

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6985

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

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2018

Mr. CURTIS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## 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 of 2018”.

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

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State may  
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.—If the Advisory Committee is  
3 established under subsection (a), the Secretary of  
4 State shall consult the Advisory Committee, as ap-  
5 propriate, on intercountry adoption, including on the  
6 development, refinement, and implementation of  
7 policies and programs pertaining to intercountry  
8 adoption.

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

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

16 (A) reports on matters identified by the  
17 Secretary; and

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

21 (4) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Advisory Com-  
22 mittee shall submit to the Secretary of State an an-  
23 nual report providing information on the activities,  
24 findings, and recommendations of the Advisory Com-  
25 mittee for the preceding year. Not later than 180

1 days after the date that the Secretary receives the  
2 annual report, the Secretary shall publish a public  
3 version describing the Advisory Committee's activi-  
4 ties and such related matters as would be inform-  
5 ative to the public consistent with the policy of sec-  
6 tion 552(b) of title 5, United States Code.

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

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

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

1 workers, and representatives of U.S. Citizen and Immigra-  
2 tion Services (USCIS) and the Department of State.

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