

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 938

To amend the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 to require the Secretary of State to report on intercountry adoptions from countries which have significantly reduced adoption rates involving immigration to the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 28, 2019

Mr. BURR (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. WICKER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To amend the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 to require the Secretary of State to report on intercountry adoptions from countries which have significantly reduced adoption rates involving immigration to the United States, 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 “Intercountry Adoption
5 Information Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN**
2 **ANNUAL REPORT ON INTERCOUNTRY ADOP-**
3 **TIONS.**

4 (a) REPORT ELEMENTS.—Section 104(b) of the
5 Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14914(b))
6 is amended by adding at the end the following new para-
7 graphs:

8 “(9) A list of countries that established or
9 maintained a significant law or regulation that pre-
10 vented or prohibited adoptions involving immigration
11 to the United States, regardless of whether such
12 adoptions occurred under the Convention.

13 “(10) For each country listed under paragraph
14 (9), the date on which the law or regulation was ini-
15 tially implemented.

16 “(11) Information on efforts taken with respect
17 to a country listed under paragraph (9) to encourage
18 the resumption of halted or stalled adoption pro-
19 ceedings involving immigration to the United States,
20 regardless of whether the adoptions would have oc-
21 curred under the Convention.

22 “(12) Information on any action the Secretary
23 carried out that prevented, prohibited, or halted any
24 adoptions involving immigration to the United
25 States, regardless of whether the adoptions occurred
26 under the Convention.

1 “(13) For each country listed pursuant to para-
2 graph (12), a description of—

3 “(A) what policies, procedures, resources,
4 and safeguards the country lacks, or other
5 shortcomings or circumstances, that caused the
6 action to be carried out;

7 “(B) what progress the country has made
8 to alleviate those shortcomings; and

9 “(C) what steps the Department of State
10 has taken in order to assist the country to re-
11 open intercountry adoptions.”.

12 (b) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF REPORT.—Section 104
13 of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C.
14 14914) is amended by adding at the end the following new
15 subsection:

16 “(c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF REPORT.—The Sec-
17 retary shall make the information contained in the report
18 required under subsection (a) available to the public on
19 the website of the Department of State.”.

20 (c) PRIVACY CONCERNS.—In complying with the
21 amendments made by subsections (a) and (b), the Sec-
22 retary shall avoid, to the maximum extent practicable, dis-
23 closing any personally identifiable information relating to
24 United States citizens or the adoptees of such citizens.

1 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 104(a) of
2 the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C.
3 14914(a)) is amended by striking “International Rela-
4 tions” and inserting “Foreign Affairs”.

5 (e) APPLICATION DATE.—The amendments made by
6 this section shall apply with respect to reports required
7 to be submitted under section 104 of the Intercountry
8 Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14914) beginning on the
9 date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this
10 Act.

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