development Goals.~~

6 (B) ~~Achievement of universal primary edu-~~
7 ~~cation.~~

8 (C) ~~Promotion of gender equality and the~~
9 ~~empowerment of women and families.~~

10 (D) ~~Reducing child mortality and improv-~~
11 ~~ing maternal health.~~

12 (E) ~~Providing medical and dental health~~
13 ~~care and prevention.~~

14 (F) ~~Providing assistance for the elderly,~~
15 ~~orphans, people with disabilities, and refugees.~~

16 (G) ~~Promoting environmental sustain-~~
17 ~~ability.~~

18 (H) ~~Providing economic and social oppor-~~
19 ~~tunities for youth in countries with growing co-~~
20 ~~horts of young people.~~

21 (I) ~~Promoting youth service by building re-~~
22 ~~lated volunteer-sector capacity in host countries.~~

23 (J) ~~Combating HIV/AIDS, malaria, and~~
24 ~~other infectious diseases.~~

1 (K) Helping to build or provide decent
2 housing.

3 (L) Providing disaster and humanitarian
4 response, preparedness, and reconstruction.

5 (M) Promoting cross-cultural exchange,
6 conflict resolution, and peace.

7 (N) Developing global partnerships for de-
8 velopment in the areas of economic growth,
9 microenterprise, asset development, and agricul-
10 tural and rural development.

11 (O) Advancing access to information tech-
12 nology and strengthening civil society.

13 (P) Carrying out additional activities in
14 impact areas designated by the Secretary of
15 State and the Administrator of the United
16 States Agency for International Development in
17 accordance with the purposes of this Act.

18 (c) APPLICATION PROCESS.—

19 (1) SUBMISSION AND REVIEW OF APPLICA-
20 TIONS.—Applicants shall submit applications for fel-
21 lowships under the Program to the Administrator of
22 the United States Agency for International Develop-
23 ment.

24 (2) SELECTION.—The Secretary of State, in
25 consultation with the Administrator of the United

1 States Agency for International Development, shall
 2 determine the eligibility of candidates and, in con-
 3 sultation with sponsoring organizations, award and
 4 administer fellowships under the Program.

5 (3) CRITERIA.—The Secretary of State, in con-
 6 sultation with the Administrator of the United
 7 States Agency for International Development, shall
 8 develop and publish criteria for fellowships in ac-
 9 cordance with the following guidelines:

10 (A) SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS.—Appli-
 11 cants for Global Service Fellowships must be
 12 registered with qualified sponsoring organiza-
 13 tions such as—

14 (i) nongovernmental organizations
 15 based in the United States that sponsor
 16 international volunteer service;

17 (ii) faith-based organizations engaged
 18 in the delivery of nonsectarian services;

19 (iii) universities and colleges operating
 20 international service learning and volunteer
 21 service programs; and

22 (iv) nongovernmental organizations
 23 based in the United States that collaborate
 24 with local or national host government
 25 agencies or nongovernmental organizations

1 in promoting volunteer capacity and na-
2 tional and community service in impact
3 areas designated by the Secretary of State
4 and the Administrator of the United States
5 Agency for International Development
6 under subsection (d)(2)(P).

7 (B) APPLICANTS.—Applicants shall be se-
8 lected for Global Service Fellowships as follows:

9 (i) Applicants shall have clearly de-
10 fined and structured goals for their pro-
11 posed fellowships, including a plan for as-
12 sessing and monitoring progress toward
13 such goals with sponsoring organizations
14 and a basis for follow-up and review by the
15 Secretary of State, in conjunction with the
16 Administrator of the United States Agency
17 for International Development.

18 (ii) Priority should be given to—

19 (I) applicants from households
20 with an income that is less than 200
21 percent of the poverty level estab-
22 lished pursuant to current census fig-
23 ures;

1 (II) applicants who have dem-
2 onstrated prior community service ex-
3 perience;

4 (III) applicants with skills and
5 experience suited to the specific needs
6 of host countries;

7 (IV) applicants who demonstrate
8 a clear plan to communicate their vol-
9 unteer experiences to their community
10 upon their return; and

11 (V) applicants whose physical
12 residence would ensure a diverse geo-
13 graphical distribution of awardees
14 across the United States.

15 (f) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—

16 (1) NOTIFICATION OF AWARDS.—The Secretary
17 of State and the Administrator of the United States
18 Agency for International Development shall jointly
19 notify Members of Congress of the decision to award
20 a fellowship to their constituents at least 2 business
21 days prior to notification to the awardee. Members
22 of Congress may choose to notify the constituent of
23 the award upon receiving such notification.

24 (2) PROJECT SUMMARIES.—Individuals receiv-
25 ing Global Service Fellowships shall notify their

1 Members of Congress of their intended travel dates
 2 and provide project summaries prior to their depart-
 3 tures.

4 (3) REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after re-
 5 turning from their Global Service Fellowships, fel-
 6 lows shall submit such reports as the Secretary of
 7 State, in conjunction with the Administrator of the
 8 United States Agency for International Develop-
 9 ment, may require, including post-fellowship reports
 10 prepared for their home communities, to the Sec-
 11 retary of State, the Administrator of the United
 12 States Agency for International Development, and
 13 their congressional representatives.

14 (g) ELIGIBLE COSTS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Funds awarded under this
 16 section may be used to cover the following costs as-
 17 sociated with Global Service Fellowships:

18 (A) Airfare, accommodations, and trans-
 19 portation within the host country.

20 (B) Fees assessed by sponsoring organiza-
 21 tions to defray international service program
 22 costs and administrative costs.

23 (C) Subsistence allowance in accordance
 24 with local market conditions.

1 ~~(D)~~ Program materials and tools used for
2 service-related purposes.

3 ~~(E)~~ Seed funding for local service projects.

4 ~~(F)~~ Language and cultural training and
5 other costs associated with pre-service project
6 orientation.

7 ~~(2)~~ TUITION NOT COVERED.—Funds awarded
8 under this section may not be used for tuition costs.

9 ~~(h)~~ NONDISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS.—

10 ~~(1)~~ SELECTION OF APPLICANTS.—The selection
11 of applicants under subsection (e) shall be without
12 regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex,
13 age, political affiliation, sexual orientation, or dis-
14 ability.

15 ~~(2)~~ SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS.—

16 ~~(A)~~ IN GENERAL.—A sponsoring organiza-
17 tion shall not discriminate against a Global
18 Service Fellowship Program participant or ap-
19 plicant, a beneficiary of any project in which a
20 Global Service Fellow participates, or, except as
21 provided in subparagraph (B), an employee of
22 the organization who is paid with Program
23 funds on the basis of race, religion, color, na-
24 tional origin, sex, age, political affiliation, sex-
25 ual orientation, or disability.

(B) LIMITED EXCEPTION FOR EMPLOYEES OF SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS EMPLOYED AT TIME OF AWARDING OF FUNDS.—The prohibition under subparagraph (A) on discrimination on the basis of religion shall not apply to the employment, with assistance provided under this Program, of any employee who was employed with the sponsoring organization on the date that the funds were awarded.

SEC. 4. EVALUATION AND REPORT.

(a) EVALUATION OF GLOBAL SERVICE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.—The Secretary of State, in conjunction with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall establish and implement an evaluation process for determining the effectiveness of the Global Service Fellowship Program.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than March 31, 2011, the Secretary of State, in conjunction with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall submit to Congress a report on the Global Service Fellowships Program established under section 3. The report shall describe—

(1) the identity and location of sponsoring organizations;

1 (2) for each impact issue areas identified by
 2 sponsoring organizations, the number of volunteer
 3 opportunities and the number of related Global Serv-
 4 ice Fellowships that have been funded;

5 (3) the number of local volunteers recruited or
 6 engaged with Global Service Fellows and their spon-
 7 soring organizations or local host organizations;

8 (4) the locations of volunteer services;

9 (5) the effectiveness of such services based upon
 10 findings of the evaluation process; and

11 (6) the total numbers of applications for Global
 12 Service Fellowships that have been received and ac-
 13 cepted to the Program.

14 **SEC. 5. FELLOWSHIPS EXCLUDED FROM GROSS INCOME.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter B of chap-
 16 ter 1 of subtitle A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986
 17 (relating to items specifically excluded from gross income)
 18 is amended by inserting after section 139A the following
 19 new section:

20 **“SEC. 139B. GLOBAL SERVICE FELLOWSHIPS.**

21 “Gross income does not include amounts received
 22 under the Global Service Fellowship Program (within the
 23 meaning of section 3 of the Global Service Fellowship Pro-
 24 gram Act of 2008).”.

1 (b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections
 2 at the beginning of such part is amended by inserting after
 3 the item relating to section 139A the following new item:
 “Sec. 139B. Global Services Fellowships.”.

4 (c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
 5 this section shall apply to taxable years ending after the
 6 date of the enactment of this Act.

7 **SEC. 6. REGULATIONS.**

8 The Secretary of State shall prescribe regulations to
 9 carry out the provisions of this Act.

10 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 (a) **FUNDING.**—There is authorized to be appro-
 12 priated to the Secretary of State \$50,000,000 for each of
 13 fiscal years 2009 through 2011 for purposes of estab-
 14 lishing and implementing the Global Service Fellowship
 15 Program.

16 (b) **OFFSET.**—In order to provide an offset for
 17 amounts appropriated pursuant to subsection (a), the In-
 18 ternal Revenue Service shall deposit in the Treasury as
 19 miscellaneous receipts all of the fees it receives for serv-
 20 ices.

21 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

22 *This Act may be cited as the “Global Service Fellow-*
 23 *ship Program Act of 2008”.*

24 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

25 *Congress makes the following findings:*

1 (1) *Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has said*
2 *that a critical component in our efforts to combat ex-*
3 *tremism is changing opinions and minds.*

4 (2) *Polling data from Terror Free Tomorrow in-*
5 *dicates that nearly 60 percent of the people of Indo-*
6 *nesia and 75 percent of the people of Pakistan held*
7 *more favorable views of the United States following*
8 *humanitarian assistance after their tsunami and*
9 *earthquake tragedies, respectively, and these changes*
10 *in perception of the United States were sustained be-*
11 *yond the initial period of aid and service.*

12 (3) *International volunteering opportunities are*
13 *effective means of addressing critical human needs,*
14 *building bridges across cultures, and promoting mu-*
15 *tual understanding.*

16 (4) *Current volunteer programs, such as the*
17 *Peace Corps, remain an important part of Federal ef-*
18 *forts to promote volunteer service and provide related*
19 *programming.*

20 (5) *Financial limitations are a common obstacle*
21 *to international volunteering by Americans, and*
22 *awarding financial fellowships would reduce barriers*
23 *for many individuals otherwise unable to volunteer*
24 *overseas.*

1 (6) *Allowing flexibility in the duration of volun-*
 2 *teering opportunities would reduce another barrier to*
 3 *volunteering.*

4 (7) *A global service fellowship program would*
 5 *provide funding and programmatic flexibility for vol-*
 6 *unteers of all backgrounds, ages, and geographical lo-*
 7 *cations.*

8 (8) *Eligible organizations willing to participate*
 9 *in the fellowship program as sponsoring organiza-*
 10 *tions would be in a better position to recruit volun-*
 11 *teers for their programs overseas.*

12 (9) *The United States Agency for International*
 13 *Development has taken important steps towards en-*
 14 *couraging this kind of a program through the creation*
 15 *of Volunteers for Prosperity, which promotes inter-*
 16 *national volunteer service by skilled professionals*
 17 *from the United States.*

18 **SEC. 3. VOLUNTEERS FOR PROSPERITY.**

19 (a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—*Consistent with Executive*
 20 *Order 13317 (68 Fed. Reg. 56515), the Administrator of*
 21 *the United States Agency for International Development*
 22 *shall establish the Office of Volunteers for Prosperity.*

23 (b) *PURPOSE.*—*The Office of Volunteers for Prosperity*
 24 *shall pursue the objectives described in section 4(d)(2), in-*
 25 *cluding by—*

1 (1) *implementing the Global Service Fellowship*
 2 *Program established under section 4;*

3 (2) *promoting other short and long-term inter-*
 4 *national volunteering opportunities;*

5 (3) *promoting, in collaboration with the Sec-*
 6 *retary of State, the efforts of Global Service Fellows*
 7 *as part of the public diplomacy efforts of the Depart-*
 8 *ment of State;*

9 (4) *helping eligible United States sponsoring or-*
 10 *ganizations, as described in section 4(e)(3)(A), to re-*
 11 *cruit and effectively manage skilled United States*
 12 *professionals for volunteer assignments overseas; and*

13 (5) *providing recognition for volunteers from the*
 14 *United States who serve internationally, and the or-*
 15 *ganizations sponsoring them.*

16 **SEC. 4. GLOBAL SERVICE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.**

17 (a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—*The Administrator of the*
 18 *United States Agency for International Development shall*
 19 *establish and administer a program to be known as the*
 20 *Global Service Fellowship Program (in this section referred*
 21 *to as the “Program”).*

22 (b) *PURPOSE.*—*The purpose of the Program is to fund*
 23 *fellowships to promote international volunteering opportu-*
 24 *nities as a means of building bridges across cultures, ad-*

1 *dressing critical human needs, and promoting mutual un-*
 2 *derstanding.*

3 (c) *FELLOWSHIPS.*—*Grants awarded under the Pro-*
 4 *gram shall be used to fund fellowships as follows:*

5 (1) *Fellowships lasting 90 days or less in dura-*
 6 *tion may be funded at levels of up to \$2,500.*

7 (2) *Fellowships lasting between 91 days and 180*
 8 *days may be funded at levels up to \$5,000.*

9 (3) *Fellowships lasting between 181 days and*
 10 *one year may be funded at levels up to \$7,500.*

11 (d) *COORDINATION WITH SPONSORING ORGANIZA-*
 12 *TIONS.*—

13 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Fellows shall undertake their*
 14 *volunteer opportunity in coordination with an eligi-*
 15 *ble volunteer sponsoring organization. Such organiza-*
 16 *tions shall be registered with the Administrator and*
 17 *shall collaborate with host country organizations in*
 18 *developing programs that appropriately address local*
 19 *needs, maximize the transfer of skills, and build local*
 20 *capacity.*

21 (2) *PRIORITIZATION OF PROJECTS.*—*Decisions to*
 22 *award fellowships shall be prioritized according to*
 23 *humanitarian and development goals of the United*
 24 *States Government, including the following goals:*

1 (A) *Eradication of extreme poverty in con-*
 2 *junction with the United Nations Millennium*
 3 *Development Goals.*

4 (B) *Achievement of universal primary edu-*
 5 *cation.*

6 (C) *Promotion of gender equality and the*
 7 *empowerment of women and families.*

8 (D) *Reducing child mortality and improv-*
 9 *ing maternal health.*

10 (E) *Providing medical and dental health*
 11 *care and prevention.*

12 (F) *Providing assistance for the elderly, or-*
 13 *phans, people with disabilities, and refugees.*

14 (G) *Promoting environmental sustain-*
 15 *ability.*

16 (H) *Providing economic and social opportu-*
 17 *nities for youth in countries with growing co-*
 18 *horts of young people.*

19 (I) *Promoting youth service by building re-*
 20 *lated volunteer-sector capacity in host countries.*

21 (J) *Combating HIV/AIDS, malaria, and*
 22 *other infectious diseases.*

23 (K) *Helping to build or provide decent*
 24 *housing.*

1 (L) *Providing disaster and humanitarian*
 2 *response, preparedness, and reconstruction.*

3 (M) *Promoting cross-cultural exchange, con-*
 4 *flict resolution, and peace.*

5 (N) *Developing global partnerships for de-*
 6 *velopment in the areas of economic growth,*
 7 *microenterprise, asset development, and agricul-*
 8 *tural and rural development.*

9 (O) *Advancing access to information tech-*
 10 *nology and strengthening civil society.*

11 (e) *APPLICATION PROCESS.—*

12 (1) *SUBMISSION AND REVIEW OF APPLICA-*
 13 *TIONS.—Applicants shall submit applications for fel-*
 14 *lowships under the Program to the Administrator of*
 15 *the United States Agency for International Develop-*
 16 *ment.*

17 (2) *SELECTION.—The Administrator of the*
 18 *United States Agency for International Development*
 19 *shall determine the eligibility of candidates and, in*
 20 *consultation with sponsoring organizations, award*
 21 *and administer fellowships under the Program.*

22 (3) *CRITERIA.—The Administrator of the United*
 23 *States Agency for International Development shall de-*
 24 *velop and publish criteria for fellowships in accord-*
 25 *ance with the following guidelines:*

1 (A) *SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS.*—Appli-
 2 *cants for Global Service Fellowships must be reg-*
 3 *istered with qualified sponsoring organizations*
 4 *such as—*

5 (i) *nongovernmental organizations*
 6 *based in the United States that sponsor*
 7 *international volunteer service;*

8 (ii) *faith-based organizations engaged*
 9 *in the delivery of nonsectarian services;*

10 (iii) *universities and colleges operating*
 11 *international service learning and volunteer*
 12 *service programs; and*

13 (iv) *nongovernmental organizations*
 14 *based in the United States that collaborate*
 15 *with local or national host government*
 16 *agencies or nongovernmental organizations*
 17 *in promoting volunteer capacity and na-*
 18 *tional and community service activities*
 19 *consistent with the prioritized humani-*
 20 *tarian and development goals set forth in*
 21 *subsection (d)(2).*

22 (B) *APPLICANTS.*—Applicants shall be se-
 23 *lected for Global Service Fellowships as follows:*

24 (i) *Applicants shall have clearly de-*
 25 *efined and structured goals for their pro-*

1 *posed fellowships, including a plan for as-*
 2 *sessing and monitoring progress toward*
 3 *such goals with sponsoring organizations*
 4 *and a basis for follow-up and review by the*
 5 *Administrator of the United States Agency*
 6 *for International Development.*

7 *(ii) Priority should be given to—*

8 *(I) applicants from households*
 9 *with an income that is less than 200*
 10 *percent of the poverty level established*
 11 *pursuant to current census figures;*

12 *(II) applicants who have dem-*
 13 *onstrated prior community service ex-*
 14 *perience;*

15 *(III) applicants with skills and*
 16 *experience suited to the specific needs*
 17 *of host countries;*

18 *(IV) applicants who demonstrate*
 19 *a clear plan to communicate their vol-*
 20 *unteer experiences to their community*
 21 *upon their return; and*

22 *(V) applicants whose physical res-*
 23 *idence would ensure a diverse geo-*
 24 *graphical distribution of awardees*
 25 *across the United States.*

1 (f) *REPORTING REQUIREMENT.*—

2 (1) *NOTIFICATION OF AWARDS.*—*The Adminis-*
3 *trator of the United States Agency for International*
4 *Development shall notify Members of Congress of the*
5 *decision to award a fellowship to their constituents at*
6 *least 2 business days prior to notification to the*
7 *awardee. Members of Congress may notify the con-*
8 *stituent of the award upon receiving such notifica-*
9 *tion.*

10 (2) *PROJECT SUMMARIES.*—*Individuals receiving*
11 *Global Service Fellowships shall notify their Members*
12 *of Congress of their intended travel dates and provide*
13 *project summaries prior to their departures.*

14 (3) *REPORTS.*—*Not later than 90 days after re-*
15 *turning from service abroad under the Program, fel-*
16 *lows shall submit such reports as the Administrator*
17 *of the United States Agency for International Devel-*
18 *opment may require, including post-fellowship reports*
19 *prepared for their home communities, to the Secretary*
20 *of State, the Administrator of the United States Agen-*
21 *cy for International Development, and their congres-*
22 *sional representatives.*

23 (g) *ELIGIBLE COSTS.*—

1 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Funds awarded under this*
 2 *section may be used to cover the following costs associ-*
 3 *ated with Global Service Fellowships:*

4 (A) *Airfare, accommodations, and transpor-*
 5 *tation within the host country.*

6 (B) *Fees assessed by sponsoring organiza-*
 7 *tions to defray international service program*
 8 *costs and administrative costs.*

9 (C) *Subsistence allowance in accordance*
 10 *with local market conditions.*

11 (D) *Program materials and tools used for*
 12 *service-related purposes.*

13 (E) *Seed funding for local service projects.*

14 (F) *Language and cultural training and*
 15 *other costs associated with pre-service project ori-*
 16 *entation.*

17 (2) *TUITION NOT COVERED.*—*Funds awarded*
 18 *under this section may not be used for tuition costs.*

19 (h) *NONDISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS.*—

20 (1) *SELECTION OF APPLICANTS.*—*The selection of*
 21 *applicants under subsection (e) shall be without re-*
 22 *gard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age,*
 23 *political affiliation, sexual orientation, or disability.*

24 (2) *SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS.*—

1 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—A sponsoring organiza-
 2 tion shall not discriminate against a Global
 3 Service Fellowship Program participant or ap-
 4 plicant, a beneficiary of any project in which a
 5 Global Service Fellow participates, or, except as
 6 provided in subparagraph (B), an employee of
 7 the organization who is paid with assistance
 8 provided under the Program on the basis of race,
 9 religion, color, national origin, sex, age, political
 10 affiliation, sexual orientation, or disability.

11 (B) *LIMITED EXCEPTION FOR EMPLOYEES*
 12 *OF SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS EMPLOYED AT*
 13 *TIME OF AWARDING OF FUNDS.*—The prohibition
 14 under subparagraph (A) on discrimination on
 15 the basis of religion shall not apply to the em-
 16 ployment, with assistance provided under this
 17 Program, of any employee who was employed
 18 with the sponsoring organization on the date
 19 that the funds were awarded.

20 **SEC. 5. EVALUATION AND REPORT.**

21 (a) *EVALUATION OF GLOBAL SERVICE FELLOWSHIP*
 22 *PROGRAM.*—The Administrator of the United States Agency
 23 for International Development shall establish and imple-
 24 ment an evaluation process for determining the effectiveness
 25 of the Global Service Fellowship Program.

1 (b) *REPORT.*—Not later than March 31, 2011, the Ad-
2 ministrators of the United States Agency for International
3 Development shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Re-
4 lations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs
5 of the House of Representatives a report on the Global Serv-
6 ice Fellowships Program established under section 4. The
7 report shall describe—

8 (1) the identity and location of sponsoring orga-
9 nizations;

10 (2) for each humanitarian or development goal
11 identified by sponsoring organizations, the number of
12 volunteer opportunities and the number of related
13 Global Service Fellowships that have been funded;

14 (3) the number of volunteers recruited or engaged
15 with Global Service Fellows and their sponsoring or-
16 ganizations or local host organizations;

17 (4) the locations of volunteer services;

18 (5) the effectiveness of such services based upon
19 findings of the evaluation process; and

20 (6) the total numbers of applications for Global
21 Service Fellowships that have been received and ac-
22 cepted to the Program.

1 **SEC. 6. REGULATIONS.**

2 *The Administrator of the United States Agency for*
 3 *International Development shall prescribe regulations to*
 4 *carry out the provisions of this Act.*

5 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

6 *(a) FUNDING.—There is authorized to be appropriated*
 7 *to the Administrator of the United States Agency for Inter-*
 8 *national Development \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years*
 9 *2009 through 2011 for the Office of Volunteers for Pros-*
 10 *perity and the Global Service Fellowship Program.*

11 *(b) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts appro-*
 12 *priated pursuant to subsection (a)—*

13 *(1) not less than 90 percent of expended amounts*
 14 *shall be used to fund Global Service Fellowships; and*

15 *(2) not more than 10 percent may be used for*
 16 *administrative expenses of the Office of Volunteers for*
 17 *Prosperity and the Global Service Fellowship Pro-*
 18 *gram.*

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to establish a Global Service Fellowship Program and to authorize Volunteers for Prosperity, and for other purposes.”.

Calendar No. 1045

110TH CONGRESS
2^D Session

S. 2609

A BILL

To establish a Global Service Fellowship Program,
and for other purposes.

SEPTEMBER 23 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 17), 2008
Reported with an amendment and an amendment to the
title