

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 1150
OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF NEW JERSEY**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

2 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
3 “Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act”.

4 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
5 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings; Policy.
- Sec. 3. Definitions.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF STATE ACTIVITIES

- Sec. 101. Office on International Religious Freedom; Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom.
- Sec. 102. Annual Report on International Religious Freedom.
- Sec. 103. Training for Foreign Service officers; report.
- Sec. 104. Prisoner lists and issue briefs on religious freedom concerns.

TITLE II—NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

- Sec. 201. Special Adviser for International Religious Freedom.

TITLE III—PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

- Sec. 301. Non-state actor designations.
- Sec. 302. Presidential actions in response to particularly severe violations of religious freedom.
- Sec. 303. Report to Congress.
- Sec. 304. Presidential waiver.
- Sec. 305. Publication in the Federal Register.

TITLE IV—PROMOTION OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

- Sec. 401. Assistance for promoting religious freedom.

TITLE V—DESIGNATED PERSONS LIST FOR PARTICULARLY
SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Sec. 501. Designated Persons List for Particularly Severe Violations of Religious Freedom.

TITLE VI—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 601. Miscellaneous provisions.

Sec. 602. Clerical amendments.

1 SEC. 2. FINDINGS; POLICY.

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Section 2(a) of the International Re-
3 ligious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401(a)) is
4 amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (3), by inserting immediately
6 prior to the penultimate sentence the following new
7 sentence: “The freedom of thought, conscience, and
8 religion is understood to protect theistic and non-
9 theistic beliefs as well as the right not to profess or
10 practice any religion.”; and

11 (2) in paragraph (6)—

12 (A) by inserting “and the specific targeting
13 of non-theists, humanists, and atheists because
14 of their beliefs” after “religious persecution”;
15 and

16 (B) by inserting “and in regions where
17 non-state actors exercise significant political
18 power and influence” after “religious majori-
19 ties”.

1 (b) POLICY.—Section 2(b) of the International Reli-
2 gious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401(b)) is amend-
3 ed by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

4 “(6) Because the promotion of international re-
5 ligious freedom protects human rights, advances de-
6 mocracy abroad, and advances United States inter-
7 ests in stability, security, and development globally,
8 the promotion of international religious freedom re-
9 quires new and evolving policies, and diplomatic re-
10 sponses that are drawn from the expertise of the na-
11 tional security agencies, the diplomatic services, and
12 other governmental agencies and nongovernmental
13 organizations, and are coordinated across and car-
14 ried out by the entire range of Federal agencies.”.

15 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

16 Section 3 of the International Religious Freedom Act
17 of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6402) is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (13)—

19 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

20 (i) by redesignating clauses (iv) and

21 (v) as clauses (v) and (vi), respectively;

22 and

23 (ii) by inserting after clause (iii) the

24 following:

1 “(iv) not professing a particular reli-
2 gion, or any religion;” and

3 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

4 (i) by inserting “conscience, non-the-
5 istic views, or” before “religious belief or
6 practice”; and

7 (ii) by inserting after “forced religious
8 conversion” the following: “, forcibly com-
9 pelling non-believers or non-theists to re-
10 cant their beliefs or to convert”; and

11 (2) by adding at the end, the following new
12 paragraphs:

13 “(14) SPECIAL WATCH LIST.—The term ‘Spe-
14 cial Watch List’ means the Special Watch List as
15 contained in the described in Executive Summary to
16 the Annual Report and described in section
17 102(b)(1)(F)(iii).

18 “(15) NON-STATE ACTOR.—The term ‘non-state
19 actor’ means a nonsovereign entity that exercises
20 significant political power and is able to exert influ-
21 ence at a national or international level but does not
22 belong to or ally itself to any particular country and
23 often employs illegal violence in pursuit of its objec-
24 tives.

1 “(16) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—
2 The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the
3 meaning given that term in section 101 of the High-
4 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)”.

5 **TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF**
6 **STATE ACTIVITIES**

7 **SEC. 101. OFFICE ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREE-**
8 **DOM; AMBASSADOR AT LARGE FOR INTER-**
9 **NATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 101 of the International
11 Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6411) is
12 amended—

13 (1) in subsection (b), by adding at the end be-
14 fore the period the following: “, and shall report di-
15 rectly to the Secretary of State”;

16 (2) in subsection (c)—

17 (A) in paragraph (1)—

18 (i) by striking “responsibility” and in-
19 serting “responsibilities”;

20 (ii) by striking “shall be to advance”
21 and inserting the following: “shall be to—
22 “(A) advance”;

23 (iii) in subparagraph (A) (as so
24 added), by striking the period at the end
25 and inserting “; and”; and

1 (iv) by adding at the end the following
2 new subparagraph:

3 “(B) integrate United States international
4 religious freedom policies and strategies into
5 the foreign policy efforts of the United States.”;

6 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “the
7 principal adviser to” before “the Secretary of
8 State”;

9 (C) in paragraph (3)—

10 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking
11 “and” at the end;

12 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
13 the period at the end and inserting “;
14 and”;

15 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
16 lowing new subparagraph:

17 “(C) contacts with nongovernmental orga-
18 nizations that have an impact on the state of
19 religious freedom in their respective societies or
20 regions, or internationally.”;

21 (D) by redesignating paragraph (4) as
22 paragraph (5); and

23 (E) by inserting after paragraph (3) the
24 following new paragraph:

1 “(4) COORDINATION RESPONSIBILITIES.—In
2 order to promote religious freedom as an interest of
3 United States foreign policy, the Ambassador at
4 Large—

5 “(A) shall coordinate international reli-
6 gious freedom policies across all programs,
7 projects, and activities of the United States;
8 and

9 “(B) should participate in any interagency
10 processes on issues in which the promotion of
11 international religious freedom policy can ad-
12 vance United States national security interests,
13 including in democracy promotion, stability, se-
14 curity, and development globally.”; and

15 (3) in subsection (d), by striking “staff for the
16 Office” and all that follows through the period at
17 the end and inserting “individuals to fill at least 25
18 full-time equivalent staff positions, and any other
19 temporary staff positions as needed to compile, edit,
20 and manage the Annual Report under the direct su-
21 pervision of the Ambassador at Large, and for the
22 conduct of investigations by the Office and for nec-
23 essary travel to carry out the provisions of this Act.
24 The Secretary of State should also provide to the
25 Ambassador at Large funds that are sufficient to

1 carry out the duties described in this section, includ-
2 ing as necessary representation funds, in amounts
3 comparable to those provided to other Ambassadors
4 at Large in the Department of State.”.

5 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—Because international re-
6 ligious freedom is a vital foreign policy interest and one
7 that needs coordination across many regional bureaus and
8 among Special Envoys and Special Representatives with
9 overlapping mandates, the Secretary of State should con-
10 sider elevating the office of International Religious Free-
11 dom and the position of the Ambassador-at-Large for
12 International Religious Freedom to the Office of the Sec-
13 retary, similar to other Ambassador-at-Large positions
14 that now report directly to the Secretary. Providing the
15 Office of International Religious Freedom with additional
16 resources and status will demonstrate both the strategic
17 importance of international religious freedom policy within
18 the State Department bureaucracy and show persecuted
19 religious groups globally that the U.S. gives priority to the
20 protection and promotion of international religious free-
21 dom as mandated by the International Religious Freedom
22 Act of 1998.

1 **SEC. 102. ANNUAL REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS**
2 **FREEDOM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 102(b)(1) of the Inter-
4 national Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C.
5 6412(b)(1)) is amended—

6 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
7 by striking “September 1” and inserting “May 1”;

8 (2) in subparagraph (A)—

9 (A) by redesignating clause (iv) as clause
10 (vii); and

11 (B) by inserting after clause (iii) the fol-
12 lowing new clauses:

13 “(iv) particularly severe violations of
14 religious freedom in that country in the
15 case of a foreign country with respect to
16 which a government does not exist or the
17 government does not control its territory;

18 “(v) an identification of prisoners in
19 that country pursuant to section 108;

20 “(vi) any action taken by the govern-
21 ment of that country to censor religious
22 content, communications, or worship activi-
23 ties online, including descriptions of the
24 targeted religious group, the content, com-
25 munication, or activities censored, and the
26 means used.”;

1 (3) in subparagraph (B), in the matter pre-
2 ceding clause (i)—

3 (A) by inserting “persecution of lawyers,
4 politicians, or other human rights advocates
5 seeking to defend the rights of members of reli-
6 gious groups or highlight religious freedom vio-
7 lations, prohibitions on ritual animal slaughter
8 or male infant circumcision,” after “entire reli-
9 gions,”; and

10 (B) by inserting “policies that ban or re-
11 strict the public manifestation of religious belief
12 and the peaceful involvement of religious groups
13 or their members in the political life of each
14 such foreign country,” after “such groups,”;

15 (4) in subparagraph (C)—

16 (A) by striking “A description” and insert-
17 ing “A comprehensive description”;

18 (B) by striking “policies in support” and
19 inserting “diplomatic and political coordination
20 efforts, and other policies in support”; and

21 (C) by adding at the end before the period
22 the following: “, and a comprehensive and coun-
23 try-specific analysis of the impact of actions by
24 the United States on the status of religious
25 freedom in each such country”; and

1 (5) in subparagraph (F)—

2 (A) in clause (i)—

3 (i) by striking “section 402(b)(1)”

4 and inserting “section 402(b)(1)(B)(i)”;

5 and

6 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-

7 lowing: “Any country in which a non-state

8 actor designated as an entity of particular

9 concern for religious freedom under section

10 301 of the Frank R. Wolf International

11 Religious Freedom Act is located shall be

12 included in this section of the report.”

13 (B) by adding at the end the following new

14 clause:

15 “(iii) SPECIAL WATCH LIST.—A list,

16 to be known as the ‘Special Watch List’,

17 which shall identify each country that en-

18 gages in or tolerates severe violations of re-

19 ligious freedom during the previous year

20 but which the President determines does

21 not meet, at the time of the publication of

22 the Annual Report, all of the criteria de-

23 scribed in section 3(11) for designation

24 under section 402(b)(1).”.

1 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
2 gress that—

3 (1) the original intent of the International Reli-
4 gious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.)
5 was to require annual reports from both the Depart-
6 ment of State and the Commission on International
7 Religious Freedom to be delivered each year, during
8 the same calendar year, and with at least 5 months
9 separating these reports, in order to provide updated
10 information for policy-makers, Members of Congress,
11 and nongovernmental organizations; and

12 (2) given that the annual Country Reports on
13 Human Rights Practices no longer contain updated
14 information on religious freedom conditions globally,
15 it is important that the Department of State and the
16 Commission work together to fulfill the original in-
17 tent of the International Religious Freedom Act of
18 1998.

19 **SEC. 103. TRAINING FOR FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS; RE-**
20 **PORT.**

21 (a) AMENDMENT TO FOREIGN SERVICE ACT OF
22 1980.—Section 708 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980
23 (22 U.S.C. 4028) is amended—

24 (1) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as
25 subsections (d) and (e), respectively;

1 (2) in subsection (d), as redesignated, by strik-
2 ing “The Secretary of State” and inserting “REFU-
3 GEES.—The Secretary of State”;

4 (3) in subsection (e), as redesignated, by strik-
5 ing “The Secretary of State” and inserting “CHILD
6 SOLDIERS.—The Secretary of State”;

7 (4) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the
8 following:

9 “(a) DEVELOPMENT OF CURRICULUM.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State
11 shall develop a curriculum for training United States
12 Foreign Service officers in the scope and strategic
13 value of international religious freedom, how viola-
14 tions of international religious freedom harm funda-
15 mental United States interests, how the advance-
16 ment of international religious freedom can advance
17 such interests, how United States international reli-
18 gious freedom policy should be carried out in prac-
19 tice by United States diplomats and other Foreign
20 Service officers, and the relevance and relationship
21 of international religious freedom to United States
22 defense, diplomacy, development, and public affairs
23 efforts. The Secretary of State shall ensure the
24 availability of sufficient resources to develop and im-
25 plement such curriculum.

1 “(2) ROLE OF OTHER OFFICIALS.—The Sec-
2 retary of State shall carry out paragraph (1)—

3 “(A) with the assistance of the Amba-
4 sador at Large for International Religious
5 Freedom appointed under section 101(b) of the
6 International Religious Freedom Act of 1998;

7 “(B) in coordination with the Director of
8 the George P. Shultz National Foreign Affairs
9 Training Center and other Federal officials as
10 appropriate; and

11 “(C) in consultation with the United
12 States Commission on International Religious
13 Freedom established in section 201(a) of the
14 International Religious Freedom Act of 1998
15 and other relevant stakeholders.

16 “(b) TRAINING PROGRAM.—Not later than the date
17 that is one year after the date of the enactment of the
18 Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act, the
19 Director of the George P. Shultz National Foreign Affairs
20 Training Center shall begin mandatory training on reli-
21 gious freedom for all Foreign Service officers, including
22 all entry level officers, all officers prior to departure for
23 posting outside the United States, and all outgoing deputy
24 chiefs of mission and ambassadors. Such training shall,

1 at minimum, be a separate, independent, and required
2 segment of each of the following:

3 “(1) The A–100 course attended by all Foreign
4 Service officers.

5 “(2) The courses required of every Foreign
6 Service officer prior to a posting outside the United
7 States, with segments tailored to the particular reli-
8 gious demography, religious freedom conditions, and
9 United States strategies for advancing religious free-
10 dom, in each receiving country.

11 “(3) The courses required of all outgoing dep-
12 uty chiefs of mission and ambassadors.

13 “(c) INFORMATION SHARING.—The curriculum and
14 training materials developed pursuant to subsections (a)
15 and (b) should be made available to all other Federal
16 agencies.”.

17 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
18 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, with
19 the assistance of the Ambassador at Large for Inter-
20 national Religious Freedom, and the Director of the
21 George P. Shultz National Foreign Affairs Training Cen-
22 ter, shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
23 the House of Representatives and the Committee on For-
24 eign Relations of the Senate a report containing a com-
25 prehensive plan for undertaking training for Foreign Serv-

1 ice officers as required under section 708 of the Foreign
2 Services Act of 1980, as amended by subsection (a) of this
3 section.

4 **SEC. 104. PRISONER LISTS AND ISSUE BRIEFS ON RELI-**
5 **GIOUS FREEDOM CONCERNS.**

6 Section 108 of the International Religious Freedom
7 Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6417) is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (b), by striking “faith” and
9 inserting “activities, religious freedom advocacy, or
10 efforts to protect and advance the universally-recog-
11 nized right to the freedom of religion,”;

12 (2) in subsection (c), by striking “, as appro-
13 priate, provide” and insert “make available”; and

14 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
15 section:

16 “(d) VICTIMS LIST MAINTAINED BY THE UNITED
17 STATES COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS
18 FREEDOM.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall
20 make publicly available online and in official publica-
21 tions lists of persons it determines are imprisoned,
22 detained, disappeared, placed under house arrest,
23 tortured, or subject to forced renunciations of faith
24 for their religious activity or religious freedom advo-
25 cacy by the government of a foreign country that the

1 Commission recommends for designation as a coun-
2 try of particular concern for religious freedom under
3 section 402(b)(1) or by a non-state actor that the
4 Commission recommends for designation as an enti-
5 ty of particular concern for religious freedom under
6 section 301 of the Frank R. Wolf International Reli-
7 gious Freedom Act and include as much publicly-
8 available information as possible on the conditions
9 and circumstances of such persons.

10 “(2) DISCRETION.—In compiling such lists, the
11 Commission shall exercise all appropriate discretion,
12 including consideration of the safety and security of,
13 and benefit to, the persons who may be included on
14 the lists and the families of such persons.”.

15 **TITLE II—NATIONAL SECURITY** 16 **COUNCIL**

17 **SEC. 201. SPECIAL ADVISER FOR INTERNATIONAL RELI-** 18 **GIOUS FREEDOM.**

19 Section 101 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50
20 U.S.C. 3021) is amended by striking subsection (k) and
21 inserting the following:

22 “(k) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
23 gress that there should be within the staff of the National
24 Security Council a Special Adviser to the President on
25 International Religious Freedom, whose position should be

1 comparable to that of a director within the Executive Of-
2 fice of the President, with the primary responsibility to
3 serve as a resource for executive branch officials on inter-
4 national religious freedom, compiling and maintaining in-
5 formation on the facts and circumstances of violations of
6 religious freedom (as defined in section 3 of the Inter-
7 national Religious Freedom Act of 1998), and making rel-
8 evant policy recommendations to advance United States
9 international religious freedom policy. The Special Advisor
10 should also assist the Ambassador-at-Large to coordinate
11 international religious freedom policies and strategies
12 throughout the executive branch and within any inter-
13 agency policy committees where the Ambassador-at-Large
14 participates.”.

15 **TITLE III—PRESIDENTIAL**
16 **ACTIONS**

17 **SEC. 301. NON-STATE ACTOR DESIGNATIONS.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall, concurrent
19 with the annual foreign country review required by section
20 402(b)(1) of the International Religious Freedom Act of
21 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6442(b)(1))—

22 (1) review and identify any non-state actors op-
23 erating in any such reviewed country or surrounding
24 region that have engaged in particularly severe viola-
25 tions of religious freedom; and

1 (2) designate, in a manner consistent with such
2 Act, each such non-state actor as an entity of par-
3 ticular concern for religious freedom.

4 (b) REPORT.—Whenever the President designates a
5 non-state actor under subsection (a) as an entity of par-
6 ticular concern for religious freedom, the President shall,
7 as soon as practicable after the designation is made, sub-
8 mit to the appropriate congressional committees a report
9 detailing the reasons for such designation.

10 (c) ACTIONS.—The President should take specific ac-
11 tions to address severe violations of religious freedom of
12 non-state actors that are designated under subsection (a),
13 including taking actions commensurate to those actions
14 described in section 405 of the International Religious
15 Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6445).

16 (d) DEPARTMENT OF STATE ANNUAL REPORT.—The
17 Secretary of State should include information detailing the
18 reasons the President designated a non-state actor as an
19 entity of particular concern for religious freedom under
20 subsection (a) in the Annual Report required in section
21 102(b)(1) of the International Religious Freedom Act of
22 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6442(b)(1)).

23 (e) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
24 gress that the Secretary of State should work with Con-
25 gress to create new political, financial, and diplomatic

1 tools to address severe violations of religious freedom by
2 non-state actors and to update the actions the President
3 can take in section 405 of the International Religious
4 Freedom Act of 1998.

5 (f) DETERMINATIONS OF RESPONSIBLE PARTIES.—
6 In order to appropriately target Presidential actions under
7 the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 in re-
8 sponse, the President shall with respect to each non-state
9 actor designated as an entity of particular concern for reli-
10 gious freedom under subsection (a), seek to determine the
11 specific officials or members thereof that are responsible
12 for the particularly severe violations of religious freedom
13 engaged in or tolerated by that entity.

14 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms “appro-
15 priate congressional committees”, “non-state actor”, and
16 “particularly severe violations of religious freedom” have
17 the meanings given such terms in section 3 of the Inter-
18 national Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C.
19 6402), as amended by section 3 of this Act.

20 **SEC. 302. PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO PAR-**
21 **TICULARLY SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF RELI-**
22 **GIOUS FREEDOM.**

23 Section 402 of the International Religious Freedom
24 Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6442) is amended—

25 (1) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1)—

2 (i) by amending subparagraph (A) to
3 read as follows:

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90
5 days after the date on which each Annual Re-
6 port is submitted under section 102(b), the
7 President shall—

8 “(i) review the status of religious free-
9 dom in each foreign country to determine
10 whether the government of that country
11 has engaged in or tolerated particularly se-
12 vere violations of religious freedom in each
13 such country during the preceding 12
14 months or longer; and

15 “(ii) designate each country the gov-
16 ernment of which has engaged in or toler-
17 ated violations described in clause (i) as a
18 country of particular concern for religious
19 freedom.”; and

20 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
21 “September 1 of the respective year” and
22 inserting “the date on which each Annual
23 Report is submitted under section 102(b)”;

24 (B) by amending paragraph (3) to read as
25 follows:

1 “(3) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Whenever the Presi-
3 dent designates a country as a country of par-
4 ticular concern for religious freedom under
5 paragraph (1)(A), the President shall, not later
6 than 90 days after the designation is made,
7 transmit to the appropriate congressional com-
8 mittees—

9 “(i) the designation of the country,
10 signed by the President;

11 “(ii) the identification, if any, of re-
12 sponsible parties determined under para-
13 graph (2); and

14 “(iii) a description of the actions
15 taken under subsection (c), the purposes of
16 the actions taken, and the effectiveness of
17 the actions taken.

18 “(B) REMOVAL OF DESIGNATION.—A
19 country that is designated as a country of par-
20 ticular concern for religious freedom under
21 paragraph (1)(A) shall retain such designation
22 until the President determines and reports to
23 the appropriate congressional committees that
24 the country should no longer be so des-
25 ignated.”; and

1 (C) by adding at the end, the following
2 new paragraph:

3 “(4) TREATMENT OF COUNTRIES ON SPECIAL
4 WATCH LIST.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The President shall
6 designate as a country of particular concern for
7 religious freedom under paragraph (1)(A) any
8 country that appears on the Special Watch List
9 in more than 2 consecutive Annual Reports.

10 “(B) EXERCISE OF WAIVER AUTHORITY.—
11 The President may waive the application of
12 subparagraph (A) with respect to a country for
13 up to 2 years if the President certifies to the
14 appropriate committees of Congress that—

15 “(i) the country has entered into an
16 agreement with the United States to carry
17 out specific and credible actions to improve
18 religious freedom conditions and end reli-
19 gious freedom violations;

20 “(ii) the country has entered into an
21 agreement with the United Nations, the
22 European Union, or other ally of the
23 United States, to carry out specific and
24 credible actions to improve religious free-

1 dom conditions and end religious freedom
2 violations; or

3 “(iii) the waiver is in the national se-
4 curity interests of the United States.

5 “(C) EFFECT ON DESIGNATION AS COUN-
6 TRY OF PARTICULAR CONCERN.—The presence
7 or absence of a country from the Special Watch
8 List in any given year shall not preclude the
9 designation of such country as a country of par-
10 ticular concern for religious freedom under
11 paragraph (1)(A) in any such year.”; and

12 (2) in subsection (c)(5), in the second sentence,
13 by inserting “and include a description of the impact
14 of the designation of such sanction or sanctions that
15 exist in each country” after “determines satisfy the
16 requirements of this subsection”.

17 **SEC. 303. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

18 Section 404(a)(4)(A) of the International Religious
19 Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6444(a)(4)(A)) is
20 amended—

21 (1) in clause (iii), by striking the period at the
22 end and inserting “; and”; and

23 (2) by adding at the end the following new
24 clause:

1 “(iv) the impact on the advancement
2 of United States interests in democracy,
3 human rights, and security, and a descrip-
4 tion of policy tools being applied in the
5 country, including programs that target
6 democratic stability, economic growth, and
7 counter-terrorism.”.

8 **SEC. 304. PRESIDENTIAL WAIVER.**

9 Section 407 of the International Religious Freedom
10 Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6447) is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (a)—

12 (A) by striking “subsection (b)” and in-
13 serting “subsection (c)”; and

14 (B) by inserting “, for a single 180-day pe-
15 riod,” after “may waive”;

16 (2) by striking “that—” and all that follows
17 and inserting “that the exercise of such waiver au-
18 thority would further the purposes of this Act.”;

19 (3) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-
20 section (c);

21 (4) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
22 lowing:

23 “(b) **ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.**—Subject to sub-
24 section (c), the President may waive, for any additional
25 period of time after the 180-day period described in sub-

1 section (a), the application of any of the actions described
2 in paragraphs (9) through (15) of section 405(a) (or a
3 commensurate action in substitution thereto) with respect
4 to a country, if the President determines and so reports
5 to the appropriate congressional committees that—

6 “(1) the respective foreign government has
7 ceased the violations giving rise to the Presidential
8 action; or

9 “(2) the exercise of such authority is important
10 to the national interests of the United States.”.

11 (5) in subsection (c), by inserting “or (b)” after
12 “subsection (a)”; and

13 (6) by adding at the end the following new sub-
14 section:

15 “(d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
16 gress that—

17 “(1) ongoing and persistent waivers of the ap-
18 plication of any of the actions described in para-
19 graphs (9) through (15) of section 405(a) (or com-
20 mensurate action in substitution thereto) with re-
21 spect to a country do not fulfill the purposes of this
22 Act; and

23 “(2) because the promotion of religious freedom
24 is a compelling interest of United States foreign pol-
25 icy, the President, the Secretary of State, and other

1 Executive branch officials, in consultation with Con-
2 gress, should seek to find ways to address existing
3 violations, on a case-by-case basis, through the ac-
4 tions specified in section 405 or other commensurate
5 action in substitution thereto.”.

6 **SEC. 305. PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER.**

7 Section 408(a)(1) of the International Religious
8 Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6448(a)(1)) is amended
9 by adding at the end the following: “Any designation of
10 a non-state actor as an entity of particular concern for
11 religious freedom under section 301 of the Frank R. Wolf
12 International Religious Freedom Act, together with, when
13 applicable and to the extent practicable, the identities of
14 individuals determined to be responsible for the violations
15 under subsection (e) of such section.”.

16 **TITLE IV—PROMOTION OF**
17 **RELIGIOUS FREEDOM**

18 **SEC. 401. ASSISTANCE FOR PROMOTING RELIGIOUS FREE-**
19 **DOM.**

20 (a) AVAILABILITY OF ASSISTANCE.—It is the sense
21 of Congress that for each fiscal year that begins on or
22 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Depart-
23 ment of State should make available—

24 (1) an amount equal to not less than 10 percent
25 of the amounts available in that fiscal year for the

1 Human Rights and Democracy Fund for the pro-
2 motion of international religious freedom and for
3 projects to advance United States interests in the
4 protection and advancement of international reli-
5 gious freedom, in particular, through grants to—

6 (A) groups that are able to develop legal
7 protections or promote cultural and societal un-
8 derstanding of international norms of religious
9 freedom;

10 (B) groups that seek to address and miti-
11 gate religiously motivated and sectarian violence
12 and combat violent extremism; and

13 (C) groups that seek to strengthen inves-
14 tigation, reporting, and monitoring of religious
15 freedom violations; and

16 (2) an amount equal to not less than 2 percent
17 of amounts available in that fiscal year for the
18 Human Rights and Democracy Fund to be made
19 available for the establishment of a Religious Free-
20 dom Defense Fund, administered by the Ambassador
21 at Large for International Religious Freedom, to
22 provide grants for—

23 (A) victims of religious freedom abuses and
24 their families to cover legal and other expenses

1 that may arise from detention, imprisonment,
2 torture, fines, and other restrictions; and

3 (B) projects to help create and support
4 training of a new generation of defenders of re-
5 ligious freedom, including legal and political ad-
6 vocates, and civil society projects which seek to
7 create advocacy networks, strengthen legal rep-
8 resentation, train and educate new religious
9 freedom defenders, and build the capacity of re-
10 ligious communities and rights defenders to
11 protect against religious freedom violations,
12 mitigate societal or sectarian violence, or mini-
13 mize legal or other restrictions of the right to
14 freedom of religion.

15 (b) PREFERENCE.—It is the sense of Congress that,
16 in providing grants under subsection (a), the Ambassador
17 at Large for International Religious Freedom should, as
18 appropriate, give preference to projects targeting religious
19 freedom violations in countries designated as countries of
20 particular concern for religious freedom under section
21 402(b)(1) of the International Religious Freedom Act of
22 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6442(b)(1)) and countries included on
23 the Special Watch List described in section
24 102(b)(1)(F)(iii) of the International Religious Freedom
25 Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6412(b)(1)(F)(iii)).

1 (c) ADMINISTRATION AND CONSULTATIONS.—

2 (1) ADMINISTRATION.—Amounts made avail-
3 able in accordance with subsection (a) shall be ad-
4 ministered by the Ambassador at Large for Inter-
5 national Religious Freedom.

6 (2) CONSULTATIONS.—In developing priorities
7 and policies for providing grants in accordance with
8 subsection (a), including priorities and policies for
9 identification of potential grantees, the Ambassador
10 at Large for International Religious Freedom shall
11 consult with other Federal agencies, including the
12 United States Commission on International Reli-
13 gious Freedom and, as appropriate, nongovern-
14 mental organizations.

15 **TITLE V—DESIGNATED PERSONS**
16 **LIST FOR PARTICULARLY SE-**
17 **VERE VIOLATIONS OF RELI-**
18 **GIUS FREEDOM**

19 **SEC. 501. DESIGNATED PERSONS LIST FOR PARTICULARLY**
20 **SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREE-**
21 **DOM.**

22 Title VI of the International Religious Freedom Act
23 of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6471 et seq.) is amended—

24 (1) by redesignating section 605 as section 606;
25 and

1 (2) by inserting after section 604 the following
2 new section:

3 **“SEC. 605. DESIGNATED PERSONS LIST FOR PARTICULARLY**
4 **SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREE-**
5 **DOM.**

6 “(a) LIST.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, in
8 coordination with the Ambassador at Large and in
9 consultation with relevant government and non-gov-
10 ernment experts, shall establish and maintain a list
11 of foreign individuals who are sanctioned, through
12 visa denials, financial sanctions, or other measures,
13 because they are responsible for ordering, control-
14 ling, or otherwise directing particularly severe viola-
15 tions of freedom religion.

16 “(2) REFERENCE.—The list required under
17 paragraph (1) shall be known as the ‘Designated
18 Persons List for Particularly Severe Violations of
19 Religious Freedom’.

20 “(b) REPORT.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State
22 shall submit to the appropriate congressional com-
23 mittees a report that contains the list required under
24 subsection (a), including, with respect to each for-
25 eign individual on the list—

1 “(A) the name of the individual and a de-
2 scription of the particularly severe violation of
3 religious freedom committed by the individual;

4 “(B) the name of the country or other lo-
5 cation in which such violation took place; and

6 “(C) a description of the actions taken
7 pursuant to this Act or any other Act or Execu-
8 tive order in response to such violation; and

9 “(2) SUBMISSION AND UPDATES.—The Sec-
10 retary of State shall submit to the appropriate con-
11 gressional committees—

12 “(A) the initial report required under para-
13 graph (1) not later than 180 days after the
14 date of the enactment of this section; and

15 “(B) updates to the report every 180 days
16 thereafter and as new information becomes
17 available.

18 “(3) FORM.—The report required under para-
19 graph (1) should be submitted in unclassified form
20 but may contain a classified annex.

21 “(4) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term
22 ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means—

23 “(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs
24 and the Committee on Financial Services of the
25 House of Representatives; and

1 “(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations
2 and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and
3 Urban Affairs of the Senate.”.

4 **TITLE VI—MISCELLANEOUS**
5 **PROVISIONS**

6 **SEC. 601. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.**

7 Title VII of the International Religious Freedom Act
8 of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6481 et seq.) is amended by adding
9 at the end the following new sections:

10 **“SEC. 702. VOLUNTARY CODES OF CONDUCT FOR UNITED**
11 **STATES INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDU-**
12 **CATION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.**

13 “(a) FINDING.—Congress recognizes the enduring
14 importance of United States institutions of higher edu-
15 cation worldwide both for their potential for shaping posi-
16 tive leadership and new educational models in host coun-
17 tries and for their emphasis on teaching universally recog-
18 nized rights of free inquiry and academic freedom.

19 “(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
20 gress that United States institutions of higher education
21 operating campuses outside the United States or estab-
22 lishing any educational entities with foreign governments,
23 particularly with or in countries the governments of which
24 engage in or tolerate severe violations of religious freedom
25 as identified in the Annual Report, should seek to adopt

1 a voluntary code of conduct for operating in such countries
2 that should—

3 “(1) uphold the right of freedom of religion of
4 their employees and students, including the right to
5 manifest that religion peacefully as protected in
6 international law;

7 “(2) ensure that the religious views and peace-
8 ful practice of religion in no way affect, or be al-
9 lowed to affect, the status of a worker’s or faculty
10 member’s employment or a student’s enrollment; and

11 “(3) make every effort in all negotiations, con-
12 tracts, or memoranda of understanding engaged in
13 or constructed with a foreign government to protect
14 academic freedom and the rights enshrined in the
15 United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.

16 **“SEC. 703. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING NATIONAL SE-**
17 **CURITY STRATEGY TO PROMOTE RELIGIOUS**
18 **FREEDOM THROUGH UNITED STATES FOR-**
19 **EIGN POLICY.**

20 “It is the sense of Congress that—

21 “(1) the annual national security strategy re-
22 port of the President required by section 108 of the
23 National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3043)
24 should promote international religious freedom as a
25 foreign policy and national security priority and

1 should articulate that promotion of the right to free-
2 dom of religion is a strategy that protects other, re-
3 lated human rights, and advances democracy outside
4 the United States, and make clear its importance to
5 United States foreign policy goals of stability, secu-
6 rity, development, and diplomacy; and

7 “(2) the national security strategy report
8 should be a guide for the strategies and activities of
9 relevant Federal agencies and inform the Depart-
10 ment of Defense quadrennial defense review under
11 section 118 of title 10, United States Code, and the
12 Department of State Quadrennial Diplomacy and
13 Development Review.”.

14 **SEC. 602. CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.**

15 The table of contents of the International Religious
16 Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401 note) is amended—

17 (1) by striking the item relating to section 605
18 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 606. Studies on the effect of expedited removal provisions on asylum
claims.”;

19 (2) by inserting after the item relating to sec-
20 tion 604 the following:

“Sec. 605. Designated Persons List for Particularly Severe Violations of Reli-
gious Freedom.”; and

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

“Sec. 702. Voluntary codes of conduct for United States institutions of higher
education operating outside the United States.

“Sec. 703. Sense of Congress regarding national security strategy to promote religious freedom through United States foreign policy.”.

