

84TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2197

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 13, 1955

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

A BILL

To establish an effective student exchange program with Latin American countries, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 STATEMENT OF POLICY

4 SECTION 1. The Congress hereby finds and declares
5 that—

6 (a) it is in the interest of the national welfare and
7 defense to promote more effective mutual understanding
8 between the people and Government of the United
9 States and the peoples and governments of the countries
10 of South and Central America;

11 (b) it is important that all misinformation and mis-

1 understanding about the United States and its policies
2 among the peoples of the countries of South and Central
3 America be corrected; and

4 (c) the free interchange of students and informa-
5 tion between the United States and the countries of
6 South and Central America will contribute immeasur-
7 ably to the further development of our good neighbor
8 policy with such countries and thereby promote world
9 peace.

10 It is therefore the purpose of the Congress to establish an
11 effective program of student exchange between the United
12 States and the countries of South and Central America in
13 order to achieve these purposes and objectives.

14 INTERCHANGE OF STUDENTS

15 SEC. 2. (a) The Secretary of State (hereinafter referred
16 to as the "Secretary") is authorized to provide for inter-
17 changes, on a reciprocal basis or on such other basis as he
18 deems advisable, between the United States and the coun-
19 tries of South and Central America of graduate students and
20 undergraduate students who have completed at least two
21 years of education above the secondary level. In connection
22 with such interchanges, the Secretary is authorized to pro-
23 vide orientation courses and other appropriate services for
24 students from South and Central American countries coming

1 to the United States and for United States students going
2 to such countries.

3 (b) When any country fails or refuses to cooperate in
4 the program of student exchange on a basis of reciprocity or
5 upon such basis as the Secretary deems advisable, he may
6 terminate or limit such program with respect to such country
7 to the extent he deems to be advisable in the interests of the
8 United States.

9 BOARD OF LATIN AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIPS

10 SEC. 3. (a) There is hereby established a Board of Latin
11 American Scholarships (hereinafter referred to as the
12 "Board") which shall consist of ten members to be appointed
13 by the President. Members of the Board shall be selected
14 so as to provide representation for cultural, educational, and
15 student and war veterans' groups. One member of the
16 Board shall be a representative of the United States Office of
17 Education, at least one member shall be a representative of
18 State and local educational institutions, and at least one
19 member shall be a representative of private educational
20 institutions.

21 (b) Each member of the Board shall serve for a term
22 of five years and until his successor is appointed and quali-
23 fied, except that of the members first appointed, two shall
24 serve for a term of one year, two for a term of two years,

1 two for a term of three years, two for a term of four years,
2 and two for a term of five years. Any member appointed
3 to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term
4 for which his predecessor was appointed shall be appointed
5 for the remainder of such term.

6 (c) The President shall, from time to time, designate
7 one of the members of the Board to serve as Chairman.

8 (d) Members of the Board shall serve without com-
9 pensation but shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and
10 other necessary expenses incurred when attending meetings
11 of the Board or engaged in activities on behalf of the Board.

12 DUTIES OF THE BOARD

13 SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the Board to advise and
14 make recommendations to the Secretary with respect to the
15 operation and administration of the exchange programs es-
16 tablished pursuant to this Act. In addition, the Board shall
17 recommend United States students and United States edu-
18 cational institutions for participation in the programs.

19 SELECTION OF UNITED STATES STUDENTS

20 SEC. 5. (a) Any United States student who desires to
21 participate in an exchange program shall apply to the Board.
22 In the selection of United States students for study in South
23 and Central American countries under this Act, the Board
24 shall give preference to applicants who have served honor-
25 ably in the Armed Forces of the United States during World

1 War I, World War II, or the hostilities in Korea. Due con-
2 sideration shall be given to applicants from all geographical
3 areas of the United States.

4 (b) Upon the basis of applications submitted under sub-
5 section (a), the Board shall make its recommendations to
6 the Secretary for United States students to participate in the
7 programs. The Secretary shall select students for participa-
8 tion from among those applicants recommended by the
9 Board.

10 ADMISSION TO UNITED STATES OF LATIN AMERICAN

11 STUDENTS

12 SEC. 6. Any South or Central American student selected
13 by his country for study in the United States under this Act
14 shall be admitted to the United States, subject to all provi-
15 sions of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as a nonimmig-
16 rant under section 101 (a) (15) (F) of that Act.

17 EXCHANGE OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

18 SEC. 7. The Secretary is authorized to provide for inter-
19 changes between the United States and the countries of South
20 and Central America of books and periodicals, including Gov-
21 ernment publications, for translations of such books, periodi-
22 cals and publications, and for the preparation, distribution,
23 and interchange of other educational materials.

1 COOPERATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

2 SEC. 8. (a) In carrying out his duties under this Act,
3 the Secretary is authorized to cooperate with heads of the
4 various departments and agencies of the Government and,
5 with the consent of such heads, to utilize the services and
6 facilities of such departments and agencies whenever practi-
7 cable. The head of each department and agency is author-
8 ized to furnish to the Secretary such services and facilities as
9 the Secretary may request and as he deems proper to assist in
10 carrying out the purposes of this Act. The Secretary shall
11 reimburse each department and agency for any services ren-
12 dered or facilities used out of appropriations made pursuant
13 to section 10.

14 (b) The Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of
15 Commerce and the Chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board
16 with a view to effecting the use under this Act of water and
17 air transportation facilities which are recipients of subsidies
18 or assistance under the laws of the United States.

19 REPORTS TO THE CONGRESS

20 SEC. 9. (a) The Secretary shall transmit to the Con-
21 gress, not later than March 1 of each year, a report of
22 activities carried on under authority of this Act during the
23 preceding calendar year. Such report shall include the
24 text of any agreements which have been entered into dur-
25 ing such year with any country of South or Central America

1 to effectuate the purposes of this Act. Such report shall
2 also include the names and addresses of students and insti-
3 tutions, both of the United States and of South and Central
4 American countries, who are participating in the exchange
5 programs authorized by this Act.

6 (b) The Board shall, not later than February 1 of
7 each year, submit to the Secretary a report of its activities
8 under this Act during the preceding calendar year, together
9 with its recommendations with respect to the administration
10 of this Act and the operation of the exchange programs
11 authorized by this Act. The report of the Board shall
12 be transmitted to the Congress by the Secretary as a part
13 of his report under subsection (a).

14 AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

15 SEC. 10. To carry out the purposes of this Act, there
16 are hereby authorized to be appropriated—

17 (a) for the first fiscal year which begins after the
18 date of enactment of this Act, the sum of \$5,000,000;
19 and

20 (b) for each fiscal year thereafter, such sums as
21 may be necessary.

22 SHORT TITLE

23 SEC. 11. This Act may be cited as the "Latin Ameri-
24 can Student Exchange Program Act".

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