

Advancing Competitiveness, Transparency and Security in the Americas Act

- Section 2 Findings. *Provides analysis about the presence of and engagement by the People's Republic of China in Latin America and the Caribbean.*
- Section 3 Sense of Congress. *Expresses the importance of continued U.S. engagement in Latin America and the Caribbean, and China's record in the region.*
- Section 4 Statement of policy. *Defines U.S. policy to expand political and economic engagement in the Americas.*
- Section 6 Assessing the intentions of the People's Republic of China in the Western Hemisphere. *Requires classified reporting on the implications of China's economic, political, military, and intelligence activities for U.S. national security.*

Title I – Increasing U.S. Competitiveness in Latin America and the Caribbean

- Section 101 Developing and implementing a strategy to increase economic competitiveness and promote the rule of law. *Requires the Secretary of State to develop an interagency strategy to advance sustainable development, promote the rule of law, combat corruption, facilitate a more competitive economic environment, and maintain transparent access to the Internet and digital infrastructure.*
- Section 102 Strengthening U.S. International Development Finance Corporation Engagement in the Caribbean and the Western Hemisphere. *Authorizes eligibility of Caribbean countries for USIDFC programs. Requires 35 percent of the USIDFC budget is dedicated to Latin America and the Caribbean for a 10-year period.*
- Section 103 Advancing regulation of foreign investment in infrastructure projects to protect host countries' national interests. *Requires the Secretary of State to provide technical assistance to partner governments to help establish mechanisms similar to the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS). Authorizes \$10 million for such technical assistance.*
- Section 104 Strengthening infrastructure project selection and procurement processes. *Requires the Secretary of State to lead an interagency strategy to strengthen partner governments' capacity to develop sustainable infrastructure projects and improve technical management of procurement processes.*
- Section 105 Promoting the rule of law in digital governance. *Requires the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Department of Justice, to encourage partner governments to adopt international standards to address cybercrimes.*
- Section 106 Investing in projects that strengthen the region's digital infrastructure. *Requires the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to support partner governments'*

efforts to develop and secure digital infrastructure, protect technology and data privacy, and facilitate broad internet access for societies.

- Section 107 Countering foreign corrupt practices in the Americas. *Requires the Secretary of State to provide technical assistance to partner governments to help establish mechanisms similar to the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA). Authorizes \$10 million for such technical assistance.*
- Section 108 Countering malign business practices. *Requires the Secretary of State to deny or revoke visas of individuals involved in significant acts of corruption with representatives of the Government of China and Chinese state-owned entities.*
- Section 109 Promoting greater energy security in the Caribbean. *Requires the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to decrease Caribbean reliance on imported fuels, grow domestic production, and increase energy efficiency and conservation.*

Title II – Promoting Regional Security and Digital Security, and Protecting Human Rights

- Section 201 Ensuring the Integrity of Telecom and Data Networks and Critical Infrastructure. *Requires the Secretary of State to develop an interagency strategy to help partner governments defend the integrity of digital infrastructure and investigate and prosecute cybercrimes. Requires the Secretary of State to work with the Commander of the U.S. Cyber Command to provide technical assistance to protect telecom, data networks, and critical digital infrastructure.*
- Section 202 Addressing the risks that pervasive surveillance and monitoring technologies pose to human rights. *Requires the Secretary of State to conduct diplomacy on the risks to civil liberties of pervasive surveillance technologies, to work with the CEO of the U.S. Agency for Global Media to provide anti-censorship assistance for journalists in the region, and authorizes \$10 million to support civil society internet freedom and investigative journalism programs.*
- Section 203 Revitalizing bilateral and multilateral military education programs. *Requires the modernization of International Military Education and Training (IMET) programs in Latin America and the Caribbean.*

Title III – Advancing U.S. Interests and the Role of Civil Society in Latin America and the Caribbean

- Section 301 Countering growing Chinese educational and cultural influence in Latin America and the Caribbean. *Requires the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to expand educational, professional, and cultural exchange programs, and mandates a 4 percent increase in funding for such programs in the region.*

Section 302 Advancing the role of civil society and the media to promote accountability. *Authorizes \$10 million for investigative journalism and civil society oversight programs, especially as it relates to the role of China in unfair business practices.*

Title IV – Resourcing for Success

Section 401 Appointment of China Engagement Officers at embassies in the Western Hemisphere. *Requires the appointment of a China Engagement Officer at U.S. embassies and consulates in Latin America and the Caribbean to monitor the Government of China’s economic, political, security, and intelligence activities.*

Section 402 Assessing staffing needs at embassies in Latin America and the Caribbean. *Requires the Secretary of State to prepare an assessment of the need to increase staffing levels of the Foreign Commercial Service (jointly with the Secretary of Commerce) and public diplomacy officers at U.S. diplomatic missions.*