

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 3493

To require certification prior to obligation of funds for United Nations Relief and Works Agency, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 13, 2023

Mr. HAGERTY (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. BRAUN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To require certification prior to obligation of funds for United Nations Relief and Works Agency, 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 “UNRWA Reform Act
5 of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. CERTIFICATION PRIOR TO OBLIGATION OF FUNDS**
2 **TO UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS**
3 **AGENCY.**

4 Prior to the initial obligation of funds for the United
5 Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) appro-
6 priated by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023
7 (Public Law 117–328), the Continuing Appropriations
8 Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (Public Law 118–
9 15), or any other Act, the Secretary of State shall submit
10 to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the
11 Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representa-
12 tives certification, in writing, that—

13 (1) all employees, contractors, and beneficiaries
14 of UNRWA have been vetted in compliance with
15 USAID WBG Mission Order 21–2007 vetting proce-
16 dures or similar anti-terrorism vetting procedures;

17 (2) during the calendar year that funds are ob-
18 ligated, UNRWA passed an independent audit
19 verifying that all educational curricula used in
20 UNRWA schools contain no evidence of antisemitism
21 and that no teachers have been found to be engaged
22 in antisemitism;

23 (3) all individuals registered as refugees with
24 UNRWA were personally displaced by the 1948
25 Arab-Israeli war; and

1 (4) during the calendar year that funds are ob-
2 ligated, UNRWA has certified in writing to the Sec-
3 retary of State that UNRWA recognizes as terrorist
4 organizations Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and
5 all other Palestinian organizations designated as for-
6 eign terrorist organizations by the United States.

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