

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2571

To amend the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 to authorize concurrent compacts for purposes of regional economic integration and cross-border collaborations, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 2015

Ms. BASS (for herself, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. CRENSHAW, and Mr. SMITH of Washington) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 to authorize concurrent compacts for purposes of regional economic integration and cross-border collaborations, 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 “Millennium Compacts  
5 for Regional Economic Integration Act” or “M-CORE  
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

2 This purpose of this Act is to expand the Millennium  
3 Challenge Corporation’s ability to develop compacts with  
4 countries, particularly in Africa, that promote regional  
5 economic integration and cross-border collaborations.

6 **SEC. 3. CANDIDATE COUNTRIES.**

7 (a) **LOW INCOME COUNTRIES.**—Section 606(a) of the  
8 Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7705(a))  
9 is amended—

10 (1) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “(3)” and  
11 inserting “(4)”;

12 (2) in paragraph (2)—

13 (A) in the heading, by striking “FISCAL  
14 YEAR 2005 AND SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS”  
15 and inserting “FISCAL YEARS 2005 THROUGH  
16 2012”; and

17 (B) by striking “fiscal year 2005 or a sub-  
18 sequent fiscal year” and inserting “fiscal years  
19 2005 through 2012”;

20 (3) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-  
21 graph (4); and

22 (4) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
23 lowing:

24 “(3) **FISCAL YEAR 2013 AND SUBSEQUENT FIS-**  
25 **CAL YEARS.**—A country shall be a candidate country  
26 for purposes of eligibility for assistance for fiscal

1 year 2013 or a subsequent fiscal year if the coun-  
2 try—

3 “(A) has a per capita income equal to or  
4 less than the lower middle income country  
5 threshold established by the International Bank  
6 for Reconstruction and Development for the fis-  
7 cal year;

8 “(B) is among the 75 countries identified  
9 by the International Bank for Reconstruction  
10 and Development as having the lowest per cap-  
11 ita income; and

12 “(C) meets the requirements of paragraph  
13 (1)(B).”.

14 (b) LOWER MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES.—Section  
15 606(b) of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 (22  
16 U.S.C. 7705(b)) is amended—

17 (1) in paragraph (1)—

18 (A) in the heading, by striking “IN GEN-  
19 ERAL” and inserting “FISCAL YEARS 2006  
20 THROUGH 2012”; and

21 (B) in the matter preceding subparagraph  
22 (A), by striking “fiscal year 2006 or a subse-  
23 quent fiscal year” and inserting “fiscal years  
24 2006 through 2012”;

1           (2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as para-  
2           graph (3); and

3           (3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-  
4           lowing:

5           “(2) FISCAL YEAR 2013 AND SUBSEQUENT FIS-  
6           CAL YEARS.—In addition to the countries described  
7           in subsection (a), a country shall be a candidate  
8           country for purposes of eligibility for assistance for  
9           fiscal year 2013 or a subsequent fiscal year if the  
10          country—

11                 “(A) has a per capita income equal to or  
12                 less than the lower middle income country  
13                 threshold established by the International Bank  
14                 for Reconstruction and Development for the fis-  
15                 cal year;

16                 “(B) is not among the 75 countries identi-  
17                 fied by the International Bank for Reconstruc-  
18                 tion and Development as having the lowest per  
19                 capita income; and

20                 “(C) meets the requirements of subsection  
21                 (a)(1)(B).”.

22          (c) RECLASSIFICATION.—Section 606 of the Millen-  
23          nium Challenge Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7705) is amend-  
24          ed—

1           (1) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-  
2           section (d); and

3           (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-  
4           lowing:

5           “(c) LIMITATIONS ON RECLASSIFICATION.—

6           “(1) FOR LOW INCOME COUNTRIES.—If the per  
7           capita income of a low income country that is a can-  
8           didate country under subsection (a) changes during  
9           the fiscal year for which the country is eligible to re-  
10          ceive assistance under this title such that the coun-  
11          try would be reclassified as a lower middle income  
12          country under subsection (b), the country shall be  
13          deemed to continue to meet the per capita income  
14          requirements under subsection (a) for such fiscal  
15          year and the two subsequent fiscal years.

16          “(2) FOR LOWER MIDDLE INCOME COUN-  
17          TRIES.—If the per capita income of a lower middle  
18          income country that is a candidate country under  
19          subsection (b) changes during the fiscal year for  
20          which the country is eligible to receive assistance  
21          under this title such that the country would be re-  
22          classified as a low income country under subsection  
23          (a), the country shall be deemed to continue to meet  
24          the per capita income requirements under subsection

1 (b) for such fiscal year and the two subsequent fiscal  
2 years.”.

3 **SEC. 4. MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE COMPACT.**

4 (a) CONCURRENT COMPACTS.—Section 609 of the  
5 Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7708) is  
6 amended—

7 (1) by striking the first sentence of subsection  
8 (k);

9 (2) by redesignating subsection (k) (as so  
10 amended) as subsection (l); and

11 (3) by inserting after subsection (j) the fol-  
12 lowing new subsection:

13 “(k) CONCURRENT COMPACTS.—An eligible country  
14 that has entered into and has in effect a Compact under  
15 this section may enter into and have in effect at the same  
16 time not more than one additional Compact in accordance  
17 with the requirements of this title if—

18 “(1) one or both of the Compacts are or will be  
19 for purposes of regional economic integration, in-  
20 creased regional trade, or cross-border collabora-  
21 tions; and

22 “(2) the Board determines that the country is  
23 making considerable and demonstrable progress in  
24 implementing the terms of the existing Compact and  
25 supplementary agreements thereto.”.

1 (b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by sub-  
2 section (a) apply with respect to Compacts entered into  
3 between the United States and an eligible country under  
4 the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 before, on, or after  
5 the date of the enactment of this Act.

6 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section  
7 613(b)(2)(A) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 7712(b)(2)(A)) is  
8 amended by striking “the” before “Compact” and insert-  
9 ing “any”.

10 **SEC. 5. CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC NOTIFICATION.**

11 Section 610 of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003  
12 (22 U.S.C. 7709) is amended to read as follows:

13 **“SEC. 610. CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC NOTIFICATION.**

14 **“(a) CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS AND NOTIFI-**  
15 **CATIONS.—**

16 **“(1) IN GENERAL.—**The Board, acting through  
17 the Chief Executive Officer, shall consult with and  
18 notify the appropriate congressional committees not  
19 later than 15 days prior to taking any of the actions  
20 described in paragraph (2).

21 **“(2) ACTIONS DESCRIBED.—**The actions de-  
22 scribed in this paragraph are the following:

23 **“(A) Providing assistance for an eligible**  
24 **country under section 609(g).**

1           “(B) Commencing negotiations with an eli-  
2           gible country to provide assistance for—

3                   “(i) a Compact under section 605; or

4                   “(ii) an agreement under section 616.

5           “(C) Signing such a Compact or agree-  
6           ment.

7           “(D) Terminating assistance under such a  
8           Compact or agreement.

9           “(3) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT.—Any notifi-  
10          cation relating to the intent to negotiate and intent  
11          to sign a Compact or agreement shall include the  
12          projected economic rate of return for each project to  
13          be funded under such a Compact or agreement to  
14          the extent practicable and appropriate.

15          “(b) CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC NOTIFICATION  
16          AFTER ENTERING INTO A COMPACT.—Not later than 10  
17          days after entering into a Compact with an eligible coun-  
18          try, the Board, acting through the Chief Executive Officer,  
19          shall—

20                   “(1) publish a copy of the text of the Compact  
21                   on the Internet website of the Corporation;

22                   “(2) provide a detailed summary and, upon re-  
23                   quest, copy of the text of the Compact to the appro-  
24                   priate congressional committees; and

1           “(3) publish in the Federal Register a detailed  
2           summary and notice of availability of the text of the  
3           Compact on the Internet website of the Corpora-  
4           tion.”.

5 **SEC. 6. DISCLOSURE.**

6           (a) **REQUIREMENT FOR TIMELY DISCLOSURE.**—Sec-  
7           tion 612(a) of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 (22  
8           U.S.C. 7711(a)) is amended—

9                   (1) in the subsection heading, by inserting  
10           “TIMELY” before “DISCLOSURE”; and

11                   (2) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

12                           (A) by striking “The Corporation” and in-  
13                           serting “Not later than 90 days after the last  
14                           day of each fiscal quarter, the Corporation”;  
15                           and

16                           (B) by striking “on at least a quarterly  
17                           basis,”.

18           (b) **DISSEMINATION.**—Section 612 of the Millennium  
19           Challenge Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7711) is amended by  
20           striking (b) and inserting the following:

21           “(b) **DISSEMINATION.**—The Board, acting through  
22           the Chief Executive Officer, shall make the information  
23           required to be disclosed under subsection (a) available to  
24           the public by publishing it on the Internet website of the  
25           Corporation, providing notice of the availability of such

1 information in the Federal Register, and by any other  
2 methods that the Board determines to be appropriate.”.

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