110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3643

To enhance the capacity of the United States to undertake global development
activities, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 27 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 17), 2008

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. KERRY, and Mrs. MURRAY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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A BILL

To enhance the capacity of the United States to undertake
global development activities, 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 "Increasing America's

5 Global Development Capacity Act of 2008".

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) foreign development assistance is an impor-

9 tant foreign policy tool in addition to diplomacy and

10 defense;

1   (2) development assistance is part of any com-

2   prehensive United States response to regional con-

3   flicts, terrorist threats, weapons proliferation, dis-

4   ease pandemics, and persistent widespread poverty;

5   (3) in 2002 and 2006, the United States Na-

6   tional Security Strategy includes global development,

7   along with defense and diplomacy, as the 3 pillars

8   of national security;

9   (4) in its early years, the United States Agency

10   for International Development (USAID) had more

11   than 5,000 full-time Foreign Service Officers;

12   (5) as of 2008, USAID has slightly more than

13   1,000 full-time Foreign Service Officers;

14   (6) the budget at USAID, calculated in real

15   dollars, has dropped 27 percent since 1985;

16   (7) this decline in personnel and operating

17   budgets has diminished the capacity of USAID to

18   provide development assistance and implement for-

19   eign assistance programs; and

20   (8) the Committee on Appropriations of the

21   Senate recommended increasing the amount to be

22   appropriated for USAID operating expenses for fis-

23   cal year 2009 by $171,000,000 compared to the

24   amount appropriated for such expenses for fiscal

25   year 2008.

**SEC. 3. HIRING OF ADDITIONAL FOREIGN SERVICE OFFI-
CERS AS USAID EMPLOYEES.**

(a) INITIAL HIRINGS.—Not later than 1 year after
the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator
of USAID shall use additional amounts appropriated to
USAID for fiscal year 2009 compared to fiscal year 2008
to increase by not less than 700 the total number of full-
time Foreign Service Officers employed by USAID com-
pared to the number of such officers employed by USAID
on the date of the enactment of this Act. These officers
shall be used to enhance the ability of USAID to—

(1) carry out development activities around the
world by providing USAID with additional human
resources and expertise needed to meet important
development and humanitarian needs around the
world;

(2) strengthen its institutional capacity as the
lead development agency of the United States; and

(3) more effectively help developing nations to
become more stable, healthy, democratic, prosperous,
and self-sufficient.

(b) SUBSEQUENT HIRINGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under
paragraph (2), during the 2-year period beginning 1
year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
Administrator of USAID shall increase by not less

1 than 1,300 the total number of full-time Foreign
2 Service Officers over the number of such Officers at
3 the beginning of such 2-year period to carry out the
4 activities described in subsection (a), contingent
5 upon sufficient appropriations.

6 (2) REPROGRAMMING.—If the Administrator of
7 USAID determines that USAID has competing
8 needs that are more urgent than the hirings de-
9 scribed in paragraph (1), the Administrator may use
10 amounts available for such hirings for such com-
11 peting needs if the Administrator submits to the
12 Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on
13 Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee
14 on Appropriations and the Committee on Foreign
15 Affairs of the House of Representatives a report de-
16 scribing such competing needs.

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