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To underscore the importance of international nuclear safety cooperation for operating power reactors, encouraging the efforts of the Convention on Nuclear Safety, supporting progress in improving nuclear safety, and enhancing the public availability of nuclear safety information.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 17, 2011

Mr. AKAKA (for himself and Mr. CARPER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To underscore the importance of international nuclear safety cooperation for operating power reactors, encouraging the efforts of the Convention on Nuclear Safety, supporting progress in improving nuclear safety, and enhancing the public availability of nuclear safety information.

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 “Furthering Inter-
5 national Nuclear Safety Act of 2011”.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

2 The purposes of this Act are as follows:

3 (1) To recognize the paramount importance of
4 international nuclear safety cooperation for oper-
5 ating power reactors.

6 (2) To further the efforts of the Convention on
7 Nuclear Safety as a vital international forum on nu-
8 clear safety.

9 (3) To support progress in improving nuclear
10 safety for countries that currently have or are con-
11 sidering the development of a civilian nuclear power
12 program.

13 (4) To enhance the public availability of nuclear
14 safety information.

15 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

16 In this Act:

17 (1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-**
18 **TEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional com-
19 mittees” means—

20 (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of
21 the Senate;

22 (B) the Committee on Environment and
23 Public Works of the Senate;

24 (C) the Committee on Homeland Security
25 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

1 (D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
2 the House of Representatives;

3 (E) the Committee on Energy and Com-
4 merce of the House of Representatives; and

5 (F) the Committee on Oversight and Gov-
6 ernment Reform of the House of Representa-
7 tives.

8 (2) CONVENTION.—The term “Convention”
9 means the Convention on Nuclear Safety, done at
10 Vienna September 20, 1994, and ratified by the
11 United States April 11, 1999.

12 (3) MEETING.—The term “meeting” means a
13 meeting as described under Article 20, 21, or 23 of
14 the Convention.

15 (4) NATIONAL REPORT.—The term “national
16 report” means a report as described under Article 5
17 of the Convention.

18 (5) PARTY.—The term “party” means a nation
19 that has formally joined the Convention through
20 ratification or other means.

21 (6) SUMMARY REPORT.—The term “summary
22 report” means a report as described under Article
23 25 of the Convention.

1 **SEC. 4. UNITED STATES EFFORTS TO FURTHER INTER-**
2 **NATIONAL NUCLEAR SAFETY.**

3 The President shall instruct the United States official
4 serving as the delegate to the meetings of the Convention
5 on Nuclear Safety pursuant to Article 24 of the Conven-
6 tion to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United
7 States, while recognizing that these efforts by parties are
8 voluntary, to encourage, where appropriate—

9 (1) parties to more systematically assess where
10 and how they have made progress in improving safe-
11 ty, including where applicable through the incorpora-
12 tion of performance metric tools;

13 (2) parties to increase the number of national
14 reports they make available to the public by posting
15 them to a publicly available Internet Web site of the
16 International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA);

17 (3) parties to expand public dissemination of
18 written answers to questions raised by other parties
19 about national reports by posting the information to
20 a publicly available Internet Web site of the IAEA;

21 (4) the IAEA to further its support of the Con-
22 vention, upon request by a party and where funding
23 is available, by—

24 (A) providing assistance to parties pre-
25 paring national reports;

1 (B) providing additional assistance to help
2 prepare for and support meetings, including
3 language translation services; and

4 (C) providing additional technical support
5 to improve the safety of civilian nuclear power
6 programs; and

7 (5) all countries that currently have or are con-
8 sidering the establishment of a civilian nuclear
9 power program to formally join the Convention.

10 **SEC. 5. STRATEGIC PLAN.**

11 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
12 ment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in cooperation
13 with the heads of other relevant United States Govern-
14 ment agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congres-
15 sional committees the United States Government's stra-
16 tegic plan and prioritized goals for international nuclear
17 safety cooperation for operating power reactors.

18 **SEC. 6. REPORTS.**

19 (a) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC
20 PLAN.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
22 after the issuance of each of the first two summary
23 reports of the Convention issued after the date of
24 the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in
25 cooperation with the heads of other relevant United

1 States Government agencies, shall submit to the ap-
2 propriate congressional committees a report that—

3 (A) describes the status of implementing
4 the strategic plan and achieving the goals set
5 forth in section 5; and

6 (B) enumerates the most significant con-
7 cerns of the United States Government regard-
8 ing worldwide nuclear safety and describes the
9 extent to which the strategic plan addresses
10 these concerns.

11 (2) FORM.—The report required under para-
12 graph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form,
13 but may contain a classified annex.

14 (b) REPORT ON UNITED STATES EFFORTS TO FUR-
15 THER INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR SAFETY.—Not later
16 than 180 days after the issuance of each of the first two
17 summary reports of the Convention issued after the date
18 of the enactment of this Act, the United States official
19 serving as the delegate to the meetings of the Convention
20 shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
21 a report providing the status of achieving the actions set
22 forth in section 4.

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