

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 372

To make available funds under the Freedom Support Act to expand existing educational and professional exchanges with the Russian Federation to promote and strengthen democratic government and civil society in that country, and to make available funds under that Act to conduct a study of the feasibility of creating a new foundation toward that end.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 4, 1999

Mr. BIDEN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To make available funds under the Freedom Support Act to expand existing educational and professional exchanges with the Russian Federation to promote and strengthen democratic government and civil society in that country, and to make available funds under that Act to conduct a study of the feasibility of creating a new foundation toward that end.

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 “Russian Democratiza-
5 tion Assistance Act of 1999”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) The Russian Federation, which is currently
4 undergoing severe political and economic crises, con-
5 tinues to possess thousands of nuclear warheads and
6 the means to deliver them.

7 (2) Maintaining stability in Russia is a vital na-
8 tional security concern of the United States.

9 (3) Since the collapse of the Soviet Union at
10 the end of 1991, the Russian Federation has made
11 significant progress in democratizing its government
12 and society.

13 (4) The continued development of democratic
14 institutions and practice will foster stability in the
15 Russian Federation.

16 (5) Educational and professional exchanges
17 with the Russian Federation have proven to be an
18 effective mechanism for enhancing democratization
19 in that country.

20 **SEC. 3. POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES.**

21 It shall be the policy of the United States toward the
22 Russian Federation—

23 (1) to promote and strengthen democratic gov-
24 ernment and civil society;

25 (2) to expand already existing educational and
26 professional exchanges toward those ends; and

1 (3) to consider the feasibility of a Russia-based,
2 internationally funded Foundation for Democracy to
3 further democratic government and civil society.

4 **SEC. 4. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR INTERNATIONAL IN-**
5 **FORMATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL EX-**
6 **CHANGES WITH THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.**

7 Of the amount authorized to be appropriated to carry
8 out chapter 11 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act
9 of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2295 et seq.; relating to support for
10 the independent states of the former Soviet Union) for
11 each of the fiscal years 2000 and 2001, the following
12 amounts are authorized to be available for the following
13 programs with the Russian Federation:

14 (1) For the “Future Leaders Exchange”,
15 \$4,000,000.

16 (2) For the “Freedom Support Act Under-
17 graduate Program”, \$3,000,000.

18 (3) For the “Community Connections Pro-
19 gram”, \$15,000,000.

20 (4) For the “Freedom Support Act Fellowships
21 in Contemporary Issues”, \$1,000,000.

22 **SEC. 5. STUDY FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF RUSSIAN DEMOC-**
23 **RACY FOUNDATION.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized to
25 conduct a study of the feasibility of establishing a founda-

1 tion for the promotion of democratic institutions in the
2 Russian Federation.

3 (b) FOUNDATION TITLE.—It is the sense of Congress
4 that any foundation established pursuant to subsection (a)
5 should be known as the Starovoitova Foundation for Rus-
6 sian Democracy, in honor of Galina Starovoitova, a former
7 member of the State Duma and Russia’s leading female
8 politician who was assassinated in St. Petersburg in No-
9 vember 1998.

10 (c) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amount author-
11 ized to be appropriated to carry out chapter 11 of part
12 I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2295
13 et seq.; relating to support for the independent states of
14 the former Soviet Union) for fiscal year 2000, \$50,000
15 is authorized to be available to carry out this section.

16 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR MUSKIE**
17 **FELLOWSHIPS WITH THE RUSSIAN FEDERA-**
18 **TION.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appro-
20 priated to the President \$7,000,000 for each of the fiscal
21 years 2000 and 2001 to carry out the Edmund S. Muskie
22 Fellowship Program under section 227 of the Foreign Re-
23 lations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993
24 (22 U.S.C. 2452 note) with the Russian Federation.

1 (b) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts appro-
2 priated pursuant to subsection (a) are authorized to re-
3 main available until expended.

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