

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 117

To establish an Intercountry Adoption Advisory Committee, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 28, 2021

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. CASEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To establish an Intercountry Adoption Advisory Committee,
and for other purposes.

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 “Intercountry Adoption
5 Advisory Committee Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State shall
8 establish within the Bureau of Consular Affairs an inter-
9 country adoption advisory committee (the “Advisory Com-
10 mittee”).

1 (b) DUTIES.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall
3 consult the Advisory Committee, as appropriate, on
4 intercountry adoption, including on the development,
5 refinement, and implementation of policies and pro-
6 grams pertaining to intercountry adoption.

7 (2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Advisory Com-
8 mittee shall develop, at the request of the Secretary,
9 recommendations for improvements to intercountry
10 adoption.

11 (3) PERIODIC REPORTS.—The Advisory Com-
12 mittee shall periodically submit to the Secretary of
13 State—

14 (A) reports on matters identified by the
15 Secretary; and

16 (B) reports on other matters identified by
17 a majority of the members of the Advisory
18 Committee.

19 (4) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Advisory Com-
20 mittee shall submit to the Secretary of State an an-
21 nual report providing information on the activities,
22 findings, and recommendations of the Advisory Com-
23 mittee for the preceding year. Not later than 180
24 days after the date that the Secretary receives the
25 annual report, the Secretary shall publish a public

1 version describing the Advisory Committee's activi-
2 ties and such related matters as would be inform-
3 ative to the public consistent with the policy of sec-
4 tion 552(b) of title 5, United States Code. The re-
5 port required under this paragraph may be sub-
6 mitted as part of the Department of State's annual
7 adoption report.

8 (5) FEEDBACK.—Not later than 90 days after
9 receiving recommendations transmitted by the Advi-
10 sory Committee under paragraph (4), the Secretary
11 of State shall respond in writing to the Advisory
12 Committee with feedback on each of the rec-
13 ommendations, an action plan to implement any of
14 the recommendations with which the Secretary con-
15 curs, and a justification for why any of the rec-
16 ommendations have been rejected.

17 (6) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Not later
18 than 30 days after providing written feedback to the
19 Advisory Committee under paragraph (5), the Sec-
20 retary of State shall notify Congress of the feedback.

21 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—Not later than 180 days after es-
22 tablishing the Advisory Committee under subsection (a),
23 the Secretary of State shall appoint the members of the
24 Advisory Committee. The members so appointed shall in-
25 clude groups representing adoption service providers,

1 adoptive families, adoptees, adoption attorneys, social
2 workers, and representatives of U.S. Citizen and Immigra-
3 tion Services (USCIS) and the Department of State.
4 Members shall be appointed or reappointed by the Sec-
5 retary every two years.

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