

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To require the inclusion of an accessibility assessment during inspections of overseas diplomatic facilities by the Inspector General of the Department of State.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. DUCKWORTH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the inclusion of an accessibility assessment during inspections of overseas diplomatic facilities by the Inspector General of the Department of State.

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 “Inspector General Ac-
5 cessibility Reporting Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

- 8 (1) The Department of State aspires to ensure
9 that its buildings and facilities are accessible for in-

1 individuals with disabilities, including its facilities
2 overseas.

3 (2) The Department of State has provided suc-
4 cessive annual reports in 2024 (Department Report
5 Number 006125) and 2025 (Department Report
6 Number 006837) to provide a snapshot of the self-
7 reported status of Barrier-Free Accessibility at the
8 Department's overseas posts.

9 (3) To continue enabling regular oversight and
10 ensure that the Department meets its accessibility
11 objectives and any associated statutory require-
12 ments, Congress seeks additional, predictable data
13 points from independent inspections of these posts,
14 such as those regularly completed by the Depart-
15 ment of State's Office of Inspector General.

16 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

17 Section 102 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22
18 U.S.C. 3902) is amended—

19 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through
20 (12) as paragraphs (6) through (15), respectively;

21 (2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as para-
22 graph (4);

23 (3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
24 lowing:

1 “(2) ‘Access Board’ means the Architectural
2 and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board es-
3 tablished under section 502 of the Rehabilitation Act
4 of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 792);

5 “(3) ‘Accessibility Standards’ means—

6 “(A) standards (including guidelines) es-
7 tablished by the Access Board in compliance
8 with the Architectural Barriers Act;

9 “(B) standards established by the Access
10 Board in compliance with section 508 of the
11 Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794d);
12 and

13 “(C) such other standards as are deemed
14 appropriate by the Secretary of State to ensure
15 compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act
16 and title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
17 (29 U.S.C. 791 et seq.);”;

18 (4) by inserting after paragraph (4), as redesi-
19 gnated, the following:

20 “(5) ‘Architectural Barriers Act’ means the Act
21 entitled ‘An Act to ensure that certain buildings fi-
22 nanced with Federal funds are so designed and con-
23 structed as to be accessible to the physically handi-
24 capped’, approved August 12, 1968 (commonly

1 known as the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968)
2 (42 U.S.C. 4151 et seq.);”.

3 **SEC. 4. REQUIRING ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION IN OF-**
4 **FICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL INVES-**
5 **TIGATIONS.**

6 Section 209(b) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980
7 (22 U.S.C. 3929(b)) is amended—

8 (1) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” at the
9 end;

10 (2) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at
11 the end and inserting “; and”; and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(6) the extent to which the post, bureau, or
14 other operating unit under inspection meets the Ac-
15 cessibility Standards, including the building and fa-
16 cility standards under the Architectural Barriers
17 Act.”.