

**Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 2867, with An Amendment**

**(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)**

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2867

To reauthorize the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 8, 2011

Mr. WOLF (for himself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Mr. BERMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To reauthorize the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “United States Commis-  
5 sion on International Religious Freedom Reform and Re-  
6 authorization Act of 2011”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION.**

2 (a) MEMBERSHIP.—Section 201(b)(1)(B) of the  
3 International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C.  
4 6431(b)(1)(B)) is amended—

5 (1) in the matter preceding clause (i), by strik-  
6 ing “Nine” and inserting “five”;

7 (2) in clause (i), by striking “Three members”  
8 and inserting “One member”;

9 (3) in clause (ii)—

10 (A) by striking “Three members” and in-  
11 sserting “Two members”;

12 (B) by striking “two of the members” and  
13 inserting “one member”; and

14 (C) by striking “one of the members” and  
15 inserting “the other member”; and

16 (4) in clause (iii)—

17 (A) by striking “Three members” and in-  
18 sserting “Two members”;

19 (B) by striking “two of the members” and  
20 inserting “one member”; and

21 (C) by striking “one of the members” and  
22 inserting “the other member”.

23 (b) TERMS.—Section 201(c) of the International Re-  
24 ligious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6431(c)) is  
25 amended—

1           (1) in paragraph (1), by striking the last sen-  
2           tence and inserting the following: “An individual is  
3           not eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms  
4           as a member of the Commission. Each member serv-  
5           ing on the Commission on the date of enactment of  
6           the United States Commission on International Reli-  
7           gious Freedom Reform and Reauthorization Act of  
8           2011 may be reappointed to not more than one addi-  
9           tional consecutive term.”;

10           (2) in paragraph (2)—

11                   (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “May  
12                   15, 2003, through May 14, 2005” and inserting  
13                   “May 15, 2012, through May 14, 2014”;

14                   (B) in subparagraph (B) to read as fol-  
15                   lows:

16                           “(B) PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS.—The  
17                           member of the Commission appointed by the  
18                           President under subsection (b)(1)(B)(i) shall be  
19                           appointed to a 1-year term.”;

20                   (C) in subparagraph (C)—

21                           (i) by striking “three members” and  
22                           inserting “two members”;

23                           (ii) by striking “the other two ap-  
24                           pointments” and inserting “the other ap-  
25                           pointment”; and

1 (iii) by striking “2-year terms” and  
2 inserting “to a 2-year term”;

3 (D) in subparagraph (D)—

4 (i) by striking “three members” and  
5 inserting “two members”;

6 (ii) by striking “the other two ap-  
7 pointments” and inserting “the other ap-  
8 pointment”; and

9 (iii) by striking “2-year terms” and  
10 inserting “to a 2-year term”; and

11 (E) in subparagraph (E), by striking “May  
12 15, 2003, and shall end on May 14, 2004” and  
13 inserting “May 15, 2012, and shall end on May  
14 14, 2013”; and

15 (3) by adding at the end the following new  
16 paragraph:

17 “(3) INELIGIBILITY FOR REAPPOINTMENT.—If  
18 a member of the Commission attends, by being phys-  
19 ically present or by conference call, less than 75 per-  
20 cent of the meetings of the Commission during one  
21 of that member’s terms on the Commission, the  
22 member shall not be eligible for reappointment to  
23 the Commission.”.

24 (c) ELECTION OF CHAIR.—Section 201(d) of the  
25 International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C.

1 6431(d)) is amended by inserting at the end the following:  
2 “No member of the Commission is eligible to be elected  
3 as Chair of the Commission for a second, consecutive  
4 term.”.

5 (d) QUORUM.—Section 201(e) of the International  
6 Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6431(e)) is  
7 amended by striking “Six” and inserting “Four”.

8 (e) APPLICABILITY.—A member of the United States  
9 Commission on International Religious Freedom who is  
10 serving on the Commission on the date of enactment of  
11 this Act shall continue to serve on the Commission until  
12 the expiration of the current term of the member under  
13 the terms and conditions for membership on the Commis-  
14 sion as in effect on the day before the date of the enact-  
15 ment of this Act.

16 **SEC. 3. APPLICATION OF ANTIDISCRIMINATION LAWS.**

17 Section 204 of the International Religious Freedom  
18 Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6432b) is amended by inserting  
19 after subsection (f) the following new subsection:

20 “(g) APPLICATION OF ANTIDISCRIMINATION LAWS.—  
21 For purposes of providing remedies and procedures to ad-  
22 dress alleged violations of rights and protections that per-  
23 tain to employment discrimination, family and medical  
24 leave, fair labor standards, employee polygraph protection,  
25 worker adjustment and retraining, veterans’ employment

1 and reemployment, intimidation or reprisal, protections  
2 under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, occu-  
3 pational safety and health, labor-management relations,  
4 and rights and protections that apply to employees whose  
5 pay is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate or the  
6 Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representa-  
7 tives, all employees of the Commission shall be treated as  
8 employees whose pay is disbursed by the Secretary of the  
9 Senate or the Chief Administrative Officer of the House  
10 of Representatives and the Commission shall be treated  
11 as an employing office of the Senate or the House of Rep-  
12 resentatives.”.

13 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

14 Section 207(a) of the International Religious Free-  
15 dom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6435(a)) is amended by strik-  
16 ing “for the fiscal year 2003” and inserting “for each of  
17 the fiscal years 2012 and 2013”.

18 **SEC. 5. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT AND DISCLOSURE.**

19 Section 208 of the International Religious Freedom  
20 Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6435a) is amended—

21 (1) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “\$100,000”  
22 and inserting “\$250,000”; and

23 (2) in subsection (e), by striking “International  
24 Relations” and inserting “Foreign Affairs”.

1 **SEC. 6. TERMINATION.**

2 Section 209 of the International Religious Freedom  
3 Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6436) is amended by striking  
4 “September 30, 2011” and inserting “September 30,  
5 2013”.

6 **SEC. 7. REPORT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF PROGRAMS TO**  
7 **PROMOTE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the  
9 date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General  
10 of the United States shall submit to the appropriate con-  
11 gressional committees a report on the implementation of  
12 this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

13 (b) CONSULTATION.—The Comptroller General shall  
14 consult with the appropriate congressional committees and  
15 nongovernmental organizations for purposes of preparing  
16 the report.

17 (c) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report shall  
18 include the following:

19 (1) A review of the effectiveness of all United  
20 States Government programs to promote inter-  
21 national religious freedom, including their goals and  
22 objectives.

23 (2) An assessment of the roles and functions of  
24 the Office on International Religious Freedom estab-  
25 lished in section 101(a) of the International Reli-  
26 gious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6411(a)) and

1 the relationship of the Office to other offices in the  
2 Department of State.

3 (3) A review of the role of the Ambassador at  
4 Large for International Religious Freedom ap-  
5 pointed under section 101(b) of the International  
6 Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6411(b))  
7 and the placement of such position within the De-  
8 partment of State.

9 (4) A review and assessment of the goals and  
10 objectives of the United States Commission on Inter-  
11 national Religious Freedom established under sec-  
12 tion 201(a) of the International Religious Freedom  
13 Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6431(a)).

14 (5) A comparative analysis of the structure of  
15 the United States Commission on International Reli-  
16 gious Freedom as an independent non-partisan enti-  
17 ty in relation to other United States advisory com-  
18 missions, whether or not such commissions are  
19 under the direct authority of Congress.

20 (6) A review of the relationship between the  
21 Ambassador at Large for International Religious  
22 Freedom and the United States Commission on  
23 International Religious Freedom, and possible re-  
24 forms that would improve the ability of both to  
25 reach their goals and objectives.

1           (d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “appro-  
2   priate congressional committees” has the meaning given  
3   the term in section 3 of the International Religious Free-  
4   dom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6402).