

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 2766  
OFFERED BY MRS. KIM OF CALIFORNIA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Uyghur Policy Act of  
3 2023”.

**4 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) The People’s Republic of China (PRC) con-  
7 tinues to repress the distinct Islamic, Turkic identity  
8 of Uyghurs and members of other ethnic and reli-  
9 gious minority groups in the Xinjiang Uyghur Au-  
10 tonomous Region (XUAR) in northwestern China  
11 and other areas of their habitual residence.

12 (2) Uyghurs, and other predominantly Muslim  
13 ethnic minorities historically making up the majority  
14 of the XUAR population, have maintained through-  
15 out their history a distinct religious and cultural  
16 identity.

17 (3) Human rights, including freedom of religion  
18 or belief, and respect for the Uyghurs’ unique Mus-

1       lim identity are legitimate interests of the inter-  
2       national community.

3           (4) The People’s Republic of China has ratified  
4       the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and  
5       Cultural Rights and has also signed the Inter-  
6       national Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

7           (5) An official campaign to encourage Han Chi-  
8       nese migration into the XUAR has placed immense  
9       pressure on those who seek to preserve the ethnic,  
10      cultural, religious, and linguistic traditions of the  
11      Uyghurs and other ethnic and religious minority  
12      groups.

13          (6) PRC authorities have supported an influx of  
14      Han Chinese economic immigrants into the XUAR,  
15      implemented discrimination against Uyghurs and  
16      other minorities in hiring practices, and provided un-  
17      equal access to healthcare services.

18          (7) The authorities of the People’s Republic of  
19      China have manipulated the strategic objectives of  
20      the international war on terror to mask their in-  
21      creasing cultural and religious oppression of the  
22      Muslim population residing in the XUAR.

23          (8) Following unrest in the region, in 2014,  
24      Chinese authorities launched their “Strike Hard  
25      against Violent Extremism” campaign, in which du-

1        bious allegations of widespread extremist activity  
2        were used as justification for gross human rights  
3        violations committed against Uyghurs and members  
4        of other minority communities in the XUAR.

5            (9) PRC authorities have made use of the legal  
6        system as a tool of repression, including for the im-  
7        position of arbitrary detentions and for torture  
8        against members of the Uyghur community and  
9        other minority populations.

10           (10) Uyghurs and Kazakhs who have secured  
11        citizenship or permanent residency outside of the  
12        PRC have attested to repeated threats, harassment,  
13        and surveillance by PRC officials.

14           (11) Reporting from international news organi-  
15        zations has found that over the past decade, family  
16        members of Uyghurs and other minority groups liv-  
17        ing outside of the PRC have gone missing or been  
18        detained to force Uyghur expatriates to return to  
19        the PRC or silence their dissent.

20           (12) Credible evidence from human rights orga-  
21        nizations, think tanks, and journalists confirms that  
22        more than 1,000,000 Uyghurs and members of other  
23        Muslim ethnic minority groups have been imprisoned  
24        in “political reeducation” centers.

1           (13) Independent accounts from former detain-  
2           ees of “political reeducation” centers describe inhu-  
3           mane conditions and treatment including forced po-  
4           litical indoctrination, torture, beatings, rape, forced  
5           sterilization, and food deprivation.

6           (14) Former detainees of PRC so-called “polit-  
7           ical reeducation” centers also confirmed that they  
8           were told by guards the only way to secure release  
9           was to demonstrate sufficient political loyalty to the  
10          PRC Government and the Chinese Communist  
11          Party.

12          (15) Popular discourse surrounding the ongoing  
13          atrocities in the XUAR and advocacy efforts to as-  
14          sist Uyghurs remains muted in much of the world,  
15          including in most Muslim majority nations.

16          (16) Both Secretary of State Antony Blinken  
17          and Former Secretary of State Michael Pompeo  
18          have stated that the PRC government has com-  
19          mitted genocide and crimes against humanity  
20          against Uyghurs and other ethnic and religious mi-  
21          norities in the XUAR.

22          (17) Government bodies of multiple nations  
23          have also declared that PRC government atrocities  
24          against such populations in the XUAR constitute  
25          genocide, including the parliaments of the United

1 Kingdom, Belgium, Czechia, Lithuania, the Nether-  
2 lands, and Canada.

3 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

4 It is the sense of Congress that—

5 (1) the Government of the People’s Republic of  
6 China should immediately open the Xinjiang Uyghur  
7 Autonomous Region (XUAR) to regular, trans-  
8 parent, and unmanipulated visits by members of the  
9 press, international organizations including the Of-  
10 fice of the United Nations High Commissioner for  
11 Human Rights, academic and human rights research  
12 institutions, as well as foreign delegations including  
13 from the United States Congress;

14 (2) Government of the People’s Republic of  
15 China should recognize, and take tangible steps to  
16 protect and preserve, the distinct ethnic, cultural, re-  
17 ligious, and linguistic identity of Uyghurs and mem-  
18 bers of other ethnic and religious minority groups in  
19 the XUAR;

20 (3) the Government of the People’s Republic of  
21 China should cease all government-sponsored crack-  
22 downs, imprisonments, and detentions of people  
23 throughout the XUAR aimed at repressing their eth-  
24 nic, cultural, political, or religious identities;

1           (4) it is commendable for countries to provide  
2           shelter and hospitality to Uyghurs and other minor-  
3           ity group members in exile, as Turkey, Albania, and  
4           Germany have done;

5           (5) urges all countries, especially fellow democ-  
6           racies and those with sizeable Muslim populations,  
7           to condemn and address the plight of Uyghurs and  
8           other minority communities in the XUAR;

9           (6) the Government of the PRC should imme-  
10          diately and unconditionally release all prisoners de-  
11          tained for their ethnic, cultural, religious, and lin-  
12          guistic identities, or for expressing their political or  
13          religious beliefs in the XUAR, including Ekpar Asat,  
14          who participated in the Department of State's Inter-  
15          national Visitors Leadership Program in 2016, was  
16          incarcerated after returning to the XUAR, and is  
17          now serving a 15 year prison sentence on charges of  
18          “inciting ethnic hatred and ethnic discrimination”;

19          (7) the Government of the PRC should facili-  
20          tate access for international humanitarian organiza-  
21          tions, including the International Federation of Red  
22          Cross and Red Crescent Societies, to the “political  
23          reeducation” centers in the XUAR to ensure pris-  
24          oners are not being mistreated and are receiving  
25          necessary medical care; and

1           (8) the United States Agency for Global Media  
2           should continue to facilitate the unhindered dissemi-  
3           nation of information to the international commu-  
4           nity on issues regarding the human rights and reli-  
5           gious freedom of Uyghurs and members of other mi-  
6           nority groups in the XUAR.

7 **SEC. 4. UNITED STATES SPECIAL COORDINATOR FOR**  
8 **UYGHUR ISSUES.**

9           (a) **IN GENERAL.**—There is authorized to be within  
10 the Department of State a United States Special Coordi-  
11 nator for Uyghur Issues (in this section referred to as the  
12 “Special Coordinator”), to be designated by the Secretary  
13 of State in accordance with subsection (b).

14           (b) **CONSULTATION.**—The Secretary of State shall  
15 consult with the Chairs and Ranking Members of the  
16 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the  
17 Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representa-  
18 tives prior to the designation of the Special Coordinator.

19           (c) **CENTRAL OBJECTIVE.**—The Special Coordinator  
20 should seek to promote the protection and preservation of  
21 the distinct ethnic, cultural, religious, and linguistic iden-  
22 tities of the Uyghurs and other ethnic and religious minor-  
23 ity groups in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (in  
24 this Act referred to as the “XUAR”).

1 (d) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Special  
2 Coordinator should, as appropriate—

3 (1) coordinate United State Government poli-  
4 cies, programs, and projects concerning the Uyghurs  
5 and members of other ethnic and religious minority  
6 groups in the XUAR;

7 (2) vigorously promote the policy of seeking to  
8 protect the distinct ethnic, religious, cultural, and  
9 linguistic identity of the Uyghurs and other minority  
10 groups and seek improved protection of human  
11 rights in the XUAR;

12 (3) maintain close contact with Uyghur reli-  
13 gious, cultural, and political leaders, including seek-  
14 ing regular travel to the XUAR and to Uyghur pop-  
15 ulations in Central Asia, Turkey, Albania, Germany,  
16 and other parts of Europe;

17 (4) lead coordination efforts for the release of  
18 political prisoners in the XUAR who are being de-  
19 tained for exercising their human rights;

20 (5) consult with the United States Congress on  
21 policies relevant to the XUAR and the Uyghurs;

22 (6) coordinate with relevant Federal agencies to  
23 administer aid to Uyghur rights advocates; and

24 (7) make efforts to establish contacts with for-  
25 eign ministries of other countries, especially in Eu-



1 rope, Central Asia, and members of the Organisation  
2 of Islamic Cooperation, to pursue a policy of pro-  
3 moting greater respect for human rights and reli-  
4 gious freedom for Uyghurs and other ethnic and re-  
5 ligious minority groups from the XUAR.

6 (e) SUPPORT.—The Secretary of State shall ensure  
7 the Special Coordinator has adequate resources, staff, and  
8 administrative support to carry out this section.

9 (f) DEADLINE.—If the Secretary of State has not  
10 designated the Special Coordinator by the date that is 180  
11 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
12 retary shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs  
13 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
14 Foreign Relations of the Senate a report detailing the rea-  
15 sons for the delay.

16 (g) TERMINATION.—This section shall terminate on  
17 the date that is 5 years after the date of the designation  
18 of the Special Coordinator.

19 **SEC. 5. FUNDING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATES TO CON-**  
20 **DUCT PUBLIC DIPLOMACY IN THE ISLAMIC**  
21 **WORLD ON THE UYGHUR SITUATION.**

22 Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for the  
23 U.S. Speaker program of the Bureau of Educational and  
24 Cultural Affairs of the Department of State, \$250,000 for  
25 each of fiscal years 2024, 2025, and 2026 is authorized

1 to be made available to support human rights advocates  
2 working on behalf of the Uyghurs and members of other  
3 ethnic and religious minority groups from the XUAR that  
4 are persecuted in the PRC, whose names may be provided  
5 by the Department of State and the United States Special  
6 Coordinator for Uyghur Issues in consultation with rep-  
7 resentatives of the global Uyghur community, to speak at  
8 global public diplomacy forums, particularly those in  
9 which Organisation of Islamic Cooperation countries and  
10 other Muslim-majority countries are present, on issues re-  
11 garding the human rights and religious freedom of  
12 Uyghurs and members of other ethnic and religious minor-  
13 ity groups persecuted in the PRC.

14 **SEC. 6. ACCESS TO DETENTION FACILITIES AND PRISONS**  
15 **AND THE RELEASE OF PRISONERS.**

16 (a) STRATEGY ON POLITICAL REEDUCATION AND  
17 DETENTION FACILITIES.—Not later than 180 days after  
18 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of  
19 State should, in consultation with the heads of other rel-  
20 evant Federal departments and agencies, develop a strat-  
21 egy to cooperate with like-minded partners to pressure the  
22 People’s Republic of China to—

23 (1) close all detention facilities and “political  
24 reeducation” camps housing Uyghurs and members  
25 of other ethnic minority groups in the XUAR;

1           (2) allow unhindered access to detention facili-  
2           ties and “political reeducation” camps in the XUAR  
3           by independent media, researchers, international or-  
4           ganizations and the Office of the United Nations  
5           High Commissioner for Human Rights for a com-  
6           prehensive assessment of the human rights situation;  
7           and

8           (3) protect human rights and preserve the dis-  
9           tinct religious and cultural identity of the Uyghurs  
10          and the other religious and ethnic minority commu-  
11          nities in the XUAR.

12          (b) REPORT ON STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION.—  
13          Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of  
14          this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Com-  
15          mittee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives  
16          and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate  
17          a report that includes—

18                (1) the strategy developed pursuant to sub-  
19                section (a); and

20                (2) all the steps taken pursuant to the objec-  
21                tives described in paragraphs (1) through (3) of  
22                such subsection.

1 **SEC. 7. REQUIREMENT FOR UYGHUR LANGUAGE TRAINING.**

2 (a) UYGHUR LANGUAGE TRAINING AND STAFFING.—

3 The Secretary of State shall take such steps as may be  
4 necessary to ensure that—

5 (1) Uyghur language training is available to  
6 Foreign Service officers as appropriate; and

7 (2) every effort is made to ensure that at least  
8 one Uyghur-speaking member of the Foreign Service  
9 (as such term is defined by section 103 of the For-  
10 eign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3903)) is as-  
11 signed to each United States diplomatic or consular  
12 post in China.

13 (b) REPORT.—No later than 1 year after the date  
14 of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for  
15 2 years, the Foreign Service Institute shall submit to the  
16 Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representa-  
17 tives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Sen-  
18 ate a report that outlines all the steps taken to implement  
19 subsection (a).

20 **SEC. 8. UYGHUR CONSIDERATIONS AT THE UNITED NA-**  
21 **TIONS.**

22 The President should direct the United States Per-  
23 manent Representative to the United Nations to use the  
24 voice, vote, and influence of the United States to—

25 (1) oppose any efforts to prevent consideration  
26 of the gross violation of internationally recognized

1 human rights in the XUAR in any body of the  
2 United Nations;

3 (2) oppose any efforts to prevent the participa-  
4 tion of any Uyghur human rights advocates in non-  
5 governmental fora hosted by or otherwise organized  
6 under the auspices of any body of the United Na-  
7 tions; and

8 (3) support the appointment of a special  
9 rapporteur or working group for the XUAR for the  
10 purposes of monitoring human rights violations and  
11 abuses in the XUAR, and for making reports avail-  
12 able to the High Commissioner for Refugees, the  
13 High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Human  
14 Rights Commission, the General Assembly, and  
15 other United Nations bodies.

