“An opportunity remains to take hold of the moment before us, to face squarely the new challenges of this more competitive era, and to replenish our vision, reinvigorate our diplomacy, revive our partnerships, and to restore American leadership for a new era.”

Ranking Member Bob Menendez (D-N.J.), opening statement from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on the “State Department's Budget Request for FY 2020” on April 10, 2019
235 Democrats
197 Republicans
3 Vacant
By 2050, ~70% of the population will live in 15 states, meaning just ~30% of the U.S. population selects 70 Senators.
AFSA’s Committees of Jurisdiction

**Authorizing:**
- Senate Foreign Relations Committee
  - State Department/USAID Subcommittee
- House Foreign Affairs Committee

**Appropriating:**
- Senate Appropriations Committee
  - State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee
- House Appropriations Committee
  - State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee
Leadership on AFSA’s Committees of Jurisdiction

- Senate Foreign Relations Chair: Jim Risch (R-ID)
  Ranking Member: Bob Menendez (D-NJ)

- Senate State/USAID Subcommittee Chair: Johnny Isakson (R-GA)
  Ranking Member: Cory Booker (D-NJ)

- Senate Appropriations Chair: Richard Shelby (R-AL)
  Ranking Member: Patrick Leahy (D-VT)

- Senate SFOPS Appropriations Chair: Lindsey Graham (R-SC)
  Ranking Member: Patrick Leahy (D-VT)

- House Foreign Affairs Chair: Eliot Engel (D-NY)
  Ranking Member: Michael McCaul (R-TX)

- House Appropriations Chair: Nita Lowey (D-NY)
  Ranking Member: Kay Granger (R-TX)

- House SFOPS Appropriations Chair: Nita Lowey (D-NY)
  Ranking Member: Hal Rogers (R-KY)
AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE ASSOCIATION

Ongoing Operations Approps History (08-18)
“Just last month before the Chinese Parliament, Beijing presented a budget for 2019 that would increase foreign affairs spending by another 7.4 percent. American diplomats are already outnumbered five to one by Chinese diplomats doing economic and commercial work in Africa and elsewhere, and we hear from ambassadors of many of these countries who say to members of Congress, they would rather do business with the U.S., but they can't find us.”

Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.), questioning Sec. Pompeo at the Senate State, Foreign Operations, and Related Program Subcommittee hearing on the “Review of the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Request for the State Department” on April 9, 2019
“Market Access Challenges in China”

“U.S. Responses to China’s Foreign Influence Operations”

“A New Approach for an Era of U.S.-China Competition”


“China’s Worldwide Military Expansion”

“China’s Threat to American Government and Private Sector Research and Innovation Leadership”
“With countries like China and Russia working to undermine democratic values and respect for human rights, American leadership is more important than ever. This U.S.-led international order has helped populations across the globe enjoy safer, more stable, and more prosperous lives, and I believe American diplomatic engagement is critical to leaving a better world for the next generation.”

Rep. Ann Wagner (R-Mo.), during her testimony at the Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs members’ day hearing, March 6, 2019
Economic Diplomacy Works: The Foreign Service Solution

A field-forward Foreign Service is:

- **Readily Available**: Existing mid-level FSOs can easily be shifted from Washington to overseas posts

- **Business Backed**: Business has asked for more support from FSOs in embassies to enable them to compete and win in overseas markets

- **Administration Supported**: Statements from Sec. of State Mike Pompeo support the “field-forward” approach

- **Cost Effective**: Sending one FSOs abroad costs at most $300,000/head
“We need our people out there, working with our security partners, advancing human rights and the rule of law, and pushing for American business.”

Chairman James Risch (R-Idaho), opening statement from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on the “State Department's budget request for FY 2020” on April 10, 2019
The Championing American Businesses Through Diplomacy Act

The purpose of this bill is to foster commercial relations with foreign countries and support United States economic and business interests abroad in the conduct of foreign policy.

“Foreign Service support for American business . . . is a major reason why the U.S. Foreign Service was created.”
**VACANCY STATISTICS**

**SENATE CONFIRMED VACANCIES**
- Nine of 24 State Assistant Secretary positions
- Four of six State Undersecretary positions
- 30 Ambassador positions have no nominee
- At least 20 additional Ambassador positions are vacant with an announced nominee
- Seven of 11 USAID appointee positions

Only one career FSO each at the Undersecretary (David Hale) and Assistant Secretary (Carol Perez) levels have been confirmed.

**SENIOR RANKS EMPTYING**
From December 2016 to December 2018:
- The number of CMs (three-star equivalents) fell from 33 to 19
- The number of MCs (two-star equivalents) fell from 470 to 376
- The number of OCs (one-star equivalents) fell from 459 to 391

**POTENTIAL CONGRESSIONAL ACTION**

**ADD FY20 APPROPRIATIONS REPORT LANGUAGE**
Under “Overseas Programs” in the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations bill:

“Funds above the FY19 level shall be for the purpose of creating and filling mid-level Foreign Service officer positions (grades FS-03, FS-02, and FS-01) at overseas posts.”

**AMEND THE FOREIGN SERVICE ACT**
Sec. 304:

(2) Given the qualifications specified in paragraph (1), positions as chief of mission should normally be accorded to career members of the Service, though circumstances will warrant appointments [not to exceed 10 percent of all ambassadorial appointments] of qualified individuals who are not career members of the service.
AFSA Advocacy Wins

• Warded off proposed cuts to the International Affairs Budget
• Included language requiring State to resume hiring, maintain staffing above specified floors
• Reversed the decade-long decline in core diplomatic capability spending
• Increased the “Overseas Programs” FY19 appropriations line item by $84 million, which funds the regional bureaus abroad and the costs of moving FSOs overseas
Today

Ambassador Barbara Stephenson
President, American Foreign Service Association

“State of the State Department”