

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO S. 793
OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE OF CALIFORNIA

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Organization of Amer-
3 ican States Revitalization and Reform Act of 2013”.

4 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

5 Congress makes the following findings:

6 (1) The Charter of the Organization of Amer-
7 ican States recognizes that—

8 (A) representative democracy is indispen-
9 sable for the stability, peace, and development
10 of the Western Hemisphere; and

11 (B) a purpose of the Organization of
12 American States is to promote and consolidate
13 representative democracy, with due respect for
14 the principle of nonintervention.

15 (2) The United States supports the purposes
16 and principles enshrined in—

17 (A) the Charter of the Organization of
18 American States;

1 (B) the Inter-American Democratic Char-
2 ter; and

3 (C) the American Declaration on the
4 Rights and Duties of Man.

5 (3) The United States supports the Organiza-
6 tion of American States in its efforts with all mem-
7 ber states to meet our commitments under the in-
8 struments set forth in paragraph (2).

9 (4) Congress supports the Organization of
10 American States as it operates in a manner con-
11 sistent with the Inter-American Democratic Charter.

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

13 It is the policy of the United States—

14 (1) to promote democracy and the rule of law
15 throughout the Western Hemisphere;

16 (2) to promote and protect human rights and
17 fundamental freedoms in the Western Hemisphere;
18 and

19 (3) to support the practices, purposes, and prin-
20 ciples expressed in the Charter of the Organization
21 of American States, the American Declaration on
22 the Rights and Duties of Man, the Inter-American
23 Democratic Charter, and other fundamental instru-
24 ments of democracy.

1 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

2 It is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) the Organization of American States (OAS)
4 should be the primary multi-lateral diplomatic entity
5 for regional dispute resolution and promotion of
6 democratic governance and institutions;

7 (2) the OAS is a valuable platform from which
8 to launch initiatives aimed to benefit the countries
9 of the Western Hemisphere;

10 (3) the Summit of the Americas institution and
11 process embodies a valuable complement to regional
12 dialogue and cooperation;

13 (4) the Summit of the Americas process should
14 be formally and more effectively integrated into the
15 work of the OAS, the Inter-American Development
16 Bank, and other Members of the Joint Summit
17 Working Group, and the OAS should play a central
18 role in overseeing and managing the Summit proc-
19 ess;

20 (5) the OAS General Assembly and the Summit
21 of the Americas events should be combined geo-
22 graphically and chronologically in the years in which
23 they coincide;

24 (6) the OAS has historically accepted too many
25 mandates from its member states, resulting in both
26 lack of clarity on priorities and loss of institutional

1 focus, which in turn has reduced the effectiveness of
2 the organization;

3 (7) to ensure an appropriate balance of prior-
4 ities, the OAS should review its core functions no
5 less than annually and seek opportunities to reduce
6 the number of mandates not directly related to its
7 core functions;

8 (8) key OAS strengths lie in strengthening
9 peace and security, promoting and consolidating rep-
10 resentative democracy, regional dispute resolution,
11 election assistance and monitoring, fostering eco-
12 nomic growth and development cooperation, facili-
13 tating trade, combating illicit drug trafficking and
14 transnational crime, and support for the Inter-Amer-
15 ican Human Rights System;

16 (9) the core competencies referred to in para-
17 graph (8) should remain central to the strategic
18 planning process of the OAS and the consideration
19 of future mandates;

20 (10) any new OAS mandates should be accept-
21 ed by the member states only after an analysis is
22 conducted and formally presented consisting of a
23 calculation of the financial costs associated with the
24 mandate, an assessment of the comparative advan-
25 tage of the OAS in the implementation of the man-

1 date, and a description of the ways in which the
2 mandate advances the organization's core mission;

3 (11) any new mandates should include, in addi-
4 tion to the analysis described in paragraph (10), an
5 identification of the source of funding to be used to
6 implement the mandate;

7 (12) the OAS would benefit from enhanced co-
8 ordination between the OAS and the Inter-American
9 Development Bank on issues that relate to economic
10 development;

11 (13) the OAS would benefit from standard re-
12 porting requirements for each project and grant
13 agreement;

14 (14) the OAS would benefit from effective im-
15 plementation of—

16 (A) transparent and merit-based human
17 resource standards and processes; and

18 (B) transparent hiring, firing, and pro-
19 motion standards and processes, including with
20 respect to factors such as gender and national
21 origin; and

22 (15) it is in the interest of the United States,
23 OAS member states, and a modernized OAS to move
24 toward an assessed fee structure that assures the fi-
25 nancial sustainability of the organization and estab-

1 lishes, not later than five years after the date of the
2 enactment of this Act, that no member state pays
3 more than 50 percent of the organization's assessed
4 fees.

5 **SEC. 5. ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES REVITALIZA-**
6 **TION AND REFORM STRATEGY.**

7 (a) STRATEGY.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
9 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
10 retary of State shall submit to the Committee on
11 Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee
12 on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives
13 a multiyear strategy that—

14 (A) identifies a path toward the adoption
15 of necessary reforms that prioritize and rein-
16 force the OAS's core competencies described in
17 section 4(8);

18 (B) outlines an approach to secure from
19 the OAS effective adoption of—

20 (i) a results-based budgeting process
21 in order to strategically prioritize, and
22 where appropriate, reduce current and fu-
23 ture mandates; and

24 (ii) transparent hiring, firing, and
25 promotion practices;

1 (C) reflects the inputs and coordination
2 from other Executive Branch agencies, as ap-
3 propriate; and

4 (D) identifies a path toward the adoption
5 of necessary reforms that would—

6 (i) lead to an assessed fee structure in
7 which no member state would pay more
8 than 50 percent of the OAS's assessed
9 yearly fees; and

10 (ii) seek to minimize the negative fi-
11 nancial impact on the OAS and its oper-
12 ations.

13 (2) POLICY PRIORITIES AND COORDINATION.—

14 The Secretary of State shall—

15 (A) carry out diplomatic engagement to
16 build support for reforms and budgetary burden
17 sharing among OAS member states and observ-
18 ers;

19 (B) promote donor coordination among
20 OAS member states; and

21 (C) help set priorities for the OAS.

22 (b) BRIEFINGS.—The Secretary of State shall offer
23 to the committees referred to in subsection (a)(1) a quar-
24 terly briefing that—

1 (1) reviews assessed and voluntary contribu-
2 tions;

3 (2) analyzes the progress made by the OAS to
4 adopt and effectively implement a results-based
5 budgeting process in order to strategically prioritize,
6 and where appropriate, reduce current and future
7 mandates;

8 (3) analyzes the progress made by the OAS to
9 adopt and effectively implement transparent and
10 merit-based human resource standards and practices
11 and transparent hiring, firing, and promotion stand-
12 ards and processes, including with respect to factors
13 such as gender and national origin;

14 (4) analyzes the progress made by the OAS to
15 adopt and effectively implement a practice of solici-
16 tating member quotas to be paid on a schedule that
17 will improve the consistency of its operating budget;
18 and

19 (5) analyzes the progress made by the OAS to
20 review, streamline, and prioritize mandates to focus
21 on core missions and make efficient and effective use
22 of available funding.

