



## The 2025 Foreign Aid Responsibility Act

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### **PROBLEM:**

According to recent data, the President's Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Budget Request allocates approximately **\$42.8 billion** for the Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in Foreign Assistance. This represents an **increase of \$411.5 million** over the FY 2023 estimate. While foreign aid serves as a vital instrument for diplomacy and humanitarian support, concerns have emerged regarding funds allocated to nations exhibiting openly hostile behavior toward the United States. **American taxpayer dollars should not be awarded to countries that:**

1. Engage in anti-American rhetoric, including chants of "Death to America."
2. Desecrate American symbols, including the U.S. flag, through actions such as burning or defacing.
3. Threaten harm against American citizens, including tourists.
4. Promote violence against U.S. allies and partners.
5. Oppose U.S. policies through United Nations votes and resolutions.
6. Fail to meet internationally recognized standards for free and fair elections.
7. Suppress political opposition, shut down independent media outlets, and ignore democratic election processes.
8. Lack transparency by failing to deliver verifiable audits detailing the allocation and utilization of received funds.

### **EXAMPLES:**

1. **Iran and North Korea** have repeatedly threatened the U.S. with chants of "Death to America," raising global security concerns.
2. In **Afghanistan**, individuals have been celebrated for burning American flags during anti-U.S. demonstrations.
3. **Cuba and Venezuela** have detained U.S. citizens, including journalists and diplomats, without justification.
4. Governments such as **Iran** openly incite protests and hostility toward the United States, undermining diplomacy.
5. Nations like **Syria** and **Sudan** support terrorist organizations and have detained American citizens as bargaining tools.

### **SOLUTION:**

1. Establish clear and enforceable requirements for countries to qualify for U.S. Foreign Aid, ensuring compliance with democratic standards, human rights, and transparency.

### **SUPPORT:**

1. **American taxpayers** who demand accountability and transparency in foreign aid allocation.
2. **Allied nations** fostering constructive diplomatic and cultural relationships with the United States.
3. **Advocates for budget reform** emphasizing fiscal responsibility and effective aid utilization.

### **OPPOSITION:**

1. **Non-compliant recipient countries** facing potential aid reductions.

2. **Advocates for unconditional aid**, who argue that aid should remain independent of recipient behavior to preserve U.S. global influence.

#### **ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:**

1. U.S. funds should prioritize nations that align with democratic values and avoid aiding those exhibiting hostility or threatening Americans.
2. Mandated transparency reduces fraud and mismanagement, ensuring funds support intended purposes.
3. Regular expenditure reviews promote accountability and oversight, enhancing trust.
4. Budget efficiency requires prioritization of funds to allies and cooperative partners.
5. Aligns with principles of fiscal responsibility, transparency, and accountability.
6. Reduces corruption by tying aid to measurable compliance and performance.

#### **ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION:**

1. Critics argue that foreign aid should remain unconditional to maintain global influence and leverage.
2. Freedom of expression, including anti-American rhetoric, is viewed as a sovereign right and not grounds for withholding aid.
3. Retroactive enforcement of new transparency measures may create administrative and diplomatic challenges.

#### **PUBLICITY:**

1. **International Impact:** Influences U.S. foreign policy, budget priorities, and diplomatic relations.
2. **Theme:** Promoting accountability and transparency in taxpayer-funded foreign aid.
3. **Agenda Alignment:**
  - a. Supports reforms advocated by leaders like **President Trump** and **Senator Rubio** who prioritize fiscal responsibility and accountability.
  - b. Strengthens initiatives aligned with budget reform movements and transparency advocacy.

#### **HISTORY:**

While Congress has considered related legislation, prior proposals have lacked the comprehensive reforms and enforcement mechanisms outlined in this act.

#### **FISCAL EFFECT:**

1. **Minimal oversight costs** due to automated reporting requirements.
2. **Potential savings of 10-15%** of the Foreign Aid budget through reduced mismanagement and reallocation to compliant nations.

#### **CODE SECTION AFFECTED:**

Language is attached.

#### **LANGUAGE ATTACHED:**

##### **Section 1 – Intent:**

This legislation aims to reform U.S. Foreign Aid by establishing clear requirements, enhancing transparency, and ensuring effective use of taxpayer dollars. It prioritizes accountability, fiscal responsibility, and alignment with American values and security interests.

##### **Section 2 – Provisions:**

1. **Policy:** Foreign aid will not be granted to countries that:
  - a. Engage in or permit acts of hostility, including chants of “Death to America.”
  - b. Allow desecration of U.S. symbols, including burning or defacing the American flag.
  - c. Fail to provide mandated transparency in financial reporting and aid utilization.
  - d. Maintain leaders in power for more than **three constitutionally defined terms**.

- e. Permit **hereditary transitions of leadership** inconsistent with democratic principles.
  - f. Fail to meet **international election standards** for fairness and transparency.
  - g. Sponsor **terrorism** or detain American citizens unjustly.
  - h. Suppress political opposition, shut down independent media, and undermine democratic processes.
  - i. Fail to deliver **transparent and verifiable audits** detailing the allocation and utilization of received funds.
2. **Conditional Awards:**
    - a. Funds must be earmarked for specific projects and not disbursed directly to governments.
  3. **Transparency Requirements:**
    - a. Recipients must submit documentation demonstrating compliance with reporting standards outlined in each award.
  4. **Presidential Authority:**
    - a. The President may withhold aid from nations failing to comply with these standards.
  5. **Distribution Schedule:**
    - a. Foreign aid disbursements will occur on the final day of each fiscal quarter or as specified in award agreements.

### **Section 3 – Penalties:**

Noncompliance will result in **immediate suspension of funds** until the recipient nation demonstrates substantive efforts to meet U.S. requirements and policy standards.