

Department of State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Request

Project Title: Assistance for Rule of Law
Intended Recipient: Rule of Law Coordinator, US Embassy, Kabul

Description: Rule of law is a cornerstone in the stability operations our military is executing in Afghanistan and Iraq. It is one of the key areas in which multiple government agencies and non-governmental agencies seek to develop policy and strategy in pursuit of the same goal. Yet despite the wide recognition of the importance of rule of law, there is no single mechanism or location for facilitating training and collaboration. This funding will allow the Rule of Law Coordinator to administer funds to help address this issue.

Requested Language: *assistance for rule of law*

Sec. 1115. (a) Findings-

(2) Since 2005, the United States Department of State has provided more than \$998 million for rule of law and governance;

(b) Report- Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations and Armed Services Committee, the Judiciary Committee and the Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs detailing--

(1) a spending plan for the proposed uses of funds appropriated in this title under the headings 'Economic Support Fund' and 'International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement' that are available for assistance for Rule of law including amounts, the purposes for which funds are to be made available, and intended results;

(2) the actions to be taken by the United States Departments to support rule of law relating to such assistance;

(3) the metrics for measuring progress in achieving such results; and

(4) the mechanisms for monitoring such funds.

BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE-Funds Appropriated to the President

Provided further, That of the funds appropriated under this heading that are available for rule of law and governance, not less than \$5,000,000 shall be made administered by the Rule of Law Coordinator at the US Embassy, Kabul:

Project Title: Childhood Blindness Mitigation
Intended Recipient: Christian Blind Mission
Greenville, SC 29601

Description: Christian Blind Mission (CBM) is an international aid organization specialized in helping the disabled in the world's poorest countries and has provided care and support to all in need regardless of religion, race, age or gender for nearly 100 years. More than 1,000 projects in 113 countries provide preventative treatment, rehabilitation, education and additional support to the disabled. In 2008, over 13 million patients received medical care, and 286,720 persons with disabilities

received rehabilitation and education support. CBM believes in helping others to help themselves by training more than 9,000 nationals in health care so that communities are better able to sustain and expand their aid to the disabled.

Requested Language:

The Committee remains concerned that 1.5 million children are currently blind, and another 7 million suffer from poor vision. The Committee recommendation includes not less than \$500,000 for childhood blindness programs in fiscal year 2010. The Committee is also aware of the work done by CBM and other organizations to assist these children, who can often be helped through simple and inexpensive methods of prevention and low cost care.

Project Title: Rule of Law at the University of South Carolina
Intended Recipient: University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC

Description: Rule of law is a cornerstone of the stability operations our military is executing in Afghanistan and Iraq. It is one of the key areas in which multiple government agencies and non-governmental agencies seek to develop policy and strategy in pursuit of the same goal. Yet despite the wide recognition of the importance of rule of law, there is no central location within the United States where all of these participants come together to gain understanding and prepare themselves for this unique mission. The University of South Carolina has identified this as a priority and proposes to provide support to US attorneys from the Department of Justice, lawyers hired through the Department of State and US military attorneys from the Judge Advocate Generals' Corps. In addition to the federal agencies, a variety of private organizations will be involved, including the American Bar Association and the ABA's World Justice Project. This proposal will help develop the resources to address this gap in our nation's support to the war effort.

Requested Language:

The Committee commends the University of South Carolina for facilitating rule of law development and encourages USAID to work with the University in this initiative.