

119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 5244

To provide for the authorities of the Secretary of State.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

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

---

## A BILL

To provide for the authorities of the Secretary of State.

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. DEFINITIONS.**

4       In this Act—

5               (1) except as otherwise provided, the term “ap-  
6       appropriate congressional committees” means—

7               (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of  
8       the House of Representatives; and

9               (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations of  
10      the Senate;

11              (2) the term “Department” means the Depart-  
12      ment of State;

1           (3) the term “Deputy Secretary” means the  
2       Deputy Secretary of State; and

3           (4) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary  
4       of State.

5                           **TITLE I—GENERAL**  
6                           **ORGANIZATION**  
7       **Subtitle A—Office of the Secretary**

8       **SEC. 101. OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.**

9           The Secretary is authorized to establish in the Office  
10   of the Secretary of State of the Department positions to  
11   support the Secretary’s situational awareness and deci-  
12   sion-making in the management of the Department. Such  
13   positions may include the following:

14                   (1) Chief of Staff.

15                   (2) Counselor.

16                   (3) Executive Secretariat.

17                           **Subtitle B—United Nations**

18       **SEC. 111. UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED**  
19                           **NATIONS.**

20       (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

21                   (1) IN GENERAL.—The President, by and with  
22       the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint  
23       a representative of the United States to the United  
24       Nations who shall have the rank and status of Am-  
25       bassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and

1 shall hold office at the pleasure of the President.  
2 Such representative shall represent the United  
3 States in the Security Council of the United Nations  
4 and shall perform such other functions in connection  
5 with the participation of the United States in the  
6 United Nations as the President may, from time to  
7 time, direct.

8 (2) REPORTING AND COLLABORATION.—The  
9 United States Ambassador to the United Nations  
10 shall report to and collaborate closely with the Sec-  
11 retary of State through direction by the President to  
12 implement a coherent and unified strategic policy of  
13 the United States in the United Nations system.

14 (b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—In addition to the respon-  
15 sibilities described in subsection (a), the United States  
16 Ambassador to the United Nations shall maintain contin-  
17 uous observation and coordination of all matters per-  
18 taining to United States participation in the United Na-  
19 tions system in the conduct of foreign policy, including—

20 (1) to identify, report, and hold accountable  
21 Member States that engage in malign influence op-  
22 erations and United Nations employees who act in-  
23 consistently with the principals of impartiality en-  
24 shrined in the United Nations Charter;

1           (2) to oppose the election as the head of any  
2       United Nations entity of nationals from Member  
3       States that engage in malign influence operations;

4           (3) to support Taiwan's membership or mean-  
5       ingful participation, as appropriate, in relevant  
6       United Nations entities in which Taiwan has ex-  
7       pressed an interest in participating; and

8           (4) to support Presidential actions in response  
9       to malign influence operations.

10       (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

11           (1) the term “employee” means a staff member  
12       who is compensated in any form in the general serv-  
13       ices, professional staff, or senior management of the  
14       United Nations system, including a consultant, a  
15       contractor, or a subcontractor;

16           (2) the term “malign influence operations”  
17       means a coordinated, integrated, and synchronized  
18       application by a Member State of national diplo-  
19       matic, informational, military, economic, or other ca-  
20       pabilities, to foster attitudes, behaviors, or decisions  
21       by a United Nations entity, or within the United  
22       Nations system, that furthers the national interests  
23       and objectives of a Member State, in a manner in-  
24       consistent with the United Nations Charter;

1           (3) the term “Member State” means a country  
2           that is a Member State of the United Nations; and

3           (4) the term “United Nations entity” means—

4                   (A) the United Nations General Assembly;

5                   (B) the United Nations Economic and So-  
6           cial Council;

7                   (C) the United Nations Security Council;

8                   (D) the United Nations Secretariat;

9                   (E) an organization related to any of the  
10          entities referred to in subparagraphs (A)  
11          through (D);

12                   (F) a specialized agency; or

13                   (G) a subsidiary body.

14   **SEC. 112. UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NA-**  
15                   **TIONS.**

16          (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is authorized to be a  
17   United States Mission to the United Nations which shall  
18   be constituted by the United States Ambassador to the  
19   United Nations, and representatives to the principal or-  
20   gans and agencies of the United Nations appointed or des-  
21   ignated and included within the United States Mission to  
22   the United Nations as designated pursuant to subsection  
23   (b), together with their deputies, staffs, and offices.

24          (b) **REPRESENTATIVES.**—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—The President, by and with  
2           the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint  
3           additional persons with appropriate titles, rank, and  
4           status to represent the United States in the prin-  
5           cipal organs of the United Nations and in such or-  
6           gans, commissions, or other bodies as may be cre-  
7           ated by the United Nations with respect to nuclear  
8           energy or disarmament (control and limitation of ar-  
9           mament).

10          (2) TERMS AND OVERSIGHT.—Such persons—

11                 (A) shall serve at the pleasure of the Presi-  
12                 dent; and

13                 (B) are subject to the direction of the Rep-  
14                 resentative of the United States to the United  
15                 Nations.

16          (c) COORDINATION.—The United States Mission to  
17          the United Nations shall coordinate closely with the Bu-  
18          reau of International Organization Affairs of the Depart-  
19          ment and any bureau of the Department that provides  
20          funding for United Nations agencies, programs, or organi-  
21          zations at the Department and across the United States  
22          Government to implement a coherent and unified strategic  
23          policy of the United States in the United Nations system.

24          (d) ACTION BY REPRESENTATIVES VOTING IN AC-  
25          CORDANCE WITH PRESIDENTIAL INSTRUCTIONS.—The

1 representatives when representing the United States in the  
2 respective organs and agencies of the United Nations,  
3 shall, at all times, act in accordance with the instructions  
4 of the President transmitted by the Secretary of State un-  
5 less other means of transmission is directed by the Presi-  
6 dent, and such representatives shall, in accordance with  
7 such instructions, cast any and all votes under the Charter  
8 of the United Nations.

9 (e) CHIEF OF MISSION.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The United States Amba-  
11 sador to the United Nations shall be the Chief of  
12 Mission in charge of the United States Mission to  
13 the United Nations.

14 (2) COORDINATION.—The Chief of Mission  
15 shall coordinate at the seat of the United Nations  
16 the activities of the Mission in carrying out the in-  
17 structions of the President transmitted either by the  
18 Secretary or by other means of transmission as di-  
19 rected by the President.

20 (3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—In addition to the re-  
21 sponsibilities described in paragraph (2), the Chief  
22 of Mission—

23 (A) shall be responsible for the administra-  
24 tion of the Mission, including personnel, budget,

obligation and expenditure of funds, and the  
central administrative services; and

(B) shall discharge responsibilities under  
this subsection in accordance with such rules  
and regulations as the Secretary may from time  
to time prescribe.

## **Subtitle C—Bureaus, Offices, and Other Entities**

### **SEC. 121. OFFICES AND BUREAUS OF THE SECRETARY AND DEPUTY SECRETARY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be within  
the Department the following bureaus and offices to sup-  
port the Secretary’s and Deputy Secretary’s situational  
awareness and decision-making in the management of the  
Department:

(1) A Bureau of Legislative Affairs, in accord-  
ance with section 122.

(2) A Bureau of Intelligence and Research, in  
accordance with section 123.

(3) An Office of Policy Planning, in accordance  
with section 124.

(4) An Office of the Legal Adviser, in accord-  
ance with section 125.

(5) An Office of Protocol, in accordance with  
section 126.



1           (6) An Office of the Spokesperson, in accord-  
2           ance with section 127.

3           (b) DELEGATION.—The Secretary may delegate the  
4           responsibilities for the coordination of activities across the  
5           bureaus and offices listed in subsection (a) to the Deputy  
6           Secretary to ensure that the missions of such bureaus and  
7           offices are integrated into the Department’s broader goals.

8           **SEC. 122. ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEGISLATIVE AF-**  
9           **FAIRS.**

10          (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is authorized to be in  
11          the Department an Assistant Secretary for Legislative Af-  
12          fairs who shall be responsible—

13               (1) to the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary  
14               for matters pertaining to Congress; and

15               (2) for such other related duties as the Sec-  
16               retary may from time to time designate.

17          (b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ASSISTANT SEC-  
18          RETARY.—In addition to the responsibilities described in  
19          subsection (a), the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Af-  
20          fairs shall maintain continuous observation and coordina-  
21          tion of all matters pertaining to engagement with Con-  
22          gress, including, as appropriate—

23               (1) the presentation of the Department’s legis-  
24               lative program, including developing, preparing, and  
25               submitting legislation to Congress;

1           (2) impartial coordination between the Depart-  
2           ment and Congress on all legislative related matters;

3           (3) providing guidance and information to other  
4           Department bureaus and offices on legislative mat-  
5           ters;

6           (4) managing correspondence and reports to  
7           Congress, as appropriate, except for—

8                 (A) treaties and executive agreements,  
9                 which the Office of the Legal Adviser transmits;

10                (B) anti-deficiency notifications, which the  
11                Bureau of Comptroller and Financial Services  
12                transmits;

13                (C) reprogramming notifications for the  
14                State Operations Budget account, which the  
15                Under Secretary for Management transmits;  
16                and

17                (D) other such communications as directed  
18                by law, Executive order, or the Secretary; and

19           (5) supporting Congress in its official foreign  
20           travel and the expenditure of congressional travel  
21           funds.

22           (c) BUREAU OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS.—

23                (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall es-  
24                tablish a Bureau of Legislative Affairs, which shall  
25                perform such functions related to the coordination of

1 legislative activity, congressional engagements, and  
2 the development of the Department's positions on  
3 proposed legislation, as the Secretary may prescribe.

4 (2) HEAD.—The Assistant Secretary for Legis-  
5 lative Affairs shall be the head of the Bureau of  
6 Legislative Affairs.

7 (3) DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HOUSE  
8 AFFAIRS.—The Deputy Assistant Secretary for  
9 House Affairs shall be appointed by the President of  
10 the United States.

11 (4) DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SEN-  
12 ATE AFFAIRS.—The Deputy Assistant Secretary for  
13 Senate Affairs shall be appointed by the President  
14 of the United States.

15 **SEC. 123. ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INTELLIGENCE AND**  
16 **RESEARCH.**

17 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is authorized to be in  
18 the Department an Assistant Secretary for Intelligence  
19 and Research who shall be responsible—

20 (1) to the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary  
21 for matters pertaining to the intelligence and re-  
22 search functions of the Department; and

23 (2) for such other related duties as the Sec-  
24 retary may from time to time designate.

1       (b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—In addition to the respon-  
2       sibilities described in subsection (a), the Assistant Sec-  
3       retary for Intelligence and Research shall maintain contin-  
4       uous observation and coordination of all matters per-  
5       taining to analysis and dissemination of intelligence prod-  
6       ucts in the conduct of foreign policy, including, as appro-  
7       priate—

8               (1) overseeing the Department’s coordination  
9       with the intelligence community (as such term is de-  
10      fined in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of  
11      1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)));

12              (2) advocating for the Department’s collection  
13      requirements; and

14              (3) ensuing effective collaboration and informa-  
15      tion sharing in the Department.

16      (c) BUREAU OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCH.—

17              (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall es-  
18      tablish a Bureau of Intelligence and Research, which  
19      shall perform such functions related to overseeing  
20      the collection, analysis, and dissemination of intel-  
21      ligence and research to inform and implement  
22      United States foreign policy, as the Secretary may  
23      prescribe.

1           (2) HEAD.—The Assistant Secretary for Intel-  
2       ligence and Research shall be the head of the Bu-  
3       reau of Intelligence and Research.

4   **SEC. 124. DIRECTOR FOR POLICY PLANNING.**

5       (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is authorized to be in  
6       the Department a Director of Policy Planning responsible  
7       to the Deputy Secretary and Secretary of State for mat-  
8       ters pertaining to independent policy analysis, guidance,  
9       and counsel, and such other related duties as the Sec-  
10      retary may from time to time designate.

11      (b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—In addition to the respon-  
12      sibilities described in subsection (a), the Director of Policy  
13      Planning shall maintain continuous observation and co-  
14      ordination of all matters pertaining to the policymaking  
15      process of the Department, including, as appropriate—

16           (1) supporting the Secretary’s priorities, align-  
17           ing them with engagements, policy, and planning  
18           across the Department and the interagency;

19           (2) leading and contributing to long-term plan-  
20           ning initiatives and functional policy reviews, agen-  
21           da-setting, and coordination across the Department,  
22           the interagency, and with allies and partners  
23           through bilateral and multilateral policy planning  
24           dialogues; and

1           (3) promoting the Secretary's strategic nar-  
2       rative on related policy and diplomatic priorities in  
3       the Department and across the interagency.

4       (c) OFFICE OF POLICY PLANNING.—

5           (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall es-  
6       tablish an Office of Policy Planning, which shall per-  
7       form such functions related to the shaping, devel-  
8       oping, and articulating the Secretary's strategic pol-  
9       icy and diplomatic priorities across the Department,  
10      as the Secretary may prescribe.

11          (2) HEAD.—The Director of Policy Planning  
12      shall be the head of the Office of Policy Planning.

13   **SEC. 125. LEGAL ADVISER.**

14          (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is authorized to be in  
15      the Department a Legal Adviser who shall be respon-  
16      sible—

17           (1) to the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary  
18      for providing advice on all legal issues with respect  
19      to the mission of the Department, including but not  
20      limited to formulating international law; and

21           (2) for such other related duties as the Sec-  
22      retary may from time to time designate.

23          (b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—In addition to the respon-  
24      sibilities described in subsection (a), the Legal Adviser  
25      shall maintain continuous observation and coordination of

1 all matters pertaining to legal implications of the Depart-  
2 ment's intentions and activities in the conduct of foreign  
3 policy, including, as appropriate—

4       (1) participating in international negotiations  
5       and represent the United States in international  
6       conferences related to legal issues, and serve as a  
7       member of delegation and legal advisor to treaty im-  
8       plementation commissions;

9       (2) assisting the Department regarding legal  
10      matters at interagency meetings, congressional hear-  
11      ings, and meetings of private organizations; and

12      (3) provide consultation on behalf of the De-  
13      partment for domestic litigation that involves the  
14      Department or its interests, coordinating with other  
15      Departments when necessary, and assisting the De-  
16      partment of Justice relating to relevant litigation.

17      (c) OFFICE OF LEGAL ADVISER.—

18      (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall es-  
19      tablish the Office of the Legal Adviser, which shall  
20      perform such functions related to representing and  
21      advising the Secretary and Department-wide mis-  
22      sions on all legal policy issues in connection with  
23      United States foreign policy and the work of the De-  
24      partment, as the Secretary may prescribe.

1           (2) HEAD.—The Legal Adviser shall be the  
2       head of the Office of the Legal Adviser.

3   **SEC. 126. UNITED STATES CHIEF OF PROTOCOL.**

4       (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is authorized to be in  
5   the Department a United States Chief of Protocol who  
6   shall be responsible—

7           (1) to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary for  
8       matters pertaining to diplomatic etiquette; and

9           (2) for providing guidance to the President, the  
10   Vice President, the Secretary, and other high-rank-  
11   ing government officials on matters of national and  
12   international protocol.

13   (b) OFFICE OF PROTOCOL.—

14       (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall es-  
15   tablish an Office of Protocol, which shall perform  
16   functions related to ensuring the Department’s ef-  
17   fective management of diplomatic and consular pro-  
18   tocols, including the planning and coordination of of-  
19   ficial ceremonies, diplomatic visits, related diplo-  
20   matic engagements, and providing guidance on mat-  
21   ters of diplomatic etiquette, as the Secretary may  
22   prescribe.

23       (2) HEAD.—The United States Chief of Pro-  
24   tocol shall be the head of the Office of Protocol.



1 **SEC. 127. SPOKESPERSON.**

2 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is authorized to be a  
3 Spokesperson of the Department of State who shall be re-  
4 sponsible—

5 (1) to the Secretary for matters pertaining to  
6 domestic communications; and

7 (2) for such other related duties as the Sec-  
8 retary may from time to time designate.

9 (b) **RESPONSIBILITIES.**—In addition to the respon-  
10 sibilities described in subsection (a), the Spokesperson  
11 shall maintain continuous observation and coordination of  
12 all matters pertaining to domestic communications in the  
13 conduct of foreign policy, including, as appropriate—

14 (1) directing all Department communication in-  
15 tended for domestic consumption;

16 (2) communicating to the domestic press as the  
17 official domestic audience spokesperson of the De-  
18 partment;

19 (3) advising the Secretary on all aspects of the  
20 Department's conduct of domestic press relations;  
21 and

22 (4) supporting the Secretary in preparation for  
23 and during domestic public media engagements.

24 (c) **OFFICE OF THE SPOKESPERSON.**—

25 (1) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall es-  
26 tablish an Office of the Spokesperson which shall

1 perform such functions related to domestic commu-  
2 nications as the Secretary may prescribe.

3 (2) HEAD.—The Spokesperson of the Depart-  
4 ment of State shall be the head of the Office of the  
5 Spokesperson.

6 **SEC. 128. RED TEAM CAPABILITY.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a  
8 Red Team Capability to inform the Department’s crisis  
9 response and contingency planning.

10 (b) MEETINGS.—The individuals involved in the Red  
11 Team Capability required by subsection (a) should be con-  
12 vened at the direction of—

13 (1) for general meetings, the Department’s Pol-  
14 icy Planning Staff and the Department’s Crisis  
15 Management and Strategy Unit; and

16 (2) for specific reviews as needed, the Secretary  
17 or other Department principals.

18 (c) REPORTING.—Not later than 21 days after the  
19 individuals involved in the Red Team Capability estab-  
20 lished pursuant to subsection (a) are convened in accord-  
21 ance with subsection (b), such individuals shall submit to  
22 the Department’s Policy Planning Staff a report that con-  
23 tains the findings relating to the exercise of such Red  
24 Team Capability.

**Subtitle D—Authorization of  
Appropriations**

**SEC. 131. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to receive all the funds appropriated to the Department and allocate such funds to fulfill missions and responsibilities for fiscal year 2026 and 2027.

(b) ALLOCATIONS.—Of the funds authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary under subsection (a)—

(1) the United States Ambassador to the United Nations shall receive the funds necessary to fulfill the United States Mission to the United Nations missions and responsibilities under subtitle A for fiscal years 2026 and 2027;

(2) there is authorized to be made available to positions described in subtitle B the funds necessary to fulfill position missions and responsibilities for fiscal years 2026 and 2027; and

(3) there is authorized to be made available to the heads of the bureaus, offices, and other entities described in subtitle C the funds necessary to fulfill bureau, office, and other entity missions and responsibilities for fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

(c) REPORT ON UNFUNDED PRIORITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 10 days after  
2           the date on which the budget for any fiscal year is  
3           submitted by the President to Congress pursuant to  
4           section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, the  
5           Secretary shall prepare and submit to the appro-  
6           priate committees of Congress a report on unfunded  
7           priorities.

8           (2) ELEMENTS.—

9           (A) IN GENERAL.—The report required by  
10          paragraph (1) shall include, with respect to  
11          each unfunded priority covered by such re-  
12          port—

13                 (i) a summary description of such pri-  
14                 ority, including the objectives to be  
15                 achieved if such priority is funded (wheth-  
16                 er in whole or in part);

17                 (ii) the additional amount of funds  
18                 recommended to be made available to  
19                 achieve the objectives referred to in clause  
20                 (i); and

21                 (iii) budget information with respect  
22                 to such priority, including—

23                         (I) the appropriation account;

24                         (II) the expenditure center; and

1 (III) the project and, if applica-  
2 ble, any subprojects.

3 (B) PRIORITIZATION.—The report required  
4 by paragraph (1) shall present the unfunded  
5 priorities covered by such report in overall order  
6 of urgency of priority among unfunded prior-  
7 ities.

8 (3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

9 (A) the term “appropriate committees of  
10 Congress” means—

11 (i) the Committee on Foreign Affairs  
12 and the Committee on Appropriations of  
13 the House of Representatives; and

14 (ii) the Committee on Foreign Rela-  
15 tions and the Committee on Appropriations  
16 of the Senate; and

17 (B) the term “unfunded priority”, with re-  
18 spect to a fiscal year, means a program, activ-  
19 ity, or mission requirement of an element of the  
20 Department that—

21 (i) is not funded in the budget for  
22 such fiscal year submitted by the President  
23 to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of  
24 title 31, United States Code;

(ii) is necessary to fulfill a foreign policy or national security objective or to satisfy an information requirement associated with a goal or objective outlined in the Joint Strategic Plan agreed upon by the Department; and

(iii) would have been recommended for funding by the Secretary if—

(I) additional resources had been available for such budget to fund such program, activity, or mission requirement; or

(II) the program, activity, or mission requirement has emerged since such budget was formulated.

## **Subtitle E—United States Code Classification**

### **SEC. 141. CLASSIFICATION IN UNITED STATES CODE.**

The Office of Law Revision Counsel is directed to—

(1) utilize sections 6 through 35 of title 22, United States Code, to classify the sections of this title; and

(2) maintain the legislative history, under editorial notes, of repealed law which previously occu-

- 1       pied the corresponding sections of United States
- 2       Code.

Æ