

Bill Fact Sheet – December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/109/s/1117

S 1117

United States-People's Republic of China Cultural Engagement Act

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: International Affairs **Introduced:** May 25, 2005

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (May 25, 2005)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/1117

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Lieberman, Joseph I. [D-CT]

Party: Democratic • State: CT • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Alexander, Lamar [R-TN]	$R \cdot TN$		May 25, 2005
Sen. Chafee, Lincoln [R-RI]	$R \cdot RI$		Jul 19, 2005
Sen. Coleman, Norm [R-MN]	$R \cdot MN$		Sep 14, 2005

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 25, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

United States-People's Republic of China Cultural Engagement Act - Amends the the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish grants for Chinese language and cultural studies.

Provides funding (including grants) for: (1) elementary, secondary, and higher education Chinese language, art, and cultural studies; (2) Asian business education center programs; (3) educational and governmental exchange programs; and (4) assistance to nongovernmental organizations that facilitate exchanges.

Expresses the sense of Congress that the President should negotiate for award of approved destination status to the United States in a manner consistent with U.S. laws.

Authorizes: (1) establishment of two additional consulates in the People's Republic of China (PRC); and (2) an increase the number of individuals who provide visa information to persons in the PRC.

Provides for feasibility studies regarding: (1) expedited visa processing for scientists; and (2) numerical limitation exemption for H-1B (specialty occupations) visas.

Revises J (exchange visitors) visa provisions to provide for: (1) eligible program designation; and (2) inclusion of secondary exchange students from the PRC.

Authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to assign 35 additional Commercial Service employees to the PRC.

Provides grants to States for export assistance and outreach to U.S. businesses in the PRC.

Authorizes the Small Business Administration (SBA) to facilitate the hiring of an additional export development specialist in each of the Lead Small Business Development Centers to carry out export promotion and outreach services with respect to the PRC.

Establishes the United States-People's Republic of China Engagement Strategy Council.

Actions Timeline

- May 25, 2005: Introduced in Senate
- May 25, 2005: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S5926-5927)
- May 25, 2005: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.