

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 9719
OFFERED BY MRS. KIM OF CALIFORNIA

At the end add the following:

1 SEC. 8. OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ECONOMIST.

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator is authorized
3 to establish within USAID an independent office to be
4 known as the Office of the Chief Economist (in this sub-
5 section referred to as the “Office”) that shall—

6 (1) use economic theory, evidence, and tools
7 with respect to USAID’s work across all sectors;

8 (2) serve as a principal advisor on issues re-
9 lated to the prioritization and expanded use of evi-
10 dence to improve the effectiveness and outcomes of
11 development and humanitarian assistance of the
12 United States, including related to policy, manage-
13 ment, and procurement; and

14 (3) carry out the duties described in subsection
15 (b); and

16 (4) report directly to the Administrator.

17 (b) DUTIES.—The duties of the Office shall include—

18 (1) increasing the use of economic theory, evi-
19 dence, and tools, including insights from behavioral

1 science, with respect to USAID's work across all
2 sectors—

3 (A) to improve the cost-effectiveness of
4 USAID programs; and

5 (B) to support USAID partner countries
6 in preventing and responding to macroeconomic
7 challenges;

8 (2) expanding the generation and use of rig-
9 orous evidence by USAID across USAID pro-
10 grams—

11 (A) to improve the impact and cost-effec-
12 tiveness of development and humanitarian as-
13 sistance of the United States; and

14 (B) to contribute to the creation of global
15 knowledge that other development and humani-
16 tarian actors can leverage to improve the effec-
17 tiveness and outcomes of their efforts;

18 (3) promoting the use of rigorous evidence to
19 inform and improve USAID programs;

20 (4) supporting USAID operating units in using
21 rigorous evidence to inform policy and program de-
22 sign and implementation;

23 (5) as appropriate, convening and coordinating
24 units, divisions, and programs focused on evidence to
25 ensure that knowledge of how to use and generate

1 rigorous evidence is shared and implemented across
2 USAID;

3 (6) providing input related to cost-effectiveness
4 and use and generation of rigorous evidence on
5 USAID policies and technical guidance; and

6 (7) any other duties, as determined by the Ad-
7 ministrator.

8 (c) BUREAU SENIOR ADVISORS.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may ap-
10 point in each bureau of USAID, from among officers
11 and employees of such bureau, a senior advisor with
12 respect to matters relating to evidence, to—

13 (A) serve as the principal advisor for such
14 bureau on such matters; and

15 (B) coordinate with the Office with respect
16 to the activities of such bureau on such mat-
17 ters.

18 (2) CONTINUATION OF SERVICE.—An individual
19 appointed to serve as a senior advisor pursuant to
20 paragraph (1) may continue to serve concurrently in
21 the individual's original position in such bureau.

22 (3) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING.—Funds made
23 available for the Office under this subsection may be
24 made available—

1 (A) for the purposes of chapter 1 of part
2 I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961(22
3 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.); and

4 (B) for administrative expenses.

5 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

6 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
7 trator” means the Administrator of USAID.

8 (2) COST-EFFECTIVE; COST-EFFECTIVENESS.—
9 The terms “cost-effective” and “cost-effectiveness”,
10 with respect to a process, technology, policy, or serv-
11 ice, means the process, technology, policy, or service
12 produces more impact, in terms of development or
13 humanitarian outcomes as established by rigorous
14 evidence, for the same cost or produces the same im-
15 pact, in terms of development or humanitarian out-
16 comes as established by rigorous evidence, for a
17 lower cost as compared to another process, tech-
18 nology, policy, or service.

19 (3) INNOVATION.—The term “innovation”
20 means the development and implementation of new
21 processes, technologies, policies, or services that are
22 designed to provide a greater impact or to be more
23 cost-effective than current practice.

24 (4) RIGOROUS EVIDENCE.—The term “rigorous
25 evidence” means evidence derived from impact eval-

1 uation methods that incorporate counterfactual anal-
2 ysis to establish attribution, such that the changes
3 observed are causally related to the intervention, in-
4 cluding impact evaluations methods such as random-
5 ized evaluations (also known as randomized con-
6 trolled trials).

7 (5) USAID.—The term “USAID” means the
8 United States Agency for International Develop-
9 ment.

10 (6) USAID OPERATING UNIT.—The term
11 “USAID operating unit” means a bureau, inde-
12 pendent office, mission, or representative office of
13 USAID.

