



23-1312

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to Their Excellencies and Messieurs and Mesdames the Chiefs of Mission and wishes to advise of enacted U.S. legislation that might affect foreign assistance to countries.

Section 7053 of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act of 2023 (Division K, P.L. 117-328), requires the

United States to withhold certain foreign assistance funds equal to 110

percent of the total amount of unpaid fully adjudicated parking fines and

penalties and unpaid property taxes owed by the central government of a

country to government authorities in the United States, including

Washington, D.C. and New York City. Such assistance must be withheld until

the Secretary certifies to the United States Congress that amounts owed are

fully paid.

The amount to be withheld is calculated from the amount owed on parking fines for vehicles registered to the Department of State that were

incurred during the period April 1, 1997, through September 30, 2022. The

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amount of assistance withheld under this year's Act will not include parking fines and penalties and unpaid property taxes for which assistance was previously withheld under prior legislation for the same period.

The Department encourages all affected missions and mission members to contact the appropriate city officials to confirm the accuracy of the parking fine data, and to then take the necessary steps to resolve all outstanding valid parking tickets either by paying amounts owed or successfully adjudicating settlements of the violations.

Please note that the Department requires written confirmation from the jurisdiction that the amount of unpaid parking fines and penalties and unpaid property taxes has been fully satisfied. Missions should obtain such confirmation from all relevant jurisdictions for submission to the Department.

Questions regarding parking ticket foreign assistance withholding should be directed to [OFM-Policy@state.gov](mailto:OFM-Policy@state.gov).

Department of State,



Washington, July 13, 2023.

**DIPLOMATIC NOTE**