

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 484

To require the Secretary of Commerce to provide training and guidance relating to human rights abuses, including such abuses perpetrated against the Uyghur population by the Government of the People’s Republic of China, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 16, 2023

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. LUMMIS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Commerce to provide training and guidance relating to human rights abuses, including such abuses perpetrated against the Uyghur population by the Government of the People’s Republic of China, 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 “Combating Human
5 Rights Abuses Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. TRAINING FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT**
2 **OF COMMERCE RELATING TO AWARENESS OF**
3 **HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Commerce shall
5 provide training described in subsection (b) to such em-
6 ployees of the Department of Commerce who provide coun-
7 seling services to businesses engaged in interstate com-
8 merce or foreign direct investment as the Secretary con-
9 siders appropriate.

10 (b) **CONTENTS OF TRAINING.**—The training required
11 under subsection (a) shall be—

12 (1) designed to raise awareness about emerging
13 trends and issues with respect to human rights
14 abuses occurring worldwide, such as human rights
15 abuses perpetrated by the Government of the Peo-
16 ple’s Republic of China, including the use of forced
17 labor, against Uyghurs and other ethnic minority
18 populations in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Re-
19 gion; and

20 (2) incorporated to the greatest extent possible
21 into existing training provided by the Department of
22 Commerce.

23 (c) **TIMING.**—The training required under subsection
24 (a) shall be offered and updated at such times as the Sec-
25 retary considers appropriate.

1 **SEC. 3. GUIDANCE FOR UNITED STATES BUSINESSES RE-**
2 **LATING TO AWARENESS OF HUMAN RIGHTS**
3 **ABUSES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce
5 shall—

6 (1) offer guidance for United States businesses
7 engaged in interstate commerce or foreign direct in-
8 vestment, including such businesses that are, or are
9 considering, conducting transactions with entities
10 subject to the control or influence of jurisdictions
11 where significant human rights abuses have oc-
12 curred, such as the People’s Republic of China; and

13 (2) incorporate the guidance required under
14 paragraph (1) into any counseling services that the
15 Department of Commerce provides to such busi-
16 nesses as the Secretary considers appropriate.

17 (b) CONTENTS OF GUIDANCE.—The guidance re-
18 quired under subsection (a) shall—

19 (1) provide information about emerging trends
20 and issues involving human rights abuses, such as
21 information that describes—

22 (A) human rights abuses perpetrated by
23 the Government of the People’s Republic of
24 China, including the use of forced labor, against
25 Uyghurs and other ethnic minority populations
26 in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region;

1 (B) risk factors that may be used to iden-
2 tify entities subject to the influence or control
3 of jurisdictions such as the People’s Republic of
4 China that may be implicated in human rights
5 abuses;

6 (C) ways to avoid doing business with enti-
7 ties described in subparagraph (B); and

8 (D) potential reputational, economic, legal,
9 and other risks of conducting transactions with
10 an entity described in subparagraph (B); and

11 (2) make clear that the guidance is for advisory
12 purposes and that the Department of Commerce is
13 not responsible for certifying the accuracy or com-
14 pleteness of the information provided in the guid-
15 ance.

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