



AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To deter official travel improprieties, impermissible use of staff members for handling non-official business matters, and questionable office renovation expenditures of politically appointed officials of the Department of Commerce.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—114th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. 3097

To establish the SelectUSA program, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. TITUNE (for himself and Mr. Johnson)

Viz:

1 At the appropriate place, insert the following:

2 **SEC. ____ . REQUIREMENTS FOR POLITICAL APPOINTEES**
3 **OF DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.**

4 (a) TRAINING CERTIFICATION REQUIRED FOR NEW
5 POLITICAL APPOINTEES.—At the beginning of each fiscal
6 year, the Secretary of Commerce shall certify to Congress
7 that each newly appointed political official of the Depart-
8 ment of Commerce has received training on each of the
9 following:

10 (1) Regulations and policies governing the use
11 of subordinates for non-official business.

Mr. Heller,
Ms. Ayotte

1 (2) Restrictions against the use of the political
2 appointee's title or position for personal gain or cre-
3 ating the appearance of such use.

4 (3) Key regulations and policies governing offi-
5 cial travel, including the Federal Travel Regulation,
6 as well as departmental travel policies, particularly
7 regarding the necessity for adequately documented
8 justification to support any per diem overages.

9 (4) The advisability of monitoring renovation
10 work done to their office suites to ensure the cost of
11 such work does not contravene congressional budget
12 restrictions.

13 (b) REPORT ON RENOVATIONS TO OFFICE SUITE OF
14 UNDER SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE.—Not
15 later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this
16 Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a written re-
17 port regarding the renovations to the office suite of the
18 Under Secretary for International Trade regarding wheth-
19 er expenditures associated with those renovations exceeded
20 the \$5,000 limit imposed by Congress and whether the
21 expenditures contravened section 1341 of title 31, United
22 States Code (commonly known as the "Anti-Deficiency
23 Act").

24 (c) CERTIFICATION ON PROCEDURES REGARDING
25 CATEGORIZATION OF WORK ON CERTAIN OFFICE

1 SUITES.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the en-
2 actment of this Act, the Secretary shall certify to Congress
3 that the Secretary has implemented procedures requiring
4 thorough documentation to support the categorization of
5 any work performed on an official office suite of a politi-
6 cally appointed official as—

7 (1) general or routine maintenance; or

8 (2) renovation work that is subject to congress-
9 sional budget restrictions.

10 (d) REPORT ON ENCOURAGING WHISTLEBLOWING.—

11 Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment
12 of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a re-
13 port on the steps the Secretary has taken to make subordi-
14 nates working for politically appointed officials feel em-
15 powered to report instances of potential regulatory, policy,
16 or rule violations to their superiors or to the Inspector
17 General of the Department of Commerce.