

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3679

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to restrict visa issuance to individuals who have directed, authorized, significantly supported, participated in, or carried out violations of religious freedom.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 15, 2026

Mr. BUDD (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. MOODY, Mr. COTTON, Mr. BANKS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. CRUZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to restrict visa issuance to individuals who have directed, authorized, significantly supported, participated in, or carried out violations of religious freedom.

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 “Banning Perpetrators  
5 of Religious Persecution Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. RESTRICTING VISA ISSUANCE TO INDIVIDUALS**  
 2 **WHO HAVE CARRIED OUT VIOLATIONS OF RE-**  
 3 **LIGIOUS FREEDOM.**

4 Section 212(a)(2)(G) of the Immigration and Nation-  
 5 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2)(G)) is amended to read as  
 6 follows:

7 “(G) ALIENS WHO HAVE COMMITTED VIO-  
 8 LATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.—

9 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Any alien who—

10 “(I) while serving as a foreign  
 11 government official, was responsible  
 12 for, or directly carried out, at any  
 13 time, particularly severe violations of  
 14 religious freedom (as defined in sec-  
 15 tion 3(13) of the International Reli-  
 16 gious Freedom Act of 1998 (22  
 17 U.S.C. 6402(13))); or

18 “(II) at any time while outside  
 19 the United States, directed, author-  
 20 ized, significantly supported, partici-  
 21 pated in, was responsible for, or car-  
 22 ried out particularly severe violations  
 23 of religious freedom or violations of  
 24 religious freedom (as defined in sec-  
 25 tion 3(16) of such Act (22 U.S.C.  
 26 6402(16))),

1 is inadmissible.

2 “(ii) PUBLIC NOTICE.—

3 “(I) IN GENERAL.—Notwith-  
4 standing the limitations under section  
5 222(f) with respect to the confiden-  
6 tiality of certain immigration records  
7 and except as provided under sub-  
8 clause (II), the Secretary of State  
9 shall post, on a publicly accessible  
10 website of the Department of State—

11 “(aa) the names of all of the  
12 aliens determined to be inadmis-  
13 sible under clause (i); and

14 “(bb) the countries or other  
15 locations in which violations of  
16 religious freedom described in  
17 such clause took place.

18 “(II) EXCEPTION.—If the Sec-  
19 retary of State determines, on a case-  
20 by-case basis and in the Secretary’s  
21 sole and unreviewable discretion, that  
22 the public release of the identity of  
23 any particular alien determined to be  
24 inadmissible under clause (i) would  
25 have adverse foreign policy con-

1 sequences for the United States, the  
2 Secretary—

3 “(aa) may exclude such alien  
4 from the disclosure requirement  
5 under subclause (I); and

6 “(bb) shall submit a semi-  
7 annual report to Congress, in ac-  
8 cordance with section 51(a) of  
9 the State Department Basic Au-  
10 thorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C.  
11 2723(a)), explaining the reasons  
12 for such exclusion.”.

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