

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To authorize the establishment of the US-ASEAN Center to support United States economic and cultural engagement with Southeast Asia.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. VAN HOLLEN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To authorize the establishment of the US-ASEAN Center to support United States economic and cultural engagement with Southeast Asia.

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. US-ASEAN CENTER.**

4 (a) **DEFINED TERM.**—In this Act, the term
5 “ASEAN” means the Association of Southeast Asian Na-
6 tions.

7 (b) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary is authorized
8 to enter into a public-private partnership for the purposes
9 of establishing a US-ASEAN Center in the United States

1 to support United States economic and cultural engage-
2 ment with Southeast Asia.

3 (c) FUNCTIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
4 sion of law, the US-ASEAN Center established pursuant
5 to subsection (b) may—

6 (1) provide grants for research to support and
7 elevate the importance of the US-ASEAN partner-
8 ship;

9 (2) facilitate activities to strengthen US-
10 ASEAN trade and investment;

11 (3) expand economic and technological relation-
12 ships between ASEAN countries and the United
13 States into new areas of cooperation;

14 (4) provide training to United States citizens
15 and citizens of ASEAN countries that improve peo-
16 ple-to-people ties;

17 (5) develop educational programs to increase
18 awareness for the United States and ASEAN coun-
19 tries on the importance of relations between the
20 United States and ASEAN countries; and

21 (6) carry out other activities the Secretary con-
22 siders necessary to strengthen ties between the
23 United States and ASEAN countries and achieve the
24 objectives of the US-ASEAN Center.