

AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ Calendar No. \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—114th Cong., 2d Sess.**

**H. R. 4939**

To increase engagement with the governments of the Caribbean region, the Caribbean diaspora community in the United States, and the private sector and civil society in both the United States and the Caribbean, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_ and  
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended  
to be proposed by Mr. CORKER

Viz:

1 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the fol-  
2 lowing:

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “United States–Carib-  
5 bean Strategic Engagement Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

7 Congress declares that it is the policy of the United  
8 States to increase engagement with the governments of  
9 the Caribbean region and with civil society, including the

1 private sector, in both the United States and the Carib-  
2 bean, in a concerted effort to—

3 (1) enhance diplomatic relations between the  
4 United States and the Caribbean region;

5 (2) increase economic cooperation between the  
6 United States and the Caribbean region;

7 (3) support regional economic, political, and se-  
8 curity integration efforts in the Caribbean region;

9 (4) encourage enduring economic development  
10 and increased regional economic diversification and  
11 global competitiveness;

12 (5) reduce levels of crime and violence, curb the  
13 trafficking of illicit drugs, strengthen the rule of law,  
14 and improve citizen security;

15 (6) improve energy security by increasing access  
16 to diverse, reliable, and affordable power;

17 (7) advance cooperation on democracy and  
18 human rights at multilateral fora;

19 (8) continue support for public health advances  
20 and cooperation on health concerns and threats to  
21 the Caribbean region; and

22 (9) expand Internet access throughout the re-  
23 gion, especially to countries lacking the appropriate  
24 infrastructure.

1 **SEC. 3. STRATEGY.**

2 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-  
3 ment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination  
4 with the Administrator of the United States Agency for  
5 International Development (USAID), shall submit to the  
6 appropriate congressional committees a multi-year strat-  
7 egy for United States engagement to support the efforts  
8 of interested nations in the Caribbean region that—

9 (1) identifies Department of State and USAID  
10 priorities, in coordination with other executive  
11 branch agencies, for United States policy towards  
12 the Caribbean region;

13 (2) outlines an approach to partner with gov-  
14 ernments of the Caribbean region to improve citizen  
15 security, reduce the trafficking of illicit drugs,  
16 strengthen the rule of law, and improve the effective-  
17 ness and longevity of the Caribbean Basin Security  
18 Initiative;

19 (3) establishes a comprehensive, integrated,  
20 multi-year strategy to encourage efforts of the Car-  
21ibbean region to implement regional and national  
22 strategies that improve energy security, by increas-  
23 ing access to all available sources of energy, includ-  
24 ing by taking advantage of the indigenous energy  
25 sources of the Caribbean and the ongoing energy  
26 revolution in the United States;

1           (4) outlines an approach to improve diplomatic  
2           engagement with the governments of the Caribbean  
3           region, including with respect to key votes on human  
4           rights and democracy at the United Nations and the  
5           Organization of American States;

6           (5) Describes how the United States can de-  
7           velop an approach to supporting Caribbean countries  
8           in efforts they are willing to undertake with their  
9           own resources to diversify their economies;

10          (6) describes ways to ensure the active partici-  
11          pation of citizens of the Caribbean in existing pro-  
12          gram and initiatives administered by the Depart-  
13          ment of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural  
14          Affairs; and

15          (7) reflects the input of other executive branch  
16          agencies, as appropriate.

17 **SEC. 4. BRIEFINGS.**

18          The Secretary of State shall offer to the appropriate  
19          congressional committees annual briefings that review De-  
20          partment of State efforts to implement the strategy for  
21          United States engagement with the Caribbean region in  
22          accordance with section 3.

23 **SEC. 5. PROGRESS REPORT.**

24          Not later than 2 years after the submission of the  
25          strategy required under section 3, the President shall sub-

1 mit to the appropriate congressional committees a report  
2 on progress made toward implementing the strategy.

3 **SEC. 6. REPORTING COST OFFSET.**

4 Section 601(c)(4) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980  
5 (22 U.S.C. 4001(c)(4)) is amended by striking “the fol-  
6 lowing:” and all that follows through “(B) A workforce  
7 plan” and inserting “a workforce plan”.

8 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

9 In this Act:

10 (1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-**  
11 **TEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
12 mittees” means the Committee on Foreign Affairs of  
13 the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
14 Foreign Relations of the Senate.

15 (2) **CARIBBEAN REGION.**—The term “Caribbean  
16 region” means the Caribbean Basin Security Initia-  
17 tive beneficiary countries.

18 (3) **SECURITY ASSISTANCE.**—The term “secu-  
19 rity assistance” has the meaning given such term in  
20 section 502B(d)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of  
21 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2304(d)(2)).