

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 117

To establish an Intercountry Adoption Advisory Committee, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 28, 2021

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. CASEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## A BILL

To establish an Intercountry Adoption Advisory Committee, 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 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Intercountry Adoption  
5 Advisory Committee Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State shall  
8 establish within the Bureau of Consular Affairs an inter-  
9 country adoption advisory committee (the “Advisory Com-  
10 mittee”).

1 (b) DUTIES.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall  
3 consult the Advisory Committee, as appropriate, on  
4 intercountry adoption, including on the development,  
5 refinement, and implementation of policies and pro-  
6 grams pertaining to intercountry adoption.

7 (2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Advisory Com-  
8 mittee shall develop, at the request of the Secretary,  
9 recommendations for improvements to intercountry  
10 adoption.

11 (3) PERIODIC REPORTS.—The Advisory Com-  
12 mittee shall periodically submit to the Secretary of  
13 State—

14 (A) reports on matters identified by the  
15 Secretary; and

16 (B) reports on other matters identified by  
17 a majority of the members of the Advisory  
18 Committee.

19 (4) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Advisory Com-  
20 mittee shall submit to the Secretary of State an an-  
21 nual report providing information on the activities,  
22 findings, and recommendations of the Advisory Com-  
23 mittee for the preceding year. Not later than 180  
24 days after the date that the Secretary receives the  
25 annual report, the Secretary shall publish a public

1 version describing the Advisory Committee’s activi-  
2 ties and such related matters as would be inform-  
3 ative to the public consistent with the policy of sec-  
4 tion 552(b) of title 5, United States Code. The re-  
5 port required under this paragraph may be sub-  
6 mitted as part of the Department of State’s annual  
7 adoption report.

8 (5) FEEDBACK.—Not later than 90 days after  
9 receiving recommendations transmitted by the Advi-  
10 sory Committee under paragraph (4), the Secretary  
11 of State shall respond in writing to the Advisory  
12 Committee with feedback on each of the rec-  
13 ommendations, an action plan to implement any of  
14 the recommendations with which the Secretary con-  
15 curs, and a justification for why any of the rec-  
16 ommendations have been rejected.

17 (6) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Not later  
18 than 30 days after providing written feedback to the  
19 Advisory Committee under paragraph (5), the Sec-  
20 retary of State shall notify Congress of the feedback.

21 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—Not later than 180 days after es-  
22 tablishing the Advisory Committee under subsection (a),  
23 the Secretary of State shall appoint the members of the  
24 Advisory Committee. The members so appointed shall in-  
25 clude groups representing adoption service providers,

1 adoptive families, adoptees, adoption attorneys, social  
2 workers, and representatives of U.S. Citizen and Immigra-  
3 tion Services (USCIS) and the Department of State.  
4 Members shall be appointed or reappointed by the Sec-  
5 retary every two years.

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