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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a notification of
certain construction projects using nonstandard designs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. ISSA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress
a notification of certain construction projects using non-
standard designs.

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. NOTIFICATION REQUIRED FOR NONSTANDARD**
4 **CONSTRUCTION.**

5 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
6 gress that the Bureau of Overseas Building Operations of
7 the Department of State, or any successor office, shall,
8 to the greatest extent possible, give appropriate consider-

1 ation to standardization in construction, such that each
2 new United States embassy and consulate starts with a
3 standard design and keeps customization to a minimum.

4 (b) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION REQUIRED.—

5 The Secretary of State may only carry out a covered
6 project that uses a nonstandard design if, not later than
7 15 days prior to the obligation of funds for such project,
8 the Secretary submits to the appropriate congressional
9 committees a notification of such project, including the
10 following information:

11 (1) A comparison of the estimated full lifecycle
12 cost of the project to the estimated full lifecycle cost
13 of such project if such project were constructed
14 using a standard design.

15 (2) A comparison of the estimated completion
16 date of such project to the estimated completion
17 date of such project if such project were constructed
18 using a standard design.

19 (3) A comparison of the security of the com-
20 pleted project to the security of such completed
21 project if such project were constructed using a
22 standard design.

23 (4) A justification for the Secretary's selection
24 of a nonstandard design over a standard design for
25 such project.

1 (5) Documentation to support the information
2 required in paragraphs (1) through (4) or, if any
3 such documentation cannot be provided, an expla-
4 nation as to why such documentation cannot be pro-
5 vided.

6 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
8 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
9 mittees” means—

10 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and
11 the Committee on Appropriations of the House
12 of Representatives; and

13 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations
14 and the Committee on Appropriations of the
15 Senate.

16 (2) COVERED PROJECT.—The term “covered
17 project”—

18 (A) means a project to construct a new
19 United States embassy compound or new
20 United States consulate compound; and

21 (B) includes such projects that are in the
22 design or pre-design phase on the date of the
23 enactment of this Act.