

Public Law 107-148
107th Congress

An Act

Mar. 11, 2002
[H.R. 2998]

Radio Free
Afghanistan Act.
22 USC 6201
note.

22 USC 6215.
Deadline.
Reports.

Effective date.

To authorize the establishment of Radio Free Afghanistan.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Radio Free Afghanistan Act”.

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF RADIO FREE AFGHANISTAN.

(a) REQUIREMENT OF A DETAILED PLAN.—Not later than 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act, RFE/RL, Incorporated, shall submit to the Broadcasting Board of Governors a report setting forth a detailed plan for the provision by RFE/RL, Incorporated, of surrogate broadcasting services in the Dari and Pashto languages to Afghanistan. Such broadcasting services shall be known as “Radio Free Afghanistan”.

(b) GRANT AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Effective 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act, or the date on which the report required by subsection (a) is submitted, whichever is later, the Broadcasting Board of Governors is authorized to make grants to support Radio Free Afghanistan.

(2) SUPERSEDES EXISTING LIMITATION ON TOTAL ANNUAL GRANT AMOUNTS.—Grants made to RFE/RL, Incorporated, during the fiscal year 2002 for support of Radio Free Afghanistan may be made without regard to section 308(c) of the United States International Broadcasting Act of 1994 (22 U.S.C. 6207(c)).

(c) AVAILABLE AUTHORITIES.—In addition to the authorities in this Act, the authorities applicable to carry out United States Government broadcasting activities under the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, the United States International Broadcasting Act of 1994, the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998, and other provisions of law consistent with such purpose may be used to carry out the grant authority of subsection (b).

(d) STANDARDS; OVERSIGHT.—Radio Free Afghanistan shall adhere to the same standards of professionalism and accountability, and shall be subject to the same oversight mechanisms, as other services of RFE/RL, Incorporated.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to such amounts as are otherwise available for such purposes, the following amounts are authorized

to be appropriated to carry out United States Government broadcasting activities under the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, the United States International Broadcasting Act of 1994, the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998, and this Act, and to carry out other authorities in law consistent with such purposes:

(1) For “International Broadcasting Operations”, \$8,000,000 for the fiscal year 2002.

(2) For “Broadcasting Capital Improvements”, \$9,000,000 for the fiscal year 2002.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts appropriated pursuant to subsection (a) are authorized to remain available until expended.

SEC. 4. REPEAL OF BAN ON UNITED STATES TRANSMITTER IN KUWAIT.

Section 226 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (Public Law 103-236; 108 Stat. 423), is repealed.

Approved Mar. 11, 2002.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 2998 (S. 1779):

SENATE REPORTS: No. 107-125 accompanying S. 1779 (Comm. on Foreign Relations).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 147 (2001): Nov. 6, 7, considered and passed House.

Vol. 148 (2002): Feb. 7, considered and passed Senate, amended, in lieu of S. 1779.

Feb. 12, House concurred in Senate amendment.

