

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1311

To amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to provide for energy security and diplomacy, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 24, 2021

Mr. PFLUGER (for himself and Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to provide for energy security and diplomacy, 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 “Energy Diplomacy  
5       Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. ENERGY SECURITY AND DIPLOMACY OF THE DE-**  
7       **PARTMENT OF STATE.**

8       Section 1(c) of the State Department Basic Authori-  
9       ties Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

“(3) ENERGY RESOURCES.—

“(A) AUTHORIZATION FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—Subject to the numerical limitation specified in paragraph (1), there is authorized to be established in the Department of State an Assistant Secretary of State for Energy Resources.

“(B) PERSONNEL.—If the Department of State establishes an Assistant Secretary of State for Energy Resources in accordance with the authorization provided in subparagraph (A), the Secretary of State shall ensure there are sufficient personnel dedicated to energy matters within the Department whose responsibilities shall include—

“(i) formulating and implementing international policies aimed at protecting and advancing United States energy security interests by effectively managing United States bilateral and multilateral relations;

1 “(ii) ensuring that analyses of the na-  
2 tional security implications of global en-  
3 ergy and environmental developments are  
4 reflected in the decision-making process  
5 within the Department;

6 “(iii) incorporating energy security  
7 priorities into the activities of the Depart-  
8 ment;

9 “(iv) coordinating energy activities of  
10 the Department with relevant Federal de-  
11 partments and agencies;

12 “(v) coordinating with the Office of  
13 Sanctions Coordination on economic sanc-  
14 tions pertaining to the international energy  
15 sector; and

16 “(vi) working internationally to—

17 “(I) support the development of  
18 energy resources and the distribution  
19 of such resources for the benefit of  
20 the United States and United States  
21 allies and trading partners for their  
22 energy security and economic develop-  
23 ment needs;

24 “(II) promote availability of di-  
25 versified energy supplies and a well

1 functioning global market for energy  
2 resources, technologies, and expertise  
3 for the benefit of the United States  
4 and United States allies and trading  
5 partners;

6 “(III) resolve international dis-  
7 putes regarding the exploration, devel-  
8 opment, production, or distribution of  
9 energy resources;

10 “(IV) support the economic and  
11 commercial interests of United States  
12 persons operating in the energy mar-  
13 kets of foreign countries;

14 “(V) support and coordinate  
15 international efforts to alleviate en-  
16 ergy poverty;

17 “(VI) leading the United States  
18 commitment to the Extractive Indus-  
19 tries Transparency Initiative; and

20 “(VII) coordinating energy secu-  
21 rity and other relevant functions with-  
22 in the Department currently under-  
23 taken by—

24 “(aa) the Bureau of Eco-  
25 nomic and Business Affairs;

1                   “(bb) the Bureau of Oceans  
2                   and International Environmental  
3                   and Scientific Affairs; and

4                   “(cc) other offices within the  
5                   Department of State.”.

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