

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1928

To establish a review of United States multilateral aid.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 5, 2017

Mr. CORKER (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. KAINE, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BENNET, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. CASEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## A BILL

To establish a review of United States multilateral aid.

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 “Multilateral Aid Re-  
5       view Act of 2017”.

6       **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7       The purpose of this Act is to establish a United  
8       States Multilateral Aid Review (in this Act referred to as  
9       the “Review”) to publicly assess the value of United States  
10      Government investments in multilateral entities.

1 **SEC. 3. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-**  
2 **FINED.**

3 In this Act, the term “appropriate congressional com-  
4 mittees” means—

5 (1) the Committee on Foreign Relations and  
6 the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

7 (2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the  
8 Committee on Financial Services, and the Com-  
9 mittee on Appropriations of the House of Represent-  
10 atives.

11 **SEC. 4. OBJECTIVES.**

12 The objectives of the Review are as follows:

13 (1) Provide a tool to guide the United States  
14 Government’s decision making and prioritization  
15 with regard to funding multilateral entities and to  
16 provide a methodological basis for allocating scarce  
17 budgetary resources to entities that advance relevant  
18 United States foreign policy objectives.

19 (2) Incentivize improvements in the perform-  
20 ance of multilateral entities to achieve better out-  
21 comes on the ground in developing, fragile, and cri-  
22 sis-afflicted regions.

23 (3) Protect United States taxpayer investments  
24 in foreign assistance by improving transparency with  
25 regard to the funding of multilateral entities.

1 **SEC. 5. SCOPE.**

2 The Review shall include in its assessment multilat-  
3 eral entities to which the United States Government con-  
4 tributes voluntary or assessed funding, whether cash or  
5 in-kind, including the following entities:

6 (1) The World Bank Group, including the  
7 International Bank for Reconstruction and Develop-  
8 ment, the International Development Association,  
9 and the International Finance Corporation.

10 (2) The regional development banks, including  
11 the Asian Development Bank, the African Develop-  
12 ment Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank,  
13 the European Bank for Reconstruction and Develop-  
14 ment, and the North American Development Bank.

15 (3) Climate Investment Funds.

16 (4) The Food and Agriculture Organization.

17 (5) Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

18 (6) The Global Environment Facility.

19 (7) The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuber-  
20 culosis and Malaria.

21 (8) The Great Lakes Fishery Commission.

22 (9) The Green Climate Fund.

23 (10) The Inter-American Institute for Coopera-  
24 tion for Agriculture.

25 (11) The International Civil Aviation Organiza-  
26 tion.

1           (12) The International Committee of the Red  
2 Cross.

3           (13) The International Fund for Agricultural  
4 Development.

5           (14) The International Labour Organization.

6           (15) The International Organization for Migra-  
7 tion.

8           (16) The International Telecommunication  
9 Union.

10          (17) The Joint UN Program on HIV/AIDS.

11          (18) The Multilateral Fund for the Implemen-  
12 tation of the Montreal Protocol.

13          (19) The Office of the United Nations High  
14 Commissioner for Human Rights.

15          (20) The Office of the United Nations High  
16 Commissioner for Refugees.

17          (21) The Organisation for Economic Co-oper-  
18 ation and Development.

19          (22) The Organization of American States.

20          (23) The Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency.

21          (24) The Pan American Health Organization.

22          (25) The United Nations Children's Fund.

23          (26) The United Nations Department of Eco-  
24 nomic and Social Affairs.

1           (27) The United Nations Development Pro-  
2           gramme.

3           (28) The United Nations Entity for Gender  
4           Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

5           (29) The United Nations Environment Pro-  
6           gramme.

7           (30) The United Nations Framework Conven-  
8           tion on Climate Change.

9           (31) The United Nations Office for Project  
10          Services.

11          (32) The United Nations Office for the Coordi-  
12          nation of Humanitarian Affairs.

13          (33) The United Nations Office on Drugs and  
14          Crime.

15          (34) The United Nations Population Fund.

16          (35) The United Nations Relief and Works  
17          Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

18          (36) The United Nations Voluntary Fund for  
19          Victims of Torture.

20          (37) The World Food Program.

21          (38) The World Health Organization.

22          (39) The World Meteorological Organization.

23 **SEC. 6. TRIENNIAL REPORT ON REVIEW.**

24          (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than twenty-one months  
25 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every

1 three years thereafter, the United States Multilateral Aid  
2 Review Task Force established under section 7, in regular  
3 consultation with the Peer Review Group established  
4 under section 8, shall submit to the appropriate congress-  
5 sional committees a final report on the findings of the Re-  
6 view. The Secretary of State shall publish the report on  
7 the Internet website of the Department of State within  
8 seven days of submitting the report to the appropriate  
9 congressional committees.

10 (b) METHODOLOGY.—

11 (1) USE OF CRITERIA.—The Task Force shall  
12 establish an analytical framework and assessment  
13 scorecard for the Review using the criteria set forth  
14 in subsection (c).

15 (2) CONSULTATION WITH CONGRESS.—Not  
16 later than 120 days after the date of the enactment  
17 of this Act, the Task Force shall submit the method-  
18 ology for the initial Review to the appropriate con-  
19 gressional committees. The Task Force may not pro-  
20 ceed with the Review until 30 days after submission  
21 of the methodology to the appropriate congressional  
22 committees, taking into consideration the views of  
23 the Chairmen and Ranking Members of each of the  
24 appropriate congressional committees. For each sub-  
25 sequent Review, the Task Force shall consult with

1 the Chairmen and Ranking Members of each of the  
2 appropriate congressional committees regarding any  
3 changes to the methodology.

4 (c) ASSESSMENT CRITERIA.—The assessment score-  
5 card shall include the following criteria:

6 (1) RELATIONSHIP OF STATED GOALS TO AC-  
7 TUAL RESULTS.—The extent to which the stated  
8 mission, goals, and objectives of the entity have been  
9 achieved during the review period, including—

10 (A) an identification of the stated mission,  
11 goals, and objectives of each entity;

12 (B) an evaluation of the major projects  
13 and programs selected for implementation by  
14 the entity in comparison with the stated mis-  
15 sion, goals, and objectives of the entity;

16 (C) an evaluation of whether the major  
17 projects and programs selected by the entity  
18 within the given review period were more likely  
19 than not to further the achievement of the stat-  
20 ed mission, goals, and objectives of the entity;

21 (D) an evaluation of the extent to which  
22 the major selected projects and programs met  
23 their own stated implementation timelines and  
24 achieved declared results; and

1 (E) an evaluation of whether the entity op-  
2 timizes resources to achieve the stated mission,  
3 goals, and objectives of the entity.

4 (2) RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT.—The extent  
5 to which management of the entity follows best man-  
6 agement practices, including—

7 (A) an evaluation of the ratio of manage-  
8 ment and administrative expenses to program  
9 expenses, including an evaluation of entity re-  
10 sources spent on nonprogrammatic expenses;

11 (B) an evaluation of program expense  
12 growth, including a comparison of the annual  
13 growth of program expenses to the annual  
14 growth of management and administrative ex-  
15 penses; and

16 (C) an evaluation of whether the entity has  
17 established appropriate levels of senior manage-  
18 ment compensation.

19 (3) ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY.—  
20 The extent to which the policies and procedures of  
21 the entity follow best practices of accountability and  
22 transparency, taking into consideration credible re-  
23 porting regarding unauthorized conversion or diver-  
24 sion of entity resources, and including—



1 (A) an evaluation of whether the entity has  
2 established and enforced appropriate auditing  
3 procedures;

4 (B) an evaluation of the whether the entity  
5 has established and enforced appropriate rules  
6 to reduce the risk of conflicts of interest among  
7 the senior leadership of the entity;

8 (C) an evaluation of whether the entity has  
9 established and enforced appropriate whistle-  
10 blower policies;

11 (D) an evaluation of whether the entity  
12 has established and maintained appropriate  
13 records retention policies and guidelines;

14 (E) an evaluation of whether the entity has  
15 established and maintained best practices with  
16 respect to transparency and public disclosure;  
17 and

18 (F) an evaluation of whether the entity has  
19 established and maintained best practices with  
20 respect to disclosure of the compensation of  
21 senior leadership officials.

22 (4) ALIGNMENT WITH UNITED STATES FOREIGN  
23 POLICY OBJECTIVES.—The extent to which the poli-  
24 cies and practices of the entity align with relevant  
25 United States foreign policy objectives, including—

1 (A) an evaluation of the entity's stated  
2 mission, goals, and objectives in comparison to  
3 relevant United States foreign policy objectives;

4 (B) an evaluation of whether continued  
5 participation by the United States in the entity  
6 contributes a net benefit towards achieving rel-  
7 evant United States foreign policy objectives,  
8 including the reasons for the conclusion; and

9 (C) an evaluation of any divergence be-  
10 tween the actions of the entity and relevant  
11 United States foreign policy objectives.

12 (5) MULTILATERAL APPROACH COMPARED TO  
13 BILATERAL APPROACH.—The extent to which pur-  
14 suing relevant United States foreign policy objectives  
15 through a multilateral approach is effective and cost-  
16 efficient compared to a bilateral approach, includ-  
17 ing—

18 (A) an evaluation of whether relevant  
19 United States foreign policy objectives are effec-  
20 tively pursued through the entity, compared to  
21 existing or potential bilateral approaches; and

22 (B) an evaluation of whether relevant  
23 United States foreign policy objectives are pur-  
24 sued on a cost-effective basis through the enti-

1           ty, compared to existing or potential bilateral  
2           approaches.

3           (6) REDUNDANCIES AND OVERLAP.—The extent  
4           to which the mission, goals, and objectives of the en-  
5           tity overlap with the mission, goals, and objectives of  
6           other multilateral institutions to which United  
7           States Government entities contribute voluntary or  
8           assessed funding, whether cash or in-kind, includ-  
9           ing—

10                   (A) an identification of significant  
11                   redundancies or overlap with the mission, goals,  
12                   and objectives of other multilateral entities to  
13                   which United States Government entities con-  
14                   tribute voluntary or assessed funding, whether  
15                   cash or in-kind; and

16                   (B) a comparison of the extent to which  
17                   relevant United States foreign policy objectives  
18                   are effectively pursued on a cost-effective basis  
19                   through each of the overlapping entities.

20 **SEC. 7. UNITED STATES MULTILATERAL REVIEW TASK**  
21 **FORCE.**

22           (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President shall establish  
23 an interagency Multilateral Review Task Force (referred  
24 to in this Act as the “Task Force”) to review and assess  
25 United States participation in multilateral entities identi-

1 fied in section 5 and to develop and transmit to the appro-  
2 priate congressional committees the reports required  
3 under section 6.

4 (b) LEADERSHIP.—The Task Force shall be chaired  
5 by the Secretary of State. The Secretary may delegate his  
6 or her responsibilities under this Act to an appropriate  
7 senior Senate-confirmed official.

8 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—The President may appoint to  
9 the interagency Task Force senior Senate-confirmed offi-  
10 cials from the Department of State, the Department of  
11 the Treasury, the United States Agency for International  
12 Development, the Office of Management and Budget, and  
13 any other relevant executive branch department or agency.

14 (d) CONSULTATION.—In the preparation of each re-  
15 port under section 6, including the initial review of meth-  
16 odology, the Task Force shall consult regularly with the  
17 Peer Review Group established under section 8.

18 **SEC. 8. UNITED STATES MULTILATERAL AID REVIEW PEER**

19 **REVIEW GROUP.**

20 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the  
21 United States Multilateral Aid Review Peer Review Group  
22 (referred to in this Act as the “Peer Review Group”).

23 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

1           (1) COMPOSITION.—The Peer Review Group  
2 shall be composed of 8 nongovernmental volunteer  
3 members, of whom—

4           (A) 2 shall be appointed by the majority  
5 leader of the Senate;

6           (B) 2 shall be appointed by the minority  
7 leader of the Senate;

8           (C) 2 shall be appointed by the Speaker of  
9 the House of Representatives; and

10          (D) 2 shall be appointed by the minority  
11 leader of the House of Representatives.

12          (2) APPOINTMENT CRITERIA.—The members of  
13 the Peer Review Group shall have appropriate exper-  
14 tise and knowledge of the multilateral entities sub-  
15 ject to the Review established by this Act. In making  
16 appointments to the Peer Review Group, potential  
17 conflicts of interest should be taken into account.

18          (3) DATE.—The initial appointments of the  
19 members of the Peer Review Group shall be made  
20 not later than 100 days after the date of the enact-  
21 ment of this Act, and the terms of such appoint-  
22 ments shall begin on that date.

23          (4) CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN.—The Peer  
24 Review Group shall select a Chairman and Vice

1 Chairman from among the members of the Peer Re-  
2 view Group.

3 (c) EXPERT ANALYSIS.—The Peer Review Group  
4 shall meet regularly with the Task Force, including re-  
5 garding the initial review of methodology, to offer their  
6 expertise of the funding and performance of multilateral  
7 entities.

8 (d) REVIEW OF REPORT.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days be-  
10 fore submitting each report required under section  
11 6(a), the Task Force shall transmit a draft of the  
12 report to the Peer Review Group and the appro-  
13 priate congressional committees.

14 (2) REVIEW.—The Peer Review Group shall re-  
15 view the draft report submitted under paragraph (1)  
16 and provide to the Task Force and the appropriate  
17 congressional committees not later than 90 days be-  
18 fore the submission of each report required under  
19 section 6(a) the following:

20 (A) An analysis of the conclusions of the  
21 report.

22 (B) An analysis of the established meth-  
23 odologies used to reach conclusions in the re-  
24 port.

1 (C) An analysis of the evidence used to  
2 reach conclusions in the report.

3 (D) Any additional comments to improve  
4 the evaluations and analysis of the report.

5 (e) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT; VACANCIES.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each member of the Peer  
7 Review Group shall be appointed for a 6-year term  
8 and may be reappointed under subsection (b)(1) for  
9 one additional term.

10 (2) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the Peer Re-  
11 view Group—

12 (A) shall not affect the powers of the Peer  
13 Review Group; and

14 (B) shall be filled in the same manner as  
15 the original appointment.

16 (f) MEETINGS.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Peer Review Group  
18 shall meet at the call of the Chairman.

19 (2) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 120  
20 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
21 Peer Review Group shall hold its first meeting.

22 (3) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of  
23 the Peer Group shall constitute a quorum, but a  
24 lesser number of members may hold meetings.

1 **SEC. 9. TERMINATION OF AUTHORITIES.**

2       The authorities and requirements provided under this  
3 Act shall terminate 11 years after the date of the enact-  
4 ment of this Act.

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