

## Committee Amendment Proposed by

MR. DODD

1 Viz:

2 At the end of the bill, add the following new title:

3 **TITLE IX—PEACE CORPS CHAR-**  
4 **TER FOR THE 21ST CENTURY**  
5 **ACT**6 **SEC. 901. SHORT TITLE.**7 This title may be cited as the “Peace Corps Charter  
8 for the 21st Century Act”.9 **SEC. 902. FINDINGS.**

10 Congress makes the following findings:

11 (1) The Peace Corps was established in 1961 to  
12 promote world peace and friendship through the  
13 service of United States volunteers abroad.14 (2) The Peace Corps has sought to fulfill three  
15 goals, as follows:16 (A) To help people in developing nations  
17 meet basic needs.18 (B) To promote understanding of Amer-  
19 ica’s values and ideals abroad.20 (C) To promote an understanding of other  
21 peoples by Americans.

1           (3) The three goals, which are codified in the  
2 Peace Corps Act, have guided the Peace Corps and  
3 its volunteers over the years, and worked in concert  
4 to promote global acceptance of the principles of  
5 international peace and nonviolent coexistence  
6 among peoples of diverse cultures and systems of  
7 government.

8           (4) Since its establishment, approximately  
9 165,000 Peace Corps volunteers have served in 135  
10 countries.

11          (5) After more than 40 years of operation, the  
12 Peace Corps remains the world's premier inter-  
13 national service organization dedicated to promoting  
14 grassroots development.

15          (6) The Peace Corps remains committed to  
16 sending well trained and well supported Peace Corps  
17 volunteers overseas to promote peace, friendship,  
18 and international understanding.

19          (7) The Peace Corps is currently operating with  
20 an annual budget of \$275,000,000 in 70 countries  
21 with 7,000 Peace Corps volunteers.

22          (8) The Peace Corps is an independent agency,  
23 and therefore no Peace Corps personnel or volun-  
24 teers should be used to accomplish any goal other  
25 than the goals established by the Peace Corps Act.

1           (9) The Crisis Corps has been an effective tool  
2           in harnessing the skills and talents for returned  
3           Peace Corps volunteers and should be expanded to  
4           utilize to the maximum extent the talent pool of re-  
5           turned Peace Corps volunteers.

6           (10) There is deep misunderstanding and mis-  
7           information about American values and ideals in  
8           many parts of the world, particularly those with sub-  
9           stantial Muslim populations, and a greater Peace  
10          Corps presence in such places could foster greater  
11          understanding and tolerance.

12          (11) Congress has declared that the Peace  
13          Corps should be expanded to sponsor a minimum of  
14          10,000 Peace Corps volunteers.

15          (12) President George W. Bush has called for  
16          the doubling of the number of Peace Corps volun-  
17          teers in service.

18          (13) Any expansion of the Peace Corps must  
19          not jeopardize the quality of the Peace Corps volun-  
20          teer experience, and therefore can only be accom-  
21          plished by an appropriate increase in field and head-  
22          quarters support staff.

23          (14) In order to ensure that proposed expansion  
24          of the Peace Corps preserves the integrity of the  
25          program and the security of volunteers, the inte-

1       grated Planning and Budget System supported by  
2       the Office of Planning and Policy Analysis should  
3       continue its focus on strategic planning.

4               (15) A streamlined, bipartisan National Peace  
5       Corps Advisory Council composed of distinguished  
6       returned Peace Corps volunteers and other individ-  
7       uals, with diverse backgrounds and expertise, can be  
8       a source of ideas and suggestions that may be useful  
9       to the Director of the Peace Corps in discharging  
10      the Director's duties and responsibilities.

11 **SEC. 903. DEFINITIONS.**

12      In this title:

13               (1) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means  
14      the Director of the Peace Corps.

15               (2) PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER.—The term  
16      “Peace Corps volunteer” means a volunteer or a vol-  
17      unteer leader under the Peace Corps Act.

18               (3) RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER.—  
19      The term “returned Peace Corps volunteer” means  
20      a person who has been certified by the Director as  
21      having served satisfactorily as a Peace Corps volun-  
22      teer.

1 **SEC. 904. STRENGTHENED INDEPENDENCE OF THE PEACE**  
2 **CORPS.**

3 (a) RECRUITMENT OF VOLUNTEERS.—Section 2A of  
4 the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2501–1) is amended by  
5 adding at the end the following new sentence: “As the  
6 Peace Corps is an independent agency, all recruiting of  
7 volunteers shall be undertaken primarily by the Peace  
8 Corps.”.

9 (b) DETAILS AND ASSIGNMENTS.—Section 5(g) of  
10 the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2504(g)) is amended by  
11 inserting after “*Provided, That*” the following: “such de-  
12 tail or assignment does not contradict the standing of  
13 Peace Corps volunteers as being independent: *Provided*  
14 *further, That*”.

15 **SEC. 905. REPORTS AND CONSULTATIONS.**

16 (a) ANNUAL REPORTS; CONSULTATIONS ON NEW  
17 INITIATIVES.—The Peace Corps Act is amended by strik-  
18 ing the heading for section 11 (22 U.S.C. 2510) and all  
19 that follows through the end of such section and inserting  
20 the following:

21 **“SEC. 11. ANNUAL REPORTS; CONSULTATIONS ON NEW INI-**  
22 **TIATIVES.**

23 “(a) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Director shall trans-  
24 mit to Congress, at least once in each fiscal year, a report  
25 on operations under this Act. Each report shall contain—

1           “(1) a description of efforts undertaken to im-  
2           prove coordination of activities of the Peace Corps  
3           with activities of international voluntary service or-  
4           ganizations, such as the United Nations volunteer  
5           program, and of host country voluntary service orga-  
6           nizations, including—

7                   “(A) a description of the purpose and  
8                   scope of any development project which the  
9                   Peace Corps undertook during the preceding  
10                  fiscal year as a joint venture with any such  
11                  international or host country voluntary service  
12                  organizations; and

13                  “(B) recommendations for improving co-  
14                  ordination of development projects between the  
15                  Peace Corps and any such international or host  
16                  country voluntary service organizations;

17           “(2) a description of—

18                   “(A) any major new initiatives that the  
19                   Peace Corps has under review for the upcoming  
20                   fiscal year, and any major initiatives that were  
21                   undertaken in the previous fiscal year that were  
22                   not included in prior reports to Congress;

23                   “(B) the rationale for undertaking such  
24                   new initiatives;

1                   “(C) an estimate of the cost of such initia-  
2                   tives; and

3                   “(D) any impact such initiatives may have  
4                   on the safety of volunteers; and

5                   “(3) a description of standard security proce-  
6                   dures for any country in which the Peace Corps op-  
7                   erates programs or is considering doing so, as well  
8                   as any special security procedures contemplated be-  
9                   cause of changed circumstances in specific countries,  
10                  and assessing whether security conditions would be  
11                  enhanced—

12                  “(A) by colocating volunteers with inter-  
13                  national or local nongovernmental organiza-  
14                  tions; or

15                  “(B) with the placement of multiple volun-  
16                  teers in one location.

17                  “(b) CONSULTATIONS ON NEW INITIATIVES.—The  
18                  Director of the Peace Corps should consult with the Com-  
19                  mittee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Com-  
20                  mittee on International Relations of the House of Rep-  
21                  resentatives with respect to any major new initiatives not  
22                  previously discussed in the latest annual report submitted  
23                  to Congress under subsection (a) or in budget presen-  
24                  tations. Whenever possible, such consultations should take

1 place prior to the initiation of such initiatives, but in any  
2 event as soon as is practicable thereafter.”.

3 (b) ONE-TIME REPORT ON STUDENT LOAN FOR-  
4 GIVENESS PROGRAMS.—Not later than 30 days after the  
5 date of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall sub-  
6 mit to the appropriate congressional committees a report  
7 containing—

8 (1) a description of the student loan forgiveness  
9 programs currently available to Peace Corps volun-  
10 teers upon completion of their service;

11 (2) a comparison of such programs with other  
12 Government-sponsored student loan forgiveness pro-  
13 grams; and

14 (3) recommendations for any additional student  
15 loan forgiveness programs that could attract more  
16 applicants from more low- and middle-income appli-  
17 cants facing high student loan obligations.

18 **SEC. 906. INCREASING THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS.**

19 (a) REQUIREMENT.—The Director shall develop a  
20 plan to increase the number of Peace Corps volunteers to  
21 a number that is not less than twice the number of Peace  
22 Corps volunteers who were enrolled in the Peace Corps  
23 on September 30, 2002.

24 (b) REPORT ON INCREASING THE NUMBER OF VOL-  
25 UNTEERS.—



1           (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 30 days  
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Di-  
3 rector shall submit to the appropriate congressional  
4 committees a report describing in detail the Direc-  
5 tor’s plan for increasing the number of Peace Corps  
6 volunteers as described in subsection (a), including  
7 a five-year budget plan for funding such increase in  
8 the number of volunteers.

9           (2) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—Not later than  
10 January 31 of each year in which the number of  
11 Peace Corps volunteers is less than twice the num-  
12 ber of Peace Corps volunteers who were enrolled in  
13 the Peace Corps on September 30, 2002, the Direc-  
14 tor shall submit to the appropriate congressional  
15 committees an update on the report described in  
16 paragraph (1).

17 **SEC. 907. SPECIAL VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT AND PLACE-**  
18 **MENT FOR COUNTRIES WHOSE GOVERN-**  
19 **MENTS ARE SEEKING TO FOSTER GREATER**  
20 **UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THEIR CITIZENS**  
21 **AND THE UNITED STATES.**

22           (a) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date  
23 of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit  
24 to the appropriate congressional committees a report de-  
25 scribing the initiatives that the Peace Corps intends to

1 pursue with eligible countries where the presence of Peace  
2 Corps volunteers would facilitate a greater understanding  
3 that there exists a universe of commonly shared human  
4 values and aspirations. Such report shall include—

5 (1) a description of the recruitment strategies  
6 to be employed by the Peace Corps to recruit and  
7 train volunteers with the appropriate language skills  
8 and interest in serving in such countries; and

9 (2) a list of the countries that the Director has  
10 determined should be priorities for special recruit-  
11 ment and placement of Peace Corps volunteers.

12 (b) **USE OF RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUN-**  
13 **TEERS.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the  
14 Director is authorized and strongly urged to utilize the  
15 services of returned Peace Corps volunteers having lan-  
16 guage and cultural expertise, including those returned  
17 Peace Corps volunteers who may have served previously  
18 in countries with substantial Muslim populations, in order  
19 to open or reopen Peace Corps programs in such coun-  
20 tries.

21 **SEC. 908. GLOBAL INFECTIOUS DISEASES INITIATIVE.**

22 The Director, in cooperation with international public  
23 health experts such as experts of the Centers for Disease  
24 Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health,  
25 the World Health Organization, the Pan American Health

1 Organization, and local public health officials, shall de-  
2 velop a program of training for all Peace Corps volunteers  
3 in the areas of education, prevention, and treatment of  
4 infectious diseases in order to ensure that all Peace Corps  
5 volunteers make a contribution to the global campaign  
6 against such diseases.

7 **SEC. 909. PEACE CORPS ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

8 Section 12 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2511)  
9 is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (b)(2) by striking subpara-  
11 graph (D) and inserting the following:

12 “(D) make recommendations for utilizing the  
13 expertise of returned Peace Corps volunteers in ful-  
14 filling the goals of the Peace Corps.”;

15 (2) in subsection (c)(2)—

16 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

17 (i) in the first sentence, by striking  
18 “fifteen” and inserting “seven”; and

19 (ii) by striking the second sentence  
20 and inserting the following: “Four of the  
21 members shall be former Peace Corps vol-  
22 unteers, at least one of whom shall have  
23 been a former staff member abroad or in  
24 the Washington headquarters, and not

1 more than four shall be members of the  
2 same political party.”;

3 (B) by striking subparagraph (D) and in-  
4 serting the following:

5 “(D) The members of the Council shall be appointed  
6 for 2-year terms.”;

7 (C) by striking subparagraphs (B) and  
8 (H); and

9 (D) by redesignating subparagraphs (C),  
10 (D), (E), (F), (G), and (I) as subparagraphs  
11 (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), and (G), respectively;

12 (3) by striking subsection (g) and inserting the  
13 following:

14 “(g) CHAIR.—The President shall designate one of  
15 the voting members of the Council as Chair, who shall  
16 serve in that capacity for a period not to exceed two  
17 years.”;

18 (4) by striking subsection (h) and inserting the  
19 following:

20 “(h) MEETINGS.—The Council shall hold a regular  
21 meeting during each calendar quarter at a date and time  
22 to be determined by the Chair of the Council.”; and

23 (5) by striking subsection (i) and inserting the  
24 following:

1       “(i) REPORT.—Not later than July 30 of each year,  
2 the Council shall submit a report to the President and the  
3 Director of the Peace Corps describing how the Council  
4 has carried out its functions under subsection (b)(2).”.

5 **SEC. 910. READJUSTMENT ALLOWANCES.**

6       (a) INCREASED RATES.—The Peace Corps Act is  
7 amended—

8           (1) in section 5(c) (22 U.S.C. 2504(c)), by  
9 striking “\$125” and inserting “\$275”; and

10          (2) in section 6(1) (22 U.S.C. 2505(1)), by  
11 striking “\$125” and inserting “\$275”.

12       (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
13 subsection (a) shall take effect on the first day of the first  
14 month that begins on or after the date of the enactment  
15 of this Act.

16 **SEC. 911. PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS OF RETURNED PEACE**  
17 **CORPS VOLUNTEERS TO PROMOTE THE**  
18 **GOALS OF THE PEACE CORPS.**

19       (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to pro-  
20 vide support for returned Peace Corps volunteers to de-  
21 velop and carry out programs and projects to promote the  
22 third purpose of the Peace Corps Act, as set forth in sec-  
23 tion 2(a) of that Act (22 U.S.C. 2501(a)), relating to pro-  
24 moting an understanding of other peoples on the part of  
25 the American people.

1 (b) GRANTS TO CERTAIN NONPROFIT CORPORA-  
2 TIONS.—

3 (1) GRANT AUTHORITY.—The Chief Executive  
4 Officer of the Corporation for National and Commu-  
5 nity Service (hereafter in the section referred to as  
6 the “Corporation”) shall award grants on a competi-  
7 tive basis to private nonprofit corporations for the  
8 purpose of enabling returned Peace Corps volunteers  
9 to use their knowledge and expertise to develop pro-  
10 grams and projects to carry out the purpose de-  
11 scribed in subsection (a).

12 (2) PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.—The programs  
13 and projects that may receive grant funds under this  
14 section include—

15 (A) educational programs designed to en-  
16 rich the knowledge and interest of elementary  
17 school and secondary school students in the ge-  
18 ography and cultures of other countries where  
19 the volunteers have served;

20 (B) projects that involve partnerships with  
21 local libraries to enhance community knowledge  
22 about other peoples and countries; and

23 (C) audio-visual projects that utilize mate-  
24 rials collected by the volunteers during their

1 service that would be of educational value to  
2 communities.

3 (3) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a grant  
4 under this section, a nonprofit corporation shall have  
5 a board of directors composed of returned Peace  
6 Corps volunteers with a background in community  
7 service, education, or health. The nonprofit corpora-  
8 tion shall meet all management requirements that  
9 the Corporation determines appropriate and pre-  
10 scribes as conditions for eligibility for the grant.

11 (c) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—A grant under this sec-  
12 tion shall be made pursuant to a grant agreement between  
13 the Corporation and the nonprofit corporation that—

14 (1) requires grant funds be used only to sup-  
15 port programs and projects to carry out the purpose  
16 described in subsection (a) through the funding of  
17 proposals submitted by returned Peace Corps volun-  
18 teers (either individually or cooperatively with other  
19 returned volunteers);

20 (2) requires the nonprofit corporation to give  
21 preferential consideration to proposals submitted by  
22 returned Peace Corps volunteer that request less  
23 than \$100,000 to carry out a program or project;

24 (3) requires that not more than 20 percent of  
25 the grant funds made available to the nonprofit cor-

1       poration be used for the salaries, overhead, or other  
2       administrative expenses of the nonprofit corporation;

3           (4) prohibits the nonprofit corporation from re-  
4       ceiving grant funds for more than two years unless,  
5       beginning in the third year, the nonprofit corpora-  
6       tion makes available, to carry out the programs or  
7       projects that receive grant funds during that year,  
8       non-Federal contributions—

9           (A) in an amount not less than \$2 for  
10       every \$3 of Federal funds provided through the  
11       grant; and

12           (B) provided directly or through donations  
13       from private entities, in cash or in kind, fairly  
14       evaluated, including plant, equipment, or serv-  
15       ices; and

16       (5) requires the nonprofit corporation to man-  
17       age, monitor, and report to the Corporation on the  
18       progress of each program or project for which the  
19       nonprofit corporation provides funding from a grant  
20       under this section.

21       (d) STATUS OF THE FUND.—Nothing in this section  
22       shall be construed to make any nonprofit corporation sup-  
23       ported under this section an agency or establishment of  
24       the Federal Government or to make any member of the  
25       board of directors or any officer or employee of such non-



1 profit corporation an officer or employee of the United  
2 States.

3 (e) FACTORS IN AWARDING GRANTS.—In deter-  
4 mining the number of nonprofit corporations to receive  
5 grants under this section for any fiscal year, the Corpora-  
6 tion shall—

7 (1) consider the need to minimize overhead  
8 costs and maximize resources available to fund pro-  
9 grams and projects; and

10 (2) seek to ensure that programs and projects  
11 receiving grant funds are carried out across a broad  
12 geographical distribution.

13 (f) CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT.—Grant recipients  
14 under this section shall be subject to the appropriate over-  
15 sight procedures of Congress.

16 (g) FUNDING.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any other  
18 funds made available to the Corporation under any  
19 other provision of law, there is authorized to be ap-  
20 propriated to the Corporation to carry out this sec-  
21 tion, \$10,000,000.

22 (2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated pur-  
23 suant to paragraph (1) are authorized to remain  
24 available until expended.

1 **SEC. 912. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 Section 3(b)(1) of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C.  
3 2502(b)(1)) is amended—

4 (1) by striking “2002, and” and inserting  
5 “2002,”; and

6 (2) by inserting before the period at the end the  
7 following: “, \$362,000,000 for fiscal year 2004,  
8 \$404,000,000 for fiscal year 2005, \$446,000,000 for  
9 fiscal year 2006, and \$488,000,000 for fiscal year  
10 2007”.