

118TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 533

AN ACT

To amend the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 to modify certain provisions of that Act.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Promoting a Resolu-
3 tion to the Tibet-China Dispute Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) It has been the long-standing policy of the
7 United States to encourage meaningful and direct
8 dialogue between representatives of the People’s Re-
9 public of China and the Dalai Lama, his or her rep-
10 resentatives, or democratically elected leaders of the
11 Tibetan community, without preconditions, to seek a
12 settlement that resolves differences.

13 (2) Nine rounds of dialogue held between 2002
14 and 2010 between the People’s Republic of China
15 authorities and the 14th Dalai Lama’s representa-
16 tives failed to produce a settlement that resolved dif-
17 ferences, and the two sides have held no formal dia-
18 logue since January 2010.

19 (3) An obstacle to further dialogue is that the
20 Government of the People’s Republic of China con-
21 tinues to impose conditions on substantive dialogue
22 with the Dalai Lama, including a demand that he
23 say that Tibet has been part of China since ancient
24 times, which the Dalai Lama has refused to do be-
25 cause it is inaccurate.

1 (4) Article 1 of the International Covenant on
2 Civil and Political Rights and Article 1 of the Inter-
3 national Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural
4 Rights provide that “All peoples have the right of
5 self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely
6 determine their political status and freely pursue
7 their economic, social and cultural development.”.

8 (5) The United States Government has never
9 taken the position that Tibet was a part of China
10 since ancient times.

11 (6) China signed the International Covenant on
12 Civil and Political Rights on October 5, 1998, and
13 ratified the International Covenant on Economic,
14 Social and Cultural Rights on March 27, 2001.

15 (7) Under international law, including United
16 Nations General Assembly Resolution 2625, the
17 right to self-determination is the right of a people to
18 determine its own destiny and the exercise of this
19 right can result in a variety of outcomes ranging
20 from independence, federation, protection, some
21 form of autonomy or full integration within a State.

22 (8) United Nations General Assembly Resolu-
23 tion 1723, adopted on December 20, 1961, called for
24 the “cessation of practices which deprive the Tibetan

1 people of their fundamental human rights and free-
2 doms, including their right to self-determination.”.

3 (9) Secretary of State Antony Blinken, in a
4 May 26, 2022, speech entitled “The Administra-
5 tion’s Approach to the People’s Republic of China,”
6 said that the rules-based international order’s
7 “founding documents include the UN Charter and
8 the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which
9 enshrined concepts like self-determination, sov-
10 ereignty, the peaceful settlement of disputes. These
11 are not Western constructs. They are reflections of
12 the world’s shared aspirations.”.

13 (10) The Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22
14 U.S.C. 6901 note), as amended by the Tibetan Pol-
15 icy and Support Act of 2020, in directing the United
16 States Government “to promote the human rights
17 and distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and histor-
18 ical identity of the Tibetan people” acknowledges
19 that the Tibetan people possess a distinct religious,
20 cultural, linguistic, and historical identity.

21 (11) Department of State reports on human
22 rights and religious freedom have consistently docu-
23 mented systematic repression by the authorities of
24 the People’s Republic of China against Tibetans as
25 well as acts of defiance and resistance by Tibetan

1 people against the People’s Republic of China poli-
2 cies.

3 (12) The Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22
4 U.S.C. 6901 note), as amended by the Tibetan Pol-
5 icy and Support Act of 2020, specifies that the cen-
6 tral objective of the United States Special Coordi-
7 nator for Tibetan Issues is to promote substantive
8 dialogue between the Government of the People’s
9 Republic of China and the Dalai Lama, his or her
10 representatives, or democratically elected leaders of
11 the Tibetan community.

12 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

13 It is the policy of the United States—

14 (1) that the Tibetan people are a people with a
15 distinct religious, cultural, linguistic and historical
16 identity;

17 (2) that the dispute between Tibet and the Peo-
18 ple’s Republic of China must be resolved in accord-
19 ance with international law, including the United
20 Nations Charter, by peaceful means, through dia-
21 logue without preconditions;

22 (3) that the People’s Republic of China should
23 cease its propagation of disinformation about the
24 history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan in-
25 stitutions, including that of the Dalai Lama;

1 (4) to encourage the People’s Republic of China
2 to uphold all its obligations under the International
3 Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the
4 International Covenant on Economic, Social, and
5 Cultural Rights; and

6 (5) in accordance with the Tibetan Policy and
7 Support Act of 2020—

8 (A) to promote substantive dialogue with-
9 out pre-conditions, between the Government of
10 the People’s Republic of China and the Dalai
11 Lama, his or her representatives, or democrat-
12 ically elected leaders of the Tibetan community,
13 or explore activities to improve prospects for
14 dialogue, that leads to a negotiated agreement
15 on Tibet;

16 (B) to coordinate with other governments
17 in multilateral efforts towards the goal of a ne-
18 gotiated agreement on Tibet; and

19 (C) to encourage the Government of the
20 People’s Republic of China to address the aspi-
21 rations of the Tibetan people with regard to
22 their distinct historical, cultural, religious, and
23 linguistic identity.

24 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

25 It is the sense of Congress that—

1 (1) claims made by officials of the People’s Re-
2 public of China and the Chinese Communist Party
3 that Tibet has been a part of China since ancient
4 times are historically inaccurate;

5 (2) the current policies of the People’s Republic
6 of China are systematically suppressing the ability of
7 the Tibetan people to preserve their religion, culture,
8 language, history, way of life and environment;

9 (3) the Government of the People’s Republic of
10 China is failing to meet the expectations of the
11 United States to engage in meaningful dialogue with
12 the Dalai Lama or his representatives or to reach a
13 negotiated resolution that includes the aspirations of
14 the Tibetan people; and

15 (4) United States public diplomacy efforts
16 should counter disinformation about Tibet from the
17 Government of the People’s Republic of China and
18 the Chinese Communist Party, including
19 disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Ti-
20 betan people, and Tibetan institutions including that
21 of the Dalai Lama.

1 **SEC. 5. MODIFICATIONS TO THE TIBETAN POLICY ACT OF**
2 **2002.**

3 (a) TIBET NEGOTIATIONS.—Section 613(b) of the
4 Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) is
5 amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the
7 end;

8 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at
9 the end and inserting “; and”; and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(4) efforts to counter disinformation about
12 Tibet from the Government of the People’s Republic
13 of China and the Chinese Communist Party, includ-
14 ing disinformation about the history of Tibet, the
15 Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions including
16 that of the Dalai Lama.”.

17 (b) UNITED STATES SPECIAL COORDINATOR FOR TI-
18 BETAN ISSUES.—Section 621(d) of the Tibetan Policy Act
19 of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) is amended—

20 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (6), (7), and
21 (8) as paragraphs (7), (8), and (9), respectively; and

22 (2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the fol-
23 lowing:

24 “(6) work with relevant bureaus of the Depart-
25 ment of State and the United States Agency for
26 International Development to ensure that United

1 States Government statements and documents
2 counter, as appropriate, disinformation about Tibet
3 from the Government of the People’s Republic of
4 China and the Chinese Communist Party, including
5 disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Ti-
6 betan people, and Tibetan institutions including that
7 of the Dalai Lama;”.

8 (c) DEFINITION.—The Tibetan Policy Act of 2002
9 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) is amended by adding at the end
10 the following:

11 **“SEC. 622. DEFINITION.**

12 “For purposes of this Act, the term ‘Tibet’ refers to
13 the following areas:

14 “(1) The Tibet Autonomous Region.

15 “(2) The areas that the Government of the Peo-
16 ple’s Republic of China designated as Tibetan Au-
17 tonomous, as of 2018, as follows:

18 “(A) Kanlho (Gannan) Tibetan Autono-
19 mous Prefecture, and Pari (Tianzhu) Tibetan
20 Autonomous County located in Gansu Province.

21 “(B) Golog (Guoluo) Tibetan Autonomous
22 Prefecture, Malho (Huangnan) Tibetan Autono-
23 mous Prefecture, Tsojang (Haibei) Tibetan Au-
24 tonomous Prefecture, Tsolho (Hainan) Tibetan
25 Autonomous Prefecture, Tsonub (Haixi) Mon-

1 golian and Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, and
2 Yulshul (Yushu) Tibetan Autonomous Prefec-
3 ture, located in Qinghai Province.

4 “(C) Garze (Ganzi) Tibetan Autonomous
5 Prefecture, Ngawa (Aba) Tibetan and Qiang
6 Autonomous Prefecture, and Muli (Mili) Ti-
7 betan Autonomous County, located in Sichuan
8 Province.

9 “(D) Dechen (Diqing) Tibetan Autono-
10 mous Prefecture, located in Yunnan Province.”.

11 **SEC. 6. AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS TO COUNTER**
12 **DISINFORMATION ABOUT TIBET.**

13 Amounts authorized to be appropriated or otherwise
14 made available under section 346 of subtitle E of title III
15 of division FF of Public Law 116–260 (“Tibetan Policy
16 and Support Act of 2020”) are authorized to be made
17 available to counter disinformation about Tibet from the
18 Government of the People’s Republic of China and the
19 Chinese Communist Party, including disinformation about

1 the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan insti-
2 tutions including that of the Dalai Lama.

Passed the House of Representatives February 15,
2024.

Attest:

Clerk.

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To amend the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 to modify certain provisions of that Act.