

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8353

To establish a prohibition on fees related to religious participation, and
for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 16, 2026

Mr. SELF introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on the Judiciary

A BILL

To establish a prohibition on fees related to religious
participation, 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 “Freedom Against Im-
5 posed Theology Harms Act” or the “FAITH Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON FEES RELATED TO RELIGIOUS**
7 **PARTICIPATION.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 13 of title 18, United
9 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
10 lowing:

1 **“§ 251. Prohibition on fees related to religious par-**
2 **ticipation**

3 “(a) OFFENSE.—Whoever knowingly imposes, as-
4 sesses, collects, or attempts to impose, assess, or collect
5 any fee, fine, surcharge, penalty, or other financial obliga-
6 tion from any person based on that person’s participation
7 or membership in, or refusal to participate in or become
8 a member of, any religious theology, denomination, or or-
9 ganization shall—

10 “(1) in the case that the fee, fine, surcharge,
11 penalty or other financial obligation does not exceed
12 \$1,000, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned
13 not more than 1 year, or both; or

14 “(2) in any other case, shall be fined under this
15 title, imprisoned not more than 3 years, or both.

16 “(b) PROHIBITING DENIAL OF GOODS AND SERV-
17 ICES.—Whoever knowingly denies goods, services, access,
18 or opportunities to a person on the basis of nonpayment
19 of any fee prohibited under subsection (a) shall be fined
20 under this title, imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both.

21 “(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
22 tion shall be construed to restrict the ability of religious
23 organizations and educational institutions to request or re-
24 ceive voluntary contributions from their members for in-
25 ternal purposes.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
2 for chapter 13 of title 18, United States Code, is amended
3 by adding at the end the following:

“251. Prohibition on fees related to religious participation.”.

4 **SEC. 3. RICO OFFENSE.**

5 Section 1961(1) of title 18, United States Code, is
6 amended by inserting “section 251 (relating to the prohi-
7 bition on fees tied to religious participation),” after “sec-
8 tion 224 (relating to sports bribery),”.

9 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

10 This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall
11 take effect 30 days after the date of enactment of this
12 Act.

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