

## HR 1039

### African Descent Affairs Act of 2015

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** International Affairs

**Introduced:** Feb 24, 2015

**Current Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. (Feb 24, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/1039>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** FL • **Chamber:** House

## Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Feb 24, 2015
Rep. Cummings, Elijah E. [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Feb 24, 2015
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Feb 24, 2015
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Feb 24, 2015
Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Feb 24, 2015
Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Feb 24, 2015
Rep. Serrano, Jose E. [D-NY-15]	D · NY		Feb 24, 2015
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Feb 27, 2015
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Dec 9, 2015

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 24, 2015

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

International Affairs

## Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

## **African Descent Affairs Act of 2015**

Amends the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to direct the Secretary of State to establish within the Department of State an Office of Global African Descent Affairs, to be headed by the Director and Special Advisor to the Secretary on Global African Descent Affairs.

Includes among Office functions:

- advising the Secretary and directing policies, programs, and funding relating to the human rights and the advancement of people of African descent internationally;
- developing and managing the President Obama Fund for African Descent Affairs to invest in solutions to combat racial discrimination and create economic and political opportunities for people of African descent internationally;
- directing U.S. government resources to respond to needs for protection, integration, resettlement, and empowerment of people of African descent in U.S. policies and international programs; and
- compiling an annual report on U.S. government activities relating to people of African descent.

Amends the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to include in the annual human rights report for countries in the Americas, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East a description of the status and the people of African descent in each country.

Directs the Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development to appoint a Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Global African Descent Affairs who shall: (1) advise the Administrator and direct policies, programs, and funding relating to the human rights and advancement of people of African descent internationally; and (2) develop a uniform set of indicators and standards for monitoring and evaluating foreign assistance for people of African descent.

Requires the Director and Special Advisor to the Secretary on Global African Descent Affairs to develop or update annually (for 10 years after the initial report) a U.S. global strategy to empower, prevent, and respond to discrimination and violence against people of African descent.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Feb 24, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 24, 2015:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E234)
- **Feb 24, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.