

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2542

To establish additional international exchange and training programs with the independent states of the former Soviet Union and the Baltic states.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 28, 1993

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

A BILL

To establish additional international exchange and training programs with the independent states of the former Soviet Union and the Baltic 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 “Freedom Exchange
5 and Training Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.**

7 The purpose of this Act is—

8 (1) to bring young people, teachers, and edu-
9 cation administrators of the former Soviet Union
10 and the Baltic states to the United States so that

1 they might experience first-hand how a free market
2 democracy functions;

3 (2) to assist the skill-building process necessary
4 for both institution-building and nation-building; and

5 (3) to provide leadership training and technical
6 assistance to officials and others from the former
7 Soviet Union and Baltic states.

8 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

9 As used in this Act—

10 (1) the term “Baltic states” means Latvia,
11 Lithuania, and Estonia;

12 (2) the term “eligible organization” means, dur-
13 ing fiscal year 1994, any private nonprofit organiza-
14 tion which has experience in exchange programs and
15 demonstrates a capacity to carry out such programs
16 in the independent states of the former Soviet Union
17 or in the Baltic states; and

18 (3) the term “independent states of the former
19 Soviet Union” includes the following states that for-
20 merly were part of the Soviet Union: Armenia, Azer-
21 baijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan,
22 Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan,
23 Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

1 **TITLE I—EDUCATIONAL**
2 **EXCHANGE PROGRAMS**

3 **SEC. 101. AUTHORITIES FOR AWARDING EDUCATIONAL EX-**
4 **CHANGE GRANTS.**

5 (a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—The Director shall es-
6 tablish and carry out an exchange program with the inde-
7 pendent states of the former Soviet Union and the Baltic
8 states in accordance with this title. In carrying out such
9 a program, the Director shall award, on a competitive
10 basis, grants to eligible organizations to enable such orga-
11 nizations to finance—

12 (1) the exchange of secondary school students
13 in accordance with section 102;

14 (2) the exchange of secondary school teachers
15 and administrators in accordance with section 103;

16 (3) the exchange of postsecondary students in
17 accordance with section 104; and

18 (4) exchanges of college and university edu-
19 cators in accordance with section 105.

20 (b) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—The Director may
21 use up to 5 percent of the funds appropriated under this
22 title for administrative expenses.

23 (c) APPLICATION.—(1) Each eligible organization
24 seeking a grant under this section shall submit an applica-
25 tion to the Director at such time, in such manner, and

1 accompanied by such information as the Director may rea-
2 sonably require.

3 (2) Each application submitted pursuant to para-
4 graph (1) shall—

5 (A) describe the activities for which assistance
6 under this section is sought; and

7 (B) provide such additional assurances as the
8 Director determines to be essential to ensure compli-
9 ance with the requirements of this title.

10 (d) ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANTS.—Grants may be made
11 to eligible organizations only if such organizations agree
12 to comply with the requirements specified in this title.

13 (e) IMPLEMENTATION.—In carrying out this title, the
14 Director shall—

15 (1) encourage colleges and universities receiving
16 students to supplement public grants with their own
17 resources, to the extent possible; and

18 (2) allow for a wide range of United States in-
19 stitutions to participate in programs under this title.

20 (f) COMPLIANCE WITH BUDGET ACT.—The author-
21 ity to make grants under this title shall be effective only
22 to such extent or in such amount as are provided in appro-
23 priations Acts.

24 (g) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this title—

1 (1) the term “Director” means the Director of
2 the United States Information Agency;

3 (2) the term “institution of higher education”
4 has the same meaning as is given to such term by
5 section 1201(a) of the Higher Education Act of
6 1965; and

7 (3) the term “secondary school” has the same
8 meaning given to such term by section 1471(21) of
9 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
10 1965.

11 **SEC. 102. SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.**

12 (a) GRANT USES.—(1) Grants awarded under section
13 101(a)(1) shall be used to finance—

14 (A) visits of short duration by eligible secondary
15 school students, to the United States, to any of the
16 independent states of the former Soviet Union, or to
17 any Baltic state; or

18 (B) studies, instruction, and other educational
19 exchange activities in the United States, in any of
20 the independent states of the former Soviet Union,
21 or in any Baltic state, each educational exchange ac-
22 tivity lasting not less than one semester or more
23 than one year, for eligible secondary school students.

1 (2) Of the amount of grants awarded under section
2 101(a)(1), not more than 35 percent in fiscal year 1994
3 may be used for the purpose of paragraph (1)(A).

4 (b) CONDITIONS.—(1) The Director may require that
5 a portion of a grant awarded under section 101(a)(1) be
6 used only for educational activities that are conditioned
7 on the reciprocal exchange of American students.

8 (2) Not more than 25 percent of the total amount
9 of grant funds awarded under section 101(a)(1) may be
10 used to finance educational exchanges of American stu-
11 dents under this section.

12 (c) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
13 term “eligible secondary school student” means a second-
14 ary school student from the United States, any of the
15 independent states of the former Soviet Union, or any Bal-
16 tic state who—

17 (1) is at least 15 years of age;

18 (2) is attending school at a grade level equiva-
19 lent to any of the grade levels 10 through 12 in
20 United States secondary schools or has just com-
21 pleted secondary school in any of the independent
22 states of the former Soviet Union or any Baltic
23 state; and

24 (3) has a minimum level of proficiency in Eng-
25 lish, as determined by testing.

1 (d) ADMINISTRATION.—(1) To the maximum extent
2 practicable, a grant under this section shall be used to
3 support the activities described in subsection (a) for sec-
4 ondary school students of widely divergent backgrounds.

5 (2) The recruitment of foreign students under this
6 section shall be carried out in an efficient, uniform man-
7 ner, preferably under direction of a United States-based
8 group or organization under guidelines established by the
9 Director.

10 (3) The selection and examination of students from
11 the former Soviet Union and Baltic states under this sec-
12 tion should be a cooperative effort with input from organi-
13 zations involved in the placement of the exchange stu-
14 dents.

15 (4) The specific structure for this cooperative effort
16 should be approved by the Director as part of the granting
17 of funds for selection and examination of students.

18 (5) The selection process under this section should
19 be designed to ensure selection of a representative group
20 of students from the former Soviet Union and the Baltic
21 states.

22 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addi-
23 tion to funds otherwise available for such purpose, there
24 are authorized to be appropriated \$40,000,000 for fiscal
25 year 1994 to carry out this section.

1 **SEC. 103. SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND ADMINIS-**
2 **TRATORS.**

3 (a) GRANT USES.—(1) Grants awarded under section
4 101(a)(2) shall be used to finance visits of at least four
5 weeks duration for eligible secondary school teachers and
6 administrators to the United States, to any of the inde-
7 pendent states of the former Soviet Union, or to any Bal-
8 tic state.

9 (2) Visits financed under this section—

10 (A) shall focus on a particular area of study or
11 project and may involve seminars, with special em-
12 phasis on classroom practicums; and

13 (B) should, where possible, be developed and co-
14 ordinated with programs established under section
15 102.

16 (b) PRIORITY EXCHANGES.—Preference under this
17 section is to be given to foreign teachers and administra-
18 tors interested in the social sciences, the humanities,
19 teaching English, and acquiring knowledge or skills appli-
20 cable to building democratic institutions.

21 (c) RESTRICTION.—Not more than 25 percent of the
22 total amount of funds awarded under this section may be
23 used to finance educational exchanges of American sec-
24 ondary teachers and administrators.

1 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 for fiscal
3 year 1994 to carry out this section.

4 **SEC. 104. POSTSECONDARY STUDENTS.**

5 (a) COLLEGE STUDENTS.—

6 (1) GRANT USES.—Grants awarded under sec-
7 tion 101(a)(3) shall be used to finance studies, re-
8 search, instruction, and other educational exchange
9 activities for eligible college students in institutions
10 of higher education in the United States, in any of
11 the independent states of the former Soviet Union,
12 or in any Baltic state, each educational exchange ac-
13 tivity lasting not less than one semester or more
14 than one year, with special emphasis on—

15 (A) those foreign students who are inter-
16 ested in studying the social sciences and hu-
17 manities;

18 (B) those foreign students who are study-
19 ing to become English teachers; and

20 (C) those foreign students who are seeking
21 to acquire knowledge or skills applicable to re-
22 structuring the economy or building democratic
23 institutions.

24 (2) CONDITION.—(A) The Director may require
25 that an eligible organization, in order to receive a

1 grant under section 101(a)(3), agree to use a por-
2 tion of such grant for educational activities that are
3 conditioned on the institution of higher education
4 providing an eligible college student with some finan-
5 cial resources, either in the form of room and board
6 or as a waiver of tuition.

7 (B) Not more than 25 percent of the total
8 amount of grant funds awarded under this sub-
9 section may be used to finance educational ex-
10 changes of American students under this section.

11 (3) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this sub-
12 section, the term “eligible college student” means a
13 student enrolled in four-year programs of study at
14 a college or university in the United States, any of
15 the independent states of the former Soviet Union,
16 or any Baltic state, including any American-founded
17 school in the former Soviet Union, and who—

18 (A) has completed at least one year of
19 study and is not in the last year of such study;
20 and

21 (B) in the case of a foreign student, is suf-
22 ficiently proficient in English to undertake the
23 course of study proposed, as determined by
24 testing.

1 (4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In
2 addition to funds otherwise available for such pur-
3 pose, there are authorized to be appropriated
4 \$9,000,000 for fiscal year 1994 to carry out this
5 subsection.

6 (b) GRADUATE STUDENTS.—

7 (1) GRANTS USES.—Grants awarded under sec-
8 tion 101(a)(3) shall be used to finance studies, re-
9 search, instruction, and other educational exchange
10 activities for eligible graduate students in the United
11 States, in any of the independent states of the
12 former Soviet Union, or in any Baltic state, each
13 educational exchange activity lasting not less than
14 one semester or more than one year, with special
15 emphasis on—

16 (A) those foreign students who are inter-
17 ested in studying the social sciences and hu-
18 manities;

19 (B) those foreign students who are study-
20 ing to become English teachers; and

21 (C) those foreign students who are seeking
22 to acquire knowledge or skills applicable to re-
23 structuring the economy or building democratic
24 institutions.

1 (2) CONDITION.—Not more than 25 percent of
2 the total amount of grant funds awarded under this
3 subsection may be used to finance educational ex-
4 changes of American students under this section.

5 (3) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section,
6 the term “eligible graduate student” means a stu-
7 dent from the United States, any of the independent
8 states of the former Soviet Union, or any Baltic
9 state, including any student attending an American-
10 founded university in the former Soviet Union,
11 who—

12 (A) is enrolled in a graduate course of
13 study at a college or university;

14 (B) has completed one year of such study;
15 and

16 (C) in the case of a foreign student, is suf-
17 ficiently proficient in English to undertake the
18 course of study proposed, as determined by
19 testing.

20 (4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In
21 addition to funds otherwise available for such pur-
22 pose, there are authorized to be appropriated
23 \$9,000,000 for fiscal year 1994 to carry out this
24 subsection.

1 (c) COMMUNITY COLLEGES.—(1) Grants awarded
2 under this subsection shall be used to finance—

3 (A) studies and research in any of the inde-
4 pendent states of the former Soviet Union, or in any
5 Baltic state;

6 (B) vocational retraining of foreign students
7 from the former Soviet Union or Baltic states; and

8 (C) faculty and student exchange activity last-
9 ing not less than one semester or more than one
10 year,

11 with special emphasis on—

12 (i) those foreign students who are inter-
13 ested in studying the social sciences and hu-
14 manities;

15 (ii) those foreign students who are study-
16 ing to become English teachers; and

17 (iii) those foreign students who are seeking
18 to acquire knowledge or skills applicable to re-
19 structuring the economy or building democratic
20 institutions.

21 (2) An individual is eligible for a grant under this
22 section who—

23 (A) is least 18 years of age;

1 (B) has completed secondary school in the Unit-
2 ed States, any of the independent states of the
3 former Soviet Union, or any Baltic states;

4 (C) if an American, is enrolled in a community
5 college and has completed at least one year of study;
6 and

7 (D) in the case of foreign students, is suffi-
8 ciently proficient in English to undertake the course
9 of study proposed, as determined by testing.

10 (3) In addition to funds otherwise available for such
11 purpose, there are authorized to be appropriated
12 \$6,000,000 for fiscal year 1994 to carry out this sub-
13 section.

14 **SEC. 105. "SISTER" UNIVERSITY PROGRAM.**

15 (a) GRANT USES.—(1) Grants awarded under section
16 101(a)(4) shall be used to finance exchanges of college and
17 university educators of eligible paired institutions for the
18 purpose of developing curriculum and otherwise strength-
19 ening ties between the independent states of the former
20 Soviet Union and the Baltic states and the United States
21 at the institutional level.

22 (2) Each grant awarded under this subsection shall
23 not exceed \$100,000.

1 (3) Each grant awarded under this subsection to eli-
2 gible paired institutions may be disbursed during a period
3 of two fiscal years.

4 (b) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
5 term “eligible paired institutions” means, in fiscal year
6 1994, a pairing by the Director of one United States insti-
7 tution of higher education with a college or university in
8 any of the independent states of the former Soviet Union
9 or any Baltic state wherever such pairing is likely to pro-
10 mote a continuing relationship between the institutions
11 after the termination of assistance under this title.

12 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addi-
13 tion to funds otherwise available for such purpose, there
14 are authorized to be appropriated \$8,000,000 for fiscal
15 year 1994 to carry out this section.

16 **TITLE II—OTHER TRAINING AND** 17 **EXCHANGE PROGRAMS**

18 **SEC. 201. PROGRAMS OF THE AGENCY FOR INTER-** 19 **NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.**

20 (a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—The President shall es-
21 tablish and carry out technical assistance and exchange
22 programs with the independent states of the former Soviet
23 Union and the Baltic states in accordance with this title.
24 Such programs may be implemented by grants to eligible

1 organizations or otherwise. Programs funded by this title
2 are as follows:

3 (1) PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERN-
4 ANCE.—Funds made available under this paragraph
5 shall be used for programs of up to 8 weeks dura-
6 tion for—

7 (A) exchanges and training of local and re-
8 gional government officials, practitioners, and
9 experts in public administration to assist the
10 former Soviet Union and Baltic states in estab-
11 lishing and sustaining democratic institutions;

12 (B) exchanges and training that will assist
13 the former Soviet Union and Baltic states in
14 the establishment of social services programs;
15 and

16 (C) exchanges and training in the area of
17 political science.

18 It is the sense of the Congress that technical assist-
19 ance and training of public officials under this para-
20 graph should be conducted by American organiza-
21 tions that are representative of elected officials.

22 (2) RULE OF LAW.—Funds made available
23 under this paragraph shall be used for legal initia-
24 tives to assist the former Soviet Union and Baltic
25 states in modifying or restructuring their laws and

1 legal systems to reflect democratic principles and be
2 compatible with a democratic society and free mar-
3 ket principles.

4 (3) AGRICULTURE AND AGRIBUSINESS.—Funds
5 made available under this paragraph shall be used
6 for—

7 (A) technical assistance and training for
8 the development of market-oriented policies, ag-
9 ricultural financial institutions and marketing
10 systems, agribusiness organization, and privat-
11 ization of state agricultural organizations; and

12 (B) agricultural exchanges that will allow
13 foreign farmers to come to the United States to
14 acquire agriculture skills.

15 (4) ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT.—Funds made
16 available under this paragraph shall be used for a
17 comprehensive exchange and training program for
18 enhancing environmental management and sustain-
19 able economic development, emphasizing the active
20 participation of local scientific expertise, nongovern-
21 mental organizations, and the public, and includ-
22 ing—

23 (A) environmental monitoring and protec-
24 tion,

1 (B) establishment of appropriate environ-
2 mental institutions and infrastructure,

3 (C) programs to enhance energy conserva-
4 tion and efficiency, and

5 (D) nuclear safety and other appropriate
6 initiatives consistent with this paragraph.

7 (5) HEALTH AND MEDICINE.—Funds made
8 available under this paragraph shall be used for ex-
9 change and training programs that will enhance
10 medical delivery systems, assist in establishment of
11 pharmaceutical industry, and provide general medi-
12 cal training and education.

13 (6) TRADE AND INVESTMENT.—Funds made
14 available under this paragraph shall be used to as-
15 sist in the development of American business centers
16 and the expansion of the Special American Business
17 Internship Training (SABIT) program of the De-
18 partment of Commerce.

19 (7) LEADERS TRAINING.—Funds made avail-
20 able under this paragraph shall be used for training
21 by United States business, universities, and others
22 to build a cadre of young technocrats with strong
23 grounding in market economics principles who are
24 likely to rise to positions of responsibility in the pub-
25 lic and private sectors and influence future national

1 development. Training under this paragraph shall be
2 targeted on the priority sectoral areas of the United
3 States technical assistance program, including
4 health, energy, environment, banking, and agri-
5 culture, and educational training shall be combined
6 with on-the-job training experiences and practical in-
7 ternships.

8 (b) DEGREE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRO-
9 FICIENCY.—Foreign participants in the programs under
10 this section shall be sufficiently proficient in English to
11 fulfill the purposes of this section.

12 (c) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—The President
13 may use up to 5 percent of the funds appropriated under
14 this title for administrative expenses.

15 (d) GENERAL AUTHORITY FOR AWARDING
16 GRANTS.—Training and other exchange programs carried
17 out under this section shall be administered by the Agency
18 for International Development or such other Government
19 agency as has experience and expertise in carrying out
20 such programs.

21 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
22 are authorized to be appropriated \$20,000,000 for fiscal
23 year 1994 to carry out this section.

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