

S 2125

Democratic Republic of the Congo Relief, Security, and Democracy Promotion Act of 2006

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Dec 16, 2005

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 109-456.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 109-456. (Dec 22, 2006)

Law: 109-456 (Enacted Dec 22, 2006)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/2125>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Obama, Barack [D-IL]

Party: Democratic • **State:** IL • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Brownback, Sam [R-KS]	R · KS		Dec 16, 2005
Sen. DeWine, Mike [R-OH]	R · OH		Dec 16, 2005
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Dec 16, 2005
Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]	R · OK		Apr 24, 2006
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Apr 24, 2006
Sen. Clinton, Hillary Rodham [D-NY]	D · NY		Jun 19, 2006
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jun 19, 2006
Sen. Dayton, Mark [D-MN]	D · MN		Jun 29, 2006
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	D · SD		Jun 29, 2006
Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]	D · LA		Jun 29, 2006
Sen. Lieberman, Joseph I. [D-CT]	D · CT		Jun 29, 2006
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jun 29, 2006

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Markup By	Sep 13, 2006
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Reported By	May 23, 2006

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Democratic Republic of the Congo Relief, Security, and Democracy Promotion Act of 2006 - **Title I: Bilateral Action on Addressing Urgent Needs in the Democratic Republic of the Congo** - (Sec. 102) Sets forth specified U.S. political, social, civil, and economic policy objectives (policy objectives) with respect to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

(Sec. 103) Obligates a specified minimum amount for each of FY2006-FY2007 under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954, and the Arms Export Control Act for bilateral assistance programs in the DRC.

Expresses the sense of Congress that the Department of State should submit budget requests in FY2008-FY2009 that contain appropriate bilateral assistance increases for the DRC if progress is being made toward accomplishing the policy objectives.

States that the United States should work with other donor nations to increase international contributions to the DRC.

(Sec. 104) Expresses the sense of Congress that: (1) the government of the DRC must be committed to achieving the policy objectives if U.S. and international efforts are to be effective in bringing relief, security, and democracy to the country; (2) the government of the DRC should exercise control over its Armed Forces, stop the mass rapes by its armed forces, and hold those responsible accountable before an appropriate tribunal; (3) the government of the DRC, in collaboration with international aid agencies, should establish expert teams to assess the health, counseling, and social support needs of such victims; and (4) the international community is providing substantial funding that is giving the government of the DRC an opportunity to make progress towards the policy objectives but this assistance cannot continue in perpetuity.

Expresses the sense of Congress that the Secretary should withhold assistance if the government of the DRC is not making sufficient progress towards accomplishing the policy objectives.

(Sec. 105) Authorizes the Secretary to withhold assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, other than humanitarian, peacekeeping, and counterterrorism assistance, for a foreign country determined by the Secretary to be acting to destabilize the DRC.

(Sec. 106) Directs the Comptroller General to report to Congress respecting progress made toward accomplishing the policy objectives, including an evaluation of related U.S. policies and foreign assistance programs.

(Sec. 107) States that the President should appoint a Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region to help coordinate efforts to resolve the instability and insecurity in Eastern Congo.

Title II: Multilateral Actions to Address Urgent Needs in the Democratic Republic of the Congo - (Sec. 201) States that the United States should use its influence in the U.N. Security Council to: (1) address exploitation at the United Nations Peacekeeping Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC); (2) conclude a Memorandum of Understanding relating to binding codes of conduct and programs for the prevention of sexual abuse and trafficking in persons to be undertaken by the United Nations for all countries that contribute troops to MONUC; (3) strengthen MONUC; (4) ensure that the recruiting and arming of children in the DRC is halted; (5) strengthen the arms embargo; (6) allow for more effective protection of natural resources in the DRC, especially in the eastern part of the country; (7) press countries in the Congo region to help facilitate an end to the violence in the DRC; and (8) encourage the U.N. Secretary-

General to become more involved in completing the policy objectives and ensure that fighting in North Kivu, Ituri, and other areas does not create widespread instability throughout the country.

(Sec. 202) States that the President should use U.S. influence to support increased international humanitarian and development assistance for the DRC.

States that if the Secretary determines that the government of the DRC is not making sufficient progress towards accomplishing the policy objectives the President shall consider withdrawing U.S. support for such international assistance when future funding decisions are considered.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 22, 2006:** Signed by President.
- **Dec 22, 2006:** Signed by President.
- **Dec 22, 2006:** Became Public Law No: 109-456.
- **Dec 22, 2006:** Became Public Law No: 109-456.
- **Dec 20, 2006:** Presented to President.
- **Dec 20, 2006:** Presented to President.
- **Dec 9, 2006:** Resolving differences -- Senate actions: Senate agreed to House amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR 12/8/2006 S11836-11838; text as Senate agreed to House amendment: CR 12/8/2006 S11836-11838)
- **Dec 9, 2006:** Senate agreed to House amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR 12/8/2006 S11836-11838; text as Senate agreed to House amendment: CR 12/8/2006 S11836-11838)
- **Dec 7, 2006:** Message on House action received in Senate and at desk: House amendment to Senate bill.
- **Dec 6, 2006:** Mr. Smith (NJ) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Dec 6, 2006:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR 12/7/2006 H8860-8864)
- **Dec 6, 2006:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 2125.
- **Dec 6, 2006:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR 12/7/2006 H8860-8862)
- **Dec 6, 2006:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR 12/7/2006 H8860-8862)
- **Dec 6, 2006:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 13, 2006:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Sep 13, 2006:** Committee Agreed to Seek Consideration Under Suspension of the Rules, (Amended) by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jul 10, 2006:** Received in the House.
- **Jul 10, 2006:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jul 10, 2006:** Referred to the House Committee on International Relations.
- **Jun 29, 2006:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S7178-7180)
- **Jun 29, 2006:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.(text as passed Senate: CR S7179-7180)
- **Jun 29, 2006:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent. (text as passed Senate: CR S7179-7180)
- **May 23, 2006:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **May 23, 2006:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Reported by Senator Lugar without amendment. Without written report.
- **May 23, 2006:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Reported by Senator Lugar without amendment. Without written report.
- **May 23, 2006:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 442.
- **Dec 16, 2005:** Introduced in Senate
- **Dec 16, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S13788-13791)
- **Dec 16, 2005:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.