

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2602

To prohibit the Executive branch from engaging in any reorganization of the Department of State without congressional consultation and approval.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 2, 2025

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE (for herself, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Mr. KEATING, Ms. TITUS, Mr. MFUME, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. COHEN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. TONKO, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Mr. THANEDAR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To prohibit the Executive branch from engaging in any reorganization of the Department of State without congressional consultation and approval.

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 “Defending American
5 Diplomacy Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON IMPLEMENTATION ABSENT SPE-**
2 **CIFIC STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—No reorganization of the Depart-
4 ment of State may be implemented or otherwise take effect
5 unless both of the following conditions are met:

6 (1) There is enacted specific statutory author-
7 ization to carry out such reorganization.

8 (2) The Secretary of State has submitted to the
9 appropriate congressional committees a detailed
10 plan, pursuant to section 3, with respect to the reor-
11 ganization.

12 (b) CONSEQUENCE FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.—On and
13 after the date on which the Comptroller General certifies
14 to the Chair and Ranking Member of each of the appro-
15 priate congressional committees that the Secretary of
16 State has implemented a reorganization in a manner that
17 is not in compliance with the prohibition under subsection
18 (a)—

19 (1) no Federal funds may be made available to
20 facilitate any activity of the Department of Govern-
21 ment Efficiency; and

22 (2) none of the funds appropriated or otherwise
23 made available to the Department of State may be
24 obligated or expended for official travel by any po-
25 litically appointed official of the Department.

1 **SEC. 3. REQUIREMENT FOR SUBMISSION OF DETAILED**
2 **PLANS.**

3 Upon determining that any reorganization of the De-
4 partment of State or any component of such Department
5 is necessary, the Secretary of State shall submit to the
6 appropriate congressional committees a detailed plan for
7 such reorganization that shall include, at a minimum, the
8 following elements:

9 (1) A clear description of the proposed organi-
10 zational changes and a justification for such
11 changes, including a description of the manner and
12 extent to which current roles, responsibilities, and
13 personnel of the Department or relevant component
14 of the Department will be affected.

15 (2) A clear description of what, if any, new re-
16 sponsibilities the Department or affected component
17 will absorb and a detailed plan of how the Depart-
18 ment or affected component will develop or acquire
19 the competencies and expertise to carry out these
20 new responsibilities.

21 (3) An analysis of the potential impacts on the
22 ability to advance United States foreign policy inter-
23 ests, including impacts to each of the following:

24 (A) Diplomatic footprint and operations
25 abroad.

1 (B) Consular services and visa processing
2 times, including as a result of any closures of
3 consulates and diplomatic posts abroad.

4 (C) The ability to carry out existing multi-
5 lateral and bilateral diplomatic commitments.

6 (D) Bilateral and multilateral military co-
7 operation and security assistance.

8 (E) United States intelligence gathering
9 capabilities and United States intelligence posture
10 abroad.

11 (F) Interagency coordination with inter-
12 national partners.

13 (G) Advancing United States development
14 objectives abroad and facilitating the delivery of
15 lifesaving humanitarian assistance.

16 (4) An explanation of how the proposed changes
17 will improve the Department of State's ability to
18 carry out its overall strategic objectives in compari-
19 son to the previous organizational structure.

20 (5) An assessment of the potential risks or un-
21 intended consequences that may result from the pro-
22 posed changes, including—

23 (A) how United States competitors might
24 capitalize on any downsizing of diplomatic func-

1 tions to advance their own military, intelligence,
2 soft power, economic, or political interests; and

3 (B) which diplomatic relationships and
4 United States interests would be especially vul-
5 nerable to the impacts of the desired reorga-
6 nization.

7 (6) A detailed implementation plan and timeline
8 for making the proposed changes, including mecha-
9 nisms to mitigate any adverse effects on the Depart-
10 ment or affected component's functions and per-
11 sonnel that would provide a more stable transition.

12 (7) A detailed analysis of the impact on the
13 workforce and personnel of the affected components
14 as well as the broader Department and a transition
15 plan for the termination or reassignment and re-
16 training of employees, including plans for the com-
17 pensation of any terminated employees.

18 (8) A certification that no Federal laws or regu-
19 lations will be violated for the purposes of executing
20 the reorganization, including specifically that no af-
21 fected employee's rights or protections will be vio-
22 lated.

23 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

24 In this Act:

1 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
2 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
3 mittees” means the Committee on Foreign Affairs
4 and Committee on Appropriations of the House of
5 Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Re-
6 lations and the Committee on Appropriations of the
7 Senate.

8 (2) REORGANIZATION.—The term “reorganiza-
9 tion” means any action which, pursuant to section
10 7063 of division F of Public Law 118–47, would re-
11 quire prior consultation and notification.

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