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FRANK R. WOLF INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ACT OF 2015; AND CALLING FOR THE RELEASE OF UKRAINIAN FIGHTER PILOT NADIYA SAVCHENKO

MARKUP

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA, GLOBAL HEALTH, GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS, AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

H.R. 1150 and H. Res. 50

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FRANK R. WOLF INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ACT OF 2015; AND CALLING FOR THE RELEASE OF UKRAINIAN FIGHTER PILOT NADIYA SAVCHENKO

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2015

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA, GLOBAL HEALTH,
GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS, AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 2 o'clock p.m., in room 2172 Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Christopher H. Smith (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Mr. SMITH. The subcommittee will come to order. The subcommittee meets pursuant to notice to mark up H.R. 1150, the Frank Wolf International Religious Freedom Act, and H. Res. 50, calling for the release of Ukrainian fighter pilot Nadiya Savchenko who was captured by Russian forces in eastern Ukraine and has been held illegally in a Russian prison since July 2014. One measure is introduced by a Republican, the other is sponsored by a Democrat. Both measures enjoy bipartisan support as is typical of the cooperation which characterizes both this subcommittee and our full committee.

H.R. 1150 is named after our dear friend and colleague for many years, Congressman Frank Wolf, who retired last year after 34 years of distinguished service. Some 10 Democrats have signed on as cosponsors of the bill, and the lead cosponsor of the bill is Anna Eshoo and I have introduced it. We have 80 total sponsors of the bill and the number is growing by the day. Likewise, 10 Republicans have cosponsored Congressman Sander Levin's resolution, I among them and in a few minutes I will say a few words why.

Due to the strong bipartisan support for both measures the fact that this is, the subcommittee will reconvene following this markup for a hearing on neglected tropical diseases as well as scheduling of other events, it is the intent of the chairman to consider these measures en bloc which I understand Ranking Member Bass has graciously consented to and Mr. Cicilline, I think, will concur with that.

All members have copies of these documents before them, and then after we have concluded our expedited consideration I would be glad to recognize any member including myself and the ranking member or any member of the subcommittee for statements. All

members are given leave to insert written remarks into the record should they choose to do so.

Seeing that we have a reporting quorum present, without objection the following are considered as read and will be considered en bloc: H.R. 1150, the Frank Wolf International Religious Freedom Act; H. Res. 50 calling for the release of Ukrainian fighter pilot Nadiya Savchenko who was captured by Russian forces in eastern Ukraine and has been illegally held in a Russian prison since July 2014; and Smith Amendment 31 to H. Res. 50 sent to your offices on Tuesday of this week.

[The information referred to follows:]

I

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1150

To amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to improve the ability of the United States to advance religious freedom globally through enhanced diplomacy, training, counterterrorism, and foreign assistance efforts, and through stronger and more flexible political responses to religious freedom violations and violent extremism worldwide, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2015

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Ms. ESHOO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services and Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

---

A BILL

To amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to improve the ability of the United States to advance religious freedom globally through enhanced diplomacy, training, counterterrorism, and foreign assistance efforts, and through stronger and more flexible political responses to religious freedom violations and violent extremism worldwide, 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,*

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 of
4 2015".

5 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
6 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—COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Sec. 201. Establishment and composition.
Sec. 202. Commission personnel matters.
Sec. 203. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 204. Standards of conduct and disclosure.
Sec. 205. Termination.

TITLE III—NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Sec. 301. Special Adviser for Global Religion Engagement and International Religious Freedom; Interagency Policy Committees.

TITLE IV—PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

Sec. 401. Presidential actions in response to violations of religious freedom.
Sec. 402. Presidential actions in response to particularly severe violations of religious freedom.
Sec. 403. Consultations.
Sec. 404. Report to Congress.
Sec. 405. Presidential waiver.
Sec. 406. Termination of Presidential actions.
Sec. 407. Statement of policy regarding country of particular concern designation for violent nonstate actors.

TITLE V—PROMOTION OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Sec. 501. Assistance for promoting religious freedom.

TITLE VI—REFUGEE, ASYLUM, AND CONSULAR MATTERS

Sec. 601. Actions against persons responsible for committing particularly severe violations of international religious freedom.

TITLE VII—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 701. Miscellaneous provisions.
Sec. 702. Clerical amendments.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; POLICY.**

2 Section 2 of the International Religious Freedom Act
3 of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) in paragraph (4), in the fourth sen-
6 tence, by inserting "prohibitions on ritual ani-
7 mal slaughter, male infant circumcision, censor-
8 ship of religious content, or worship on the
9 Internet," after "confiscations of property,";

10 (B) in paragraph (5), by amending the sec-
11 ond sentence to read as follows: "In many coun-
12 tries, religious believers are forced to meet se-
13 cretly, and religious leaders and believers are
14 targeted by national security forces, violent
15 nonstate actors, and hostile mobs.";

16 (C) by redesignating paragraph (7) as
17 paragraph (9); and

18 (D) by inserting after paragraph (6) the
19 following new paragraphs:

20 "(7) There is growing evidence that dem-
21 onstrates a connection between the absence of reli-
22 gious freedom and increased levels of persecution of

1 religious minorities, religiously motivated conflict,
2 violent extremism, and terrorism, including the kind
3 of terrorism that has reached the United States.
4 "(8) It is increasingly clear that understanding
5 religion and the political and security implications of
6 religious motivation and conviction is critical to the
7 success of United States diplomacy and foreign pol-
8 icy initiatives as there are studies that show—
9 "(A) 75 percent of the world's population
10 lives in countries where the right to the freedom
11 of religion and belief is severely restricted, ei-
12 ther by the government or violent nonstate ac-
13 tors; and
14 "(B) 84 percent of the world's population
15 identifies strongly with a specific religious
16 group."; and
17 (2) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the
18 following new paragraph:
19 "(6) Because the promotion of international re-
20 ligious freedom is a foreign policy strategy that pro-
21 tects other, related human rights, advances democ-
22 racy abroad, and advances United States interests in
23 stability, security, and development globally, the pro-
24 motion of international religious freedom requires
25 new and evolving policies, global religion engagement

strategies, and diplomatic responses that are drawn from the expertise of the national security agencies, the diplomatic services, Congress, and other governmental agencies and nongovernmental organizations, and are coordinated across and carried out by the entire range of Federal agencies that are engaged with or conduct negotiations or United States Government funded programs with governments or violent nonstate actors that engage in or tolerate violations of religious freedom.".

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

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

(1) by amending paragraph (12) to read as follows:

"(12) SPECIAL ADVISER.—The term 'Special Adviser' means the Special Advisor for Global Religion Engagement and International Religious Freedom described in section 101 of the National Security Act of 1947."; and

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

"(14) SPECIAL WATCH LIST.—The term 'Special Watch List' means the Special Watch List described in section 102(b)(1)(F)(iii).

"(15) VIOLENT NONSTATE ACTOR.—The term 'violent nonstate actor' means a nonsovereign entity or group that—

"(A) exercises significant political power or influence at a national or international level; and

"(B) engages in, finances, or tolerates violations of religious freedom, terrorism, or violence or discrimination targeting religious minorities.

"(16) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term 'institution of higher education' has the meaning given that term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)".

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF STATE ACTIVITIES

SEC. 101. OFFICE ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM; AMBASSADOR AT LARGE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

Section 101 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6411) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following new sentence: "The Office shall be located in the Office of the Secretary of State.";

(2) in subsection (b), by adding at the end before the period the following: ", and shall report directly to the Secretary of State";

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking "responsibility" and inserting "responsibilities";

(ii) by striking "shall be to advance" and inserting the following: "shall be to—

"(A) advance";

(iii) in subparagraph (A), as so added, by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

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

"(B) integrate United States international religious freedom policies and religious engagement strategies into democracy, civil society, conflict prevention and mitigation, and development efforts funded by the United States and into the counterterrorism policies of Federal agencies, including the Department of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of State, and the Department of the Treasury.";

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking "a principal adviser" and inserting "the principal adviser";

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking "and" at the end;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(C) contacts with nongovernmental organizations that have an impact on the state of religious freedom in their respective societies or regions, or internationally.";

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

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

"(4) COORDINATION RESPONSIBILITIES.—In order to promote religious freedom as an interest of United States foreign policy, the Ambassador at Large shall coordinate religious freedom policies and religious engagement strategies across all programs, projects, and activities of the United States, includ-

ing any appropriate programs, projects, and activities of the Department of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of State, the Department of the Treasury, and the United States Agency for International Development."; and

(4) in subsection (d), by striking "staff for the Office" and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting "individuals to fill at least 20 full-time equivalent staff positions, and other temporary staff positions as needed to compile, edit, and manage the Annual Report, including a senior advisor for the Office, under the direct supervision of the Ambassador at Large, for the conduct of investigations by the Office on conditions of religious freedom on a worldwide basis, and for any necessary travel to carry out the provisions of this Act. The Secretary of State shall also provide to the Ambassador at Large representation funds that are sufficient to carry out the duties described in this section at levels at least equal to the amount of representation funds provided to other Ambassadors at Large in the Department of State.".

SEC. 102. ANNUAL REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

Section 102(b)(1) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6412(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "September 1" and inserting "May 1";

(2) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) in clause (iii), by striking "and" at the end;

(B) in clause (iv), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new clause:

"(v) any action taken by a government or other entity to censor religious content, communications, or worship activities online, including descriptions of the targeted religious group, the content, communication, or activities censored, the means used, and government or other entity engaged in such online censorship activities.";

(3) in subparagraph (B), in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(A) by inserting "persecution of lawyers, politicians, or other human rights advocates seeking to defend the rights of members of religious groups or highlight religious freedom violations, prohibitions on ritual animal slaughter or male infant circumcision," after "entire religions,"; and

(B) by inserting "policies that ban or restrict the public manifestation of religious belief and the peaceful involvement of religious groups or their members in the political life of each such foreign country," after "such groups,";

(4) in subparagraph (C)—

(A) by striking "A description" and inserting "A comprehensive description";

(B) by striking "policies in support" and inserting "religious engagement policies in support"; and

(C) by adding at the end before the period the following: ", and a unique, comprehensive, and country-specific analysis of the impact of actions by the United States on the status of religious freedom in each such country"; and

(5) in subparagraph (F), by adding at the end the following new clause:

"(iii) SPECIAL WATCH LIST.—A list, to be known as the 'Special Watch List', which shall identify any country or violent nonstate actor that has engaged in or tolerates violations of religious freedom during the previous reporting year but which the President determines does not meet, at the time of the publication of the Annual Report, all of the criteria described in section 3(11) for designation as a country of particular concern for religious freedom under section 402(b)(1).".

SEC. 103. TRAINING FOR FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS; REPORT.

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

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

(2) in subsection (d), as redesignated, by striking "The Secretary of State" and inserting "REFUGEES.—The Secretary of State";

(3) in subsection (e), as redesignated, by striking "The Secretary of State" and inserting "CHILD SOLDIERS.—The Secretary of State";

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

"(a) DEVELOPMENT OF CURRICULUM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall develop a curriculum for training United States Foreign Service officers in the scope and strategic value of international religious freedom, how violations of international religious freedom harm fundamental United States interests, how the advancement of international religious freedom can advance such interests, how United States international religious freedom policy should be carried out in practice by United States diplomats and other Foreign Service officers, and the relevance and relationship of international religious freedom to United States defense, diplomacy, development, and public affairs efforts to combat violent extremism. The Secretary of State shall ensure the availability of sufficient resources to develop and implement such curriculum.

"(2) ROLE OF OTHER OFFICIALS.—The Secretary of State shall carry out paragraph (1)—

"(A) with the assistance of the Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom appointed under section 101(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998;

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

"(C) in consultation with the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom established in section 201(a) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998.

"(b) TRAINING PROGRAM.—Not later than the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of the Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act of 2015, the Director of the George P. Shultz National Foreign Affairs Training Center shall begin mandatory training on religious freedom for all Foreign Service officers, including all entry level officers, all officers prior to departure for posting outside the United States, and all outgoing deputy chiefs of mission and ambassadors. Such training shall, at minimum, be a separate, independent, and required segment of each of the following:

"(1) The A–100 course attended by all Foreign Service officers.

"(2) The courses required of every Foreign Service officer prior to a posting outside the United States, with segments tailored to the particular religious demography, religious freedom conditions, reli-

1 gious engagement strategies, and United States
2 strategies for advancing religious freedom, in each
3 receiving country.
4 "(3) The courses required of all outgoing dep-
5 uty chiefs of mission and ambassadors.
6 "(c) INFORMATION SHARING.—The curriculum and
7 training materials developed pursuant to subsections (a)
8 and (b) shall be shared with the United States Armed
9 Forces, intelligence community (as such term is defined
10 in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947), and
11 all other Federal departments and agencies whose per-
12 sonnel serve as attachés, advisors, or detailees in United
13 States embassies globally to provide training and partic-
14 larized instruction on United States religious freedom poli-
15 cies, religious traditions, religious engagement strategies,
16 religious and cultural issues, and efforts to combat ter-
17 rorism and violent religious extremism.".
18 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
19 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, with
20 the assistance of the Ambassador at Large for Inter-
21 national Religious Freedom, and the Director of the
22 George P. Shultz National Foreign Affairs Training Cen-
23 ter, shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
24 the House of Representatives and the Committee on For-
25 eign Relations of the Senate a report containing a com-

1 prehensive plan for undertaking training for Foreign Serv-
2 ice officers as required under section 708 of the Foreign
3 Services Act of 1980, as amended by subsection (a) of this
4 section.

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

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

9 (1) in subsection (a)—

10 (A) in the heading, by striking "SENSE OF
11 THE CONGRESS" and inserting "POLICY
12 STATEMENT ON DIPLOMATIC ADVOCACY FOR
13 PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE"; and

14 (B) by striking "it is the sense of the Con-
15 gress that officials of the executive branch of
16 Government should promote" and inserting "it
17 shall be the policy of the United States Govern-
18 ment that all officials of the executive branch,
19 including the Secretary of State, the Ambas-
20 sador at Large for Religious Freedom, and
21 State Department officials from regional bu-
22 reaus, as appropriate, shall promote";

23 (2) in subsection (c), by striking ", as appro-
24 priate, provide" and insert "make available"; and

1 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
2 section:
3 "(d) VICTIMS LIST MAINTAINED BY THE COMMIS-
4 SION.—The Commission shall make publicly available on-
5 line and in official publications, regularly updated lists of
6 persons it determines are imprisoned, detained, dis-
7 appeared, placed under house arrest, tortured, or subject
8 to forced renunciations of faith for their religious activity
9 or religious freedom advocacy by a foreign government or
10 violent nonstate actor that the Commission recommends
11 for designation as a country of particular concern for reli-
12 gious freedom under section 402(b) and include as much
13 publically available information as possible on the condi-
14 tions and circumstances of such individuals. In compiling
15 such lists, the Commission shall exercise all appropriate
16 discretion, including consideration of the safety and secu-
17 rity of, and benefit to, the persons who may be included
18 on the lists and their families.".

19 TITLE II—COMMISSION ON 20 INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS 21 FREEDOM

22 **SEC. 201. ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 201 of
24 the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22
25 U.S.C. 6431) is amended by inserting before the period

at the end the following: ", which shall be an independent Federal Government advisory body".

(b) SELECTION.—Subsection (b)(2)(A) of such section is amended by inserting at the end the following new sentence: "The Commission as a whole shall also have expertise on the variety of faiths practiced around the world.".

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—Subsection (b)(3) of such section is amended by striking "The appointments required by paragraph (1) shall be made not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act." and inserting the following: "An appointment required by subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) should be made within 90 days of a vacancy on the Commission.".

(d) VACANCIES.—Subsection (g) of such section is amended by striking the second sentence.

SEC. 202. COMMISSION PERSONNEL MATTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 204 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6432b) is amended in the second sentence, by inserting "voting" after "nine".

(b) COMPENSATION.—Subsection (b) of such section is amended by inserting "voting members of the" after "The".

(c) SECURITY CLEARANCES.—Subsection (e) of such section is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: "The Department of State is encouraged to allow Commissioners and Commission staff with the appropriate security clearance access to classified information, in order to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of their positions.".

(d) APPLICATION OF ANTIDISCRIMINATION LAWS.—Subsection (g) of such section is amended by inserting ", including discrimination on the basis of religion" after "employment discrimination".

SEC. 203. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 207(a) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6435(a)) is amended by striking "2015" and inserting "2021".

SEC. 204. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT AND DISCLOSURE.

Section 208(d)(2) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6435a(d)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(H) Intern, fellowship, and volunteer programs that are primarily of educational benefit to the intern, fellow, or volunteer. Sponsoring private parties may provide compensation and benefits to interns, fellows, and volunteers, provided that no conflict of interest arises. The

number, duration, and funding source of any such internship, fellowship, or volunteer programs shall be described in the annual financial report required by subsection (e).".

SEC. 205. TERMINATION.

Section 209 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6436) is amended by striking "September 30, 2015" and inserting "September 30, 2021".

TITLE III—NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SEC. 301. SPECIAL ADVISER FOR GLOBAL RELIGION ENGAGEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM; INTERAGENCY POLICY COMMITTEES.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO NATIONAL SECURITY ACT OF 1947.—Section 101 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3021) is amended—

(1) in subsection (k)—

(A) in the first sentence—

(i) by striking "It is the sense of that there should be" and inserting "The President shall appoint"; and

(ii) by striking "Special Adviser to the President on International Religious Free-

1 dom, whose position should be comparable
2 to that of a director" and inserting "Spe-
3 cial Adviser for Global Religion Engage-
4 ment and International Religious Freedom,
5 whose position shall be comparable to that
6 of a senior director"; and
7 (B) by striking the second and third sen-
8 tences and inserting the following: "The Special
9 Adviser, shall assist the Ambassador at Large
10 for International Religious Freedom described
11 in section 101 of the International Religious
12 Freedom Act of 1998 to coordinate inter-
13 national religious freedom policies and global
14 religion engagement strategies throughout the
15 Executive Branch and develop policy rec-
16 ommendations and strategies relevant to the
17 programs, projects, activities of the Department
18 of Defense, the Department of Homeland Secu-
19 rity, the Department of Justice, the Depart-
20 ment of State, the Department of the Treasury,
21 and the United States Agency for International
22 Development. The Special Adviser shall serve as
23 a resource and liaison for executive branch offi-
24 cials, Congress, and nongovernmental organiza-
25 tions as appropriate on matters relating to

1 international religious freedom policy and en-
2 gagement with religious communities outside
3 the United States."; and
4 (2) by adding at the end, the following new sub-
5 sections:
6 "(m) INTERAGENCY POLICY COMMITTEE ON INTER-
7 NATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND GLOBAL RELIGION
8 ENGAGEMENT.—
9 "(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There should be estab-
10 lished within the National Security Council a perma-
11 nent interagency policy committee to be known as
12 the 'Interagency Policy Committee on International
13 Religious Freedom and Global Religion Engagement'
14 (in this subsection referred to as the 'Committee').
15 "(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Committee should be
16 chaired by the Ambassador at Large for Religious
17 Freedom described in section 101 of the Inter-
18 national Religious Freedom Act of 1998 and include
19 all appropriate executive agency officials needed to
20 carry out the functions of this Act.
21 "(3) FUNCTIONS.—The Committee should de-
22 velop a global religion engagement strategy globally
23 to advance international religious freedom, develop
24 strategies to better advance international religious

1 freedom policy, and help coordinate such strategies
2 across the Executive Branch.
3 "(n) INTERAGENCY POLICY COMMITTEE ON RELI-
4 GION, INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, AND NA-
5 TIONAL SECURITY.—
6 "(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There should be estab-
7 lished within the National Security Council a perma-
8 nent interagency policy committee to be known as
9 the 'Interagency Policy Committee on Religion,
10 International Religious Freedom, and National Secu-
11 rity' (in this subsection referred to as the 'Com-
12 mittee').
13 "(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Committee should be
14 co-chaired by the Deputy National Security Advisor
15 and the Ambassador at Large for Religious Freedom
16 described in section 101 of the International Reli-
17 gious Freedom Act of 1998.
18 "(3) FUNCTIONS.—The Committee should ana-
19 lyze conditions and trends of international religious
20 freedom and identify potential national security risks
21 related to the absence of religious freedom globally,
22 including threats to stability from authoritarian gov-
23 ernments, terrorism, violent religious extremism, sec-
24 tarian and religiously related violence, and laws that
25 restrict religious freedom and develop strategies to

address such threats. In addition, the Committee should coordinate policy on the intersection of religion, international religious freedom, and United States interests in preventing terrorism, countering violent extremism, and mitigating and preventing conflict.".

(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President should promulgate regulations to carry out subsections (k), (m), and (n) of section 101 of the National Security Act of 1947 as amended by subsection (a) of this section.

TITLE IV—PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

SEC. 401. PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

Section 401(b)(2) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6441(b)(2)) is amended to read as follows:

"(2) DEADLINE FOR ACTIONS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), not later than 90 days after the date on which each of the Annual Reports is submitted under section 102(b), the President shall take 1 or more of the actions referred to in section 405(a) or a commensurate

action with respect to each foreign country and violent nonstate actor that has engaged in or tolerated violations of religious freedom at any time since the previous such report was submitted.

"(B) ADDITIONAL PREREQUISITE.—The President may not take any of the actions described in paragraphs (9) through (15) of section 405(a) or a commensurate action with respect to a foreign country or violent nonstate actor until the President certifies that the requirements under sections 403 and 404 have been satisfied with respect to such country or actor.".

SEC. 402. PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO PARTICULARLY SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

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

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

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

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which each Annual Re-

1 port is submitted under section 102(b), the
2 President shall—
3 "(i) review the status of religious free-
4 dom in each foreign country to determine
5 whether the government of that country
6 has engaged in or tolerated particularly se-
7 vere violations of religious freedom in each
8 such country during the preceding 12
9 months or longer; and
10 "(ii) designate each country the gov-
11 ernment of which has engaged in or toler-
12 ated violations described in clause (i) as a
13 country of particular concern for religious
14 freedom under section 402(b)."; and
15 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
16 "September 1 of the respective year" and
17 inserting "the date on which each Annual
18 Report is submitted under section 102(b)";
19 (B) by amending paragraph (3) to read as
20 follows:
21 "(3) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—
22 "(A) IN GENERAL.—Whenever the Presi-
23 dent designates a country as a country of par-
24 ticular concern for religious freedom under
25 paragraph (1)(A), the President shall, not later

1 than 90 days after the designation is made,
2 transmit to the appropriate congressional com-
3 mittees—
4 "(i) the designation of the country,
5 signed by the President;
6 "(ii) the identification, if any, of re-
7 sponsible parties determined under para-
8 graph (2); and
9 "(iii) a description of the actions
10 taken under subsection (c), the purposes of
11 the actions taken, and the effectiveness of
12 the actions taken.
13 "(B) REMOVAL OF DESIGNATION.—A
14 country that is designated as a country of par-
15 ticular concern for religious freedom under
16 paragraph (1)(A) shall retain such designation
17 until the President determines and reports to
18 the appropriate congressional committees that
19 the country should no longer be so designated.
20 "(C) EXPLANATION FOR NONDESIGNA-
21 TION.—If the President does not designate a
22 country as a country of particular concern for
23 religious freedom under paragraph (1)(A) after
24 the Commission has recommended such des-
25 ignation, the President shall provide an expla-

1 nation for the nondesignation to the appro-
2 priate congressional committees."; and
3 (C) by adding at the end, the following
4 new paragraph:
5 "(4) TREATMENT OF COUNTRIES ON SPECIAL
6 WATCH LIST.—
7 "(A) IN GENERAL.—The President shall
8 designate as a country of particular concern for
9 religious freedom under paragraph (1)(A) any
10 country that appears on the Special Watch
11 List—
12 "(i) in more than 2 consecutive An-
13 nual Reports;
14 "(ii) in any 4 Annual Reports; or
15 "(iii) in more than 1 Annual Report if
16 the President has previously designated
17 such country as a country of particular
18 concern for religious freedom under para-
19 graph (1)(A).
20 "(B) EXERCISE OF WAIVER AUTHORITY.—
21 The President may waive the application of
22 clauses (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) with re-
23 spect to a country for up to 2 years if the
24 President certifies to the appropriate commit-
25 tees of Congress that—

"(i) the country has entered into an agreement with the United States to carry out specific and credible actions to improve religious freedom conditions and end religious freedom violations;

"(ii) the country has entered into an agreement with the United Nations, the European Union, or other ally of the United States, to carry out specific and credible actions to improve religious freedom conditions and end religious freedom violations; or

"(iii) waiver is in the national security interests of the United States.

"(C) EFFECT ON DESIGNATION AS COUNTRY OF PARTICULAR CONCERN.—The presence or absence of a country from the Special Watch List in any given year shall not preclude the designation of such country as a country of particular concern for religious freedom under paragraph (1)(A) in any such year."; and

(2) in subsection (c)(5), in the second sentence, by inserting "and include a description of the impact of the designation of such sanction or sanctions that

exist in each country" after "determines satisfy the requirements of this subsection".

SEC. 403. CONSULTATIONS.

Section 403(a) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6443(a)) is amended by striking "As soon as practicable" and inserting "Not later than 90 days".

SEC. 404. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

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

(1) by striking "decides to take action under section 401" and inserting "takes action under section 401";

(2) by striking "decides to take action under paragraphs" and inserting "takes the required action under paragraphs"; and

(3) in paragraph (4)(A)—

(A) in clause (ii), by striking "and" at the end;

(B) in clause (iii), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new clause:

"(iv) the impact on other policy tools, and a description of policy tools being ap-

1 plied in the country, including programs
2 that target democratic stability, economic
3 growth, and counterterrorism.".

4 **SEC. 405. PRESIDENTIAL WAIVER.**

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

7 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting ", for a 180-
8 day period," after "may waive"; and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
10 section:

11 "(c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
12 gress that ongoing and persistent waivers for any country
13 designated as a country of particular concern for religious
14 freedom under section 402(b) for engaging in or tolerating
15 particularly severe violations of religious freedom do not
16 fulfill the purposes of this Act, and, given that promotion
17 of religious freedom is a compelling interest of United
18 States foreign policy, the President, the Secretary of
19 State, and other executive branch officials, in consultation
20 with Congress, should seek to find ways to address exist-
21 ing violations, on a country-by-country basis, through the
22 actions specified in section 405 or other commensurate ac-
23 tions, possibly including through the actions described in
24 section 605, or by some other action that addresses the

1 specific religious freedom violations of each country des-
2 ignated.".

3 **SEC. 406. TERMINATION OF PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS.**

4 Section 409 of the International Religious Freedom
5 Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6449) is amended to read as fol-
6 lows:

7 **"SEC. 409. TERMINATION OF PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS.**

8 "Any Presidential action taken under this Act with
9 respect to a foreign country shall terminate after a deter-
10 mination by the President, in consultation with the Com-
11 mission, and written certification to Congress that the for-
12 eign government has taken substantial and verifiable steps
13 to cease the particularly severe violations of religious free-
14 dom.".

15 **SEC. 407. STATEMENT OF POLICY REGARDING COUNTRY OF**
16 **PARTICULAR CONCERN DESIGNATION FOR**
17 **VIOLENT NONSTATE ACTORS.**

18 Title IV of the International Religious Freedom Act
19 of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6441 et seq.) is amended by inserting
20 after section 405 the following new section:

21 **"SEC. 405A. STATEMENT OF POLICY REGARDING COUNTRY**
22 **OF PARTICULAR CONCERN DESIGNATION**
23 **FOR VIOLENT NONSTATE ACTORS.**

24 "(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1 "(1) Since 1998, various administrations have
2 made designations targeting violent nonstate actors
3 who engaged in or tolerated systematic, egregious, or
4 ongoing violations of religious freedom, such as the
5 Taliban and Serbian groups carrying on atrocities
6 against Bosnians.
7 "(2) Over the past 10 years the number of vio-
8 lent nonstate actors has increased, as have violations
9 of religious freedom perpetuated by such actors.
10 "(b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It should be the pol-
11 icy of the United States Government that—
12 "(1) violent nonstate actors should be eligible
13 for designation as countries of particular concern de-
14 scribed in section 402(b) and that Presidential ac-
15 tions described in section 405, 604, or 605 of this
16 Act should be applicable to violent nonstate actors or
17 individual members of such groups; and
18 "(2) the President should include, in the report
19 to Congress required by section 404, any reasons
20 why violent nonstate actors that engaged in or toler-
21 ated restrictions on religious freedom, were not des-
22 ignated as countries of particular concern, particu-
23 larly if the Commission made a recommendation for
24 such a designation to the President and whether any
25 Presidential actions described in section 405, 604, or

605 were taken against violent nonstate actors or individual members of such groups.".

TITLE V—PROMOTION OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

SEC. 501. ASSISTANCE FOR PROMOTING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

Section 501 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsections:

"(c) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—Of the amounts made available for fiscal years 2016 through 2021 for the Human Rights and Democracy Fund established under section 664 of the Freedom Investment Act of 2002 (subtitle E of title VI of Public Law 107–228), the Secretary of State shall provide to the Office—

"(1) not less than 10 percent of such amounts for each such fiscal year for the promotion of international religious freedom through—

"(A) groups that are able to develop legal protections or promote cultural and societal understanding of international norms of religious freedom;

"(B) groups that seek to address and mitigate religiously motivated and sectarian violence and combat violent extremism; and

1 "(C) those seeking to strengthen investiga-
2 tions, reporting and monitoring of religious
3 freedom violations; and
4 "(2) not less than 2 percent of such amounts
5 for each such fiscal year for the Religious Freedom
6 Defense Fund established under subsection (d).
7 "(d) RELIGIOUS FREEDOM DEFENSE FUND.—
8 "(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in
9 the Department of State a fund to be known as the
10 'Religious Freedom Defense Fund' (referred to in
11 this subsection as the 'Fund') which shall be admin-
12 istered by the Ambassador at Large.
13 "(2) AMOUNTS.—The Fund shall consist of
14 amounts made available under subsection (c)(2).
15 "(3) USE OF FUND.—The Ambassador at
16 Large shall use amounts in the Fund to issue grants
17 for the following:
18 "(A) Victims of religious freedom abuses
19 and their families to cover legal and other ex-
20 penses that may arise from detention, imprison-
21 ment, torture, fines, and other restrictions.
22 "(B) Projects to help create and support
23 training of a new generation of defenders of re-
24 ligious freedom, including legal and political ad-
25 vocates, and civil society projects which seek to

1 create advocacy networks, strengthen legal rep-
2 resentation, train and educate new religious
3 freedom defenders, and build the capacity of re-
4 ligious communities and rights defenders to
5 protect against religious freedom violations,
6 mitigate societal or sectarian violence, or mini-
7 mize legal or other restrictions of the right to
8 the freedom of religion.

9 "(4) PREFERENCE.—In issuing grants under
10 paragraph (3), the Ambassador at Large shall, as
11 appropriate, give preference to projects targeting re-
12 ligious freedom violations in countries designated as
13 countries of particular concern for religious freedom
14 under section 402(b) and those included on the Spe-
15 cial Watch List.

16 "(e) CONSULTATION.—The Ambassador at Large
17 should consult, in developing priorities and policies for dis-
18 bursing the funds referred to in subsection (c), including
19 grant policies and the identification of potential grantees,
20 with other Federal agencies, including the Commission,
21 and the International Republican Institute, the National
22 Democratic Institute, the National Endowment for De-
23 mocracy and, as appropriate, other nongovernmental orga-
24 nizations.".

TITLE VI—REFUGEE, ASYLUM, AND CONSULAR MATTERS

SEC. 601. ACTIONS AGAINST PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR COMMITTING PARTICULARLY SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

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

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

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

"SEC. 605. ACTIONS AGAINST PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR ENGAGING IN OR TOLERATING PARTICULARLY SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

"(a) AUTHORITY TO SANCTION PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR ENGAGING IN OR TOLERATING PARTICULARLY SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.—Notwithstanding section 202 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701), the President may exercise the authority specified in section 203 of such Act with respect to—

"(1) any foreign person that the President determines, based on credible evidence, plays a role in

1 committing, ordering, sponsoring, or materially sup-
2 porting systemic, egregious, and ongoing violations
3 of religious freedom; or
4 "(2) any foreign person that the President de-
5 termines to be providing material or other assistance
6 supporting violence or terrorist acts targeting mem-
7 bers of religious groups.
8 "(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS ON IDENTIFICATION AND
9 SANCTION OF PERSONS ENGAGING IN OR TOLERATING
10 PARTICULARLY SEVERE VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL
11 RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.—
12 "(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon exercising the au-
13 thority described in subsection (a) with respect to a
14 foreign person, the President shall submit to the ap-
15 propriate congressional committees a report—
16 "(A) identifying the foreign persons that
17 the President determines to be subject to action
18 under subsection (a) and the basis for such de-
19 termination; and
20 "(B) describing the actions carried out
21 against such foreign persons pursuant to sub-
22 section (a).
23 "(2) REPORT ON REMOVAL OF SANCTIONS.—
24 Upon suspending or terminating any action imposed
25 on a person under the authority of subsection (a),

the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees written notification of such suspension or termination.

"(3) SUBMISSION OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—Reports submitted under this subsection shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain a classified annex.

"(4) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

"(A) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term 'appropriate congressional committees' means—

"(i) the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

"(ii) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

"(B) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term 'foreign person' means a person that is not a United States person.

"(C) PERSON.—The term 'person' means an individual or entity.

"(D) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term 'United States person' means—

"(i) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States; or

"(ii) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such entity.".

TITLE VII—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 701. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

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

"SEC. 702. CODES OF CONDUCT FOR UNITED STATES INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.

"(a) FINDING.—Congress recognizes the enduring importance of United States institutions of higher education worldwide both for their potential for shaping positive leadership and new educational models in host countries and for their emphasis on teaching universally recognized rights of free inquiry and academic freedom.

"(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that United States institutions of higher education operating campuses outside the United States or estab-

1 lishing any educational entities with foreign governments,
2 particularly with or in countries the governments of which
3 engage in or tolerate severe violations of religious freedom
4 as identified in the Annual Report and the annual report
5 of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China,
6 should adopt a code of conduct—

7 "(1) upholding the right of freedom of religion
8 of their employees and students, including the right
9 to manifest that religion peacefully as protected in
10 international law;

11 "(2) ensuring that the religious views and
12 peaceful practice of religion in no way affect, or be
13 allowed to affect, the status of a worker's or faculty
14 member's employment or a student's enrollment; and

15 "(3) affirming that all negotiations, contracts,
16 or memoranda of understanding engaged in or con-
17 structed with a foreign government to establish any
18 educational entity, shall be open, transparent, and
19 made available for public inspection before conclu-
20 sion and that any such agreement shall affirm, at all
21 times, academic freedom and universal rights to the
22 freedoms of religion, speech, assembly, and associa-
23 tion.

1 **"SEC. 703. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING NATIONAL SE-**
2 **CURITY STRATEGY TO PROMOTE RELIGIOUS**
3 **FREEDOM THROUGH UNITED STATES FOR-**
4 **EIGN POLICY.**

5 "It is the sense of Congress that—

6 "(1) the annual national security strategy re-
7 port of the President required by section 108 of the
8 National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3043)
9 should promote international religious freedom as a
10 foreign policy and national security priority and
11 should articulate that promotion of the right to free-
12 dom of religion is a strategy that protects other, re-
13 lated human rights, and advances democracy outside
14 the United States, and make clear its importance to
15 United States foreign policy goals of stability, secu-
16 rity, development, and diplomacy; and

17 "(2) the national security strategy report
18 should be a guide for the strategies and activities of
19 relevant Federal agencies and inform the Depart-
20 ment of Defense quadrennial defense review under
21 section 118 of title 10, United States Code, and the
22 Department of State Quadrennial Diplomacy and
23 Development Review.".

24 **SEC. 702. CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.**

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

1 (1) by inserting after the item relating to sec-
2 tion 405 the following:

"Sec. 405A. Statement of policy regarding country of particular concern designation for violent nonstate actors.";

3 (2) by striking the item relating to section 605
4 and inserting the following:

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

5 (3) by inserting after the item relating to sec-
6 tion 604 the following:

"Sec. 605. Actions against persons responsible for committing particularly severe violations of international religious freedom.";

7 and

8 (4) by adding at the end the following:

"Sec. 702. 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.".

○

IV

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 50

Calling for the release of Ukrainian fighter pilot Nadiya Savchenko, who was captured by Russian forces in Eastern Ukraine and has been held illegally in a Russian prison since July 2014.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 26, 2015

Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Mr. PASCRELL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

---

RESOLUTION

Calling for the release of Ukrainian fighter pilot Nadiya Savchenko, who was captured by Russian forces in Eastern Ukraine and has been held illegally in a Russian prison since July 2014.

Whereas Nadiya Savchenko is the first-ever female fighter pilot in Ukraine's Armed Forces and is an Iraqi war veteran;

Whereas in the ongoing conflict in Eastern Ukraine, Nadiya Savchenko volunteered her services to the Ukrainian Aidar battalion;

Whereas Nadiya Savchenko was elected in absentia from the Batkivshchyna Party to Ukraine's Parliament in October 2014, and appointed to the Parliament Assembly of the

Council of Europe (PACE) as a representative from Ukraine;

Whereas as a member of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, Lieutenant Nadiya Savchenko was conducting operations in eastern Ukraine against pro-Russian forces in the summer of 2014 when she was captured and taken into captivity;

Whereas during her mission in Eastern Ukraine, she was captured by the Donbas People's Militia, detained on Ukrainian territory, deprived of rights to due process, and illegally transferred to the Russian Federation to stand trial on unsubstantiated charges of terrorism;

Whereas since July 2014, Nadiya Savchenko has endured involuntary psychiatric evaluations and solitary confinement;

Whereas Nadiya Savchenko is currently entering her sixth week of a hunger strike as a symbol of her protest;

Whereas Nadiya Savchenko is denied access to urgently needed medical attention and access to legal counsel;

Whereas the Minsk Protocol of September 2014, signed by Ukraine and the Russian Federation, calls for the "immediate release of all hostages and illegally held persons";

Whereas appeals have been made to the United Nations Human Rights Council and the International Red Cross to secure Nadiya Savchenko's release;

Whereas the international community including representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) and of the United States have urged her immediate release;

Whereas, on January 26, 2015, the opening day of the Parliamentary Assembly, the global community embark on a public campaign to bring attention to the plight of Nadiya Savchenko and demand her immediate release; and

Whereas the Government of the United States and its people express concern about the deteriorating health of detained pilot Nadiya Savchenko and her continued illegal imprisonment: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved,* That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) condemns the Russian Federation for its il-
3 legal imprisonment of Nadiya Savchenko;

4 (2) calls on the Russian Federation to imme-
5 diately release Nadiya Savchenko;

6 (3) calls on the United States, its European al-
7 lies, and the international community to aggressively
8 support efforts to release Nadiya Savchenko and
9 other illegally detained persons; and

10 (4) expresses solidarity with the Ukrainian peo-
11 ple.

○

AMENDMENT TO H.RES. 50

OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF NEW JERSEY

In the seventh whereas clause, strike "is currently entering her sixth week of a hunger strike" and insert "was on a hunger strike for all but 10 consecutive days between December 13, 2014, and April 5, 2015".

In the eighth whereas clause, strike "is" and insert "has been".

Page 3, line 9, strike "and" at the end.

Page 3, after line 9, insert the following new paragraph:

1 (4) calls upon the United States to impose per-
2 sonal sactions against persons responsible for the
3 kidnapping, arrrest, and imprisonment of Nadiya
4 Savchenko and other illegally detained persons; and

Page 3, line 10, strike "(4)" and insert "(5)".

☒

Mr. SMITH. I move that the bill, resolution, and amendment en bloc be adopted. All those in favor say aye.

All those opposed say no.

The ayes have it, and in the opinion of the Chair all the items considered en bloc are adopted. Without objection, the measures as amended are reported favorably to the full committee and the staff is directed to make technical and conforming changes.

I would like to now note that we have completed our formal consideration of these measures and will recognize members for remarks. And I recognize myself on behalf of the first bill, the Frank Wolf International Religious Freedom Act.

Fifteen years ago, Congress had the foresight to make the advancing of religious freedom U.S. foreign policy and a priority. It wasn't easy to pass the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998. I actually was the one who held all of the hearings on that bill and frankly it was a very tough sell. There were people in the administration and Congress who opposed it. But there was a broad coalition that came together to support the bill, bipartisan, ecumenical and inclusive of foreign policy experts that made the difference.

The International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 was authored by Congressman Frank Wolf, and it is largely because of his efforts that international religious freedom is taken seriously as a foreign policy issue. But Frank, though prophetic, was not omniscient. The bill we passed 15 years ago needs to be updated to match the new challenges of the 21st century and that is what we are doing today with this bill, the Frank Wolf International Religious Freedom Act of 2015.

We honor the author of the landmark International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 by upgrading the tools, training and resources used by the administration to advance this fundamental human right. The need to advance religious freedom globally is more important now than ever. From Beijing to Burma, Nigeria to Syria to Pakistan and beyond, the need to protect religious minorities, mitigate sectarian violence and government restrictions, and counter radicalism and extremism are critical priorities for U.S. foreign policy.

We see daily headlines of beheadings, kidnappings, mob attacks, and arrests carried out by ISIS, al-Shabaab, Boko Haram and many other groups. Ugly incidents of anti-Semitism are also increasing globally, even in supposedly tolerant Europe. According to the Pew Research foundation, government restrictions on the freedom of religion are at a 7-year high.

A robust religious freedom diplomacy is necessary to advance our Nation's interest in the stability, security, and economic development of countries we engage with around the globe. Research shows that where there is more religious freedom there is more economic freedom, more women's empowerment, more political stability. Countries that protect religious minorities find greater levels of social harmony, a healthy civil society, and economic prosperity.

Spreading respect for religious freedom is the ultimate weapon against terrorism and societal violence and preemptively undermines religious extremism. History also has shown that when the U.S. makes religious freedom a priority in bilateral relations condi-

tions change without harm to security interests or economic cooperation. In addition, countless numbers of religious freedom advocates have benefited from U.S. religious freedom diplomacy finding freedom, lesser jail sentences or an end to torture. That fact alone should prick our consciences to act.

The Frank Wolf International Religious Freedom Act will upgrade the IRFA of 1998 to better address a growing religious persecution globally and help the administration and State Department to better respond to violent extremism globally as well. The bill will among many other things better train and equip diplomats to counter terrorism, address anti-Semitism, which is on a huge rise not just around the world but also in the United States but particularly in the Middle East, end religious persecution and mitigate sectarian conflict. It gives those tools by enhancing the position of the Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom now currently held by the distinguished Rabbi David Saperstein, creating a tier system for the International Religious Freedom Report's of Countries of Particular Concern, and creating a new special watch list similar to the tier system we use in the Trafficking in Persons Report.

As the author of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act we have seen, I think, beyond any reasonable doubt by having a list, a watch list, we're able to put on notice those countries that should be or are close to being a CPC or Country of Particular Concern and so that we can begin working diplomatically to prioritize those countries.

The bill requires annual designations and actions of countries with severe religious persecution or freedom issues, allows the President to designate nonviolent, non-state actors, and that's new, as well, as severe violators of international religious freedom, and gives him the statutory authority to sanction individuals responsible for committing those violations, expands diplomatic training, counterterrorism coordination and foreign assistance efforts to advance religious freedom.

The bill also reauthorizes the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, or USCIRF, until 2021 with the same language passed unanimously last year in the House. Despite strong bipartisan support in the House for USCIRF reauthorization, it did get bogged down in the Senate but it was finally reauthorized and the legislation was signed by the President for 1 year.

Finally I want to thank Anna Eshoo for being the original Democratic sponsor of this bill along with myself and now as I have said 80 other Members who have joined. Her advocacy on behalf of religious minorities in the Middle East has been laudable and important and critical. Ancient Christian communities and adherents to other esteemed faiths such as the Yazidis are being decimated by ISIS, and I deeply value her partnership on this legislation and admire her commitment to the cause of all those oppressed for the beliefs that they hold.

Without objection I will add my comments on Sander Levin's measure to the record in the interest of time, and will yield to Mr. Cicilline for any comments he might have.

Mr. CICILLINE. Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to begin by thanking you and Ranking Member Bass for your continued ad-

vocacy on important human rights issues and for holding this markup today. I particularly want to acknowledge you, Mr. Chairman, for your many, many years of leadership on the issue of religious freedom.

International religious freedom is vitally important and we need to commit the necessary resources to protect it. All individuals have the right to choose and practice the religion or belief of their choice alone or in a community with others without persecution, discrimination or fear of violence, and that is why I supported the passage of H.R. 1150 through the subcommittee today even though there are still some issues that I believe must be thoughtfully addressed.

I understand that the administration has some concerns about the text in a number of areas including changes to internal State Department structure, reauthorization of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom without important reforms, and potential drains on democracy funding of other important programs. It is also important to remember that we had trouble moving the reauthorization of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom last Congress in part because the Senate wanted to see some specific reforms included. I hope we can address some of these concerns as this legislation moves forward and before a markup at the full committee level.

I look forward to working together with you, Chairman Smith, my other colleagues in the State Department, to develop final legislation that achieves our shared goals of protecting religious freedom, maintains our support for other important human rights concerns, and enjoys broad support.

I also supported the resolution today regarding the imprisonment of Nadiya Savchenko. We continue to see tension and reports of aggression between Russia and Ukraine and it will take a tremendous amount of work and evidence of a profound change in Russian behavior before these two countries can truly coexist peacefully, and indeed before the United States and Russia can build a productive bilateral relationship.

The United States must continue to call out all of Russia's lawless actions, and the imprisonment of Nadiya Savchenko defies a basic respect for due process and human rights and Russia should release her and other illegally detained people immediately.

I thank you again Mr. Chairman for bringing these bills before the subcommittee and look forward to continuing to work with you on both of these issues and hope that we can bring them to the full committee for passage onto the House floor. And we thank you.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you so very much Mr. Cicilline. Again without objection I will make my statement on H. Res. 50 part of the record. This markup is concluded.

[Whereupon, at 2:33 p.m., the subcommittee proceeded to other business.]

APPENDIX

Material Submitted for the Record

SUBCOMMITTEE MARKUP NOTICE
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6128

Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations
Christopher H. Smith (R-NJ), Chairman

April 15, 2015

TO: MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

You are respectfully requested to attend an OPEN meeting of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, to be held in Room 2172 of the Rayburn House Office Building (and available live on the Committee website at http://www.ForeignAffairs.house.gov):

DATE: Wednesday, April 15, 2015

TIME: 2:00 p.m.

MARKUP OF: H.R. 1150, To amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to improve the ability of the United States to advance religious freedom globally through enhanced diplomacy, training, counterterrorism, and foreign assistance efforts, and through stronger and more flexible political responses to religious freedom violations and violent extremism worldwide, and for other purposes; and

H. Res. 50, Calling for the release of Ukrainian fighter pilot Nadiya Savchenko, who was captured by Russian forces in Eastern Ukraine and has been held illegally in a Russian prison since July 2014.

By Direction of the Chairman

The Committee on Foreign Affairs seeks to make its facilities accessible to persons with disabilities. If you are in need of special accommodations, please call 202/225-5021 at least four business days in advance of the event, whenever practicable. Questions with regard to special accommodations in general (including availability of Committee materials in alternative formats and assistive listening devices) may be directed to the Committee.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF SUBCOMMITTEE MARKUP

MINUTES OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON *Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations* MARKUP

Day *Wednesday* **Date** *April 15, 2015* **Room** *2172 Rayburn*

Starting Time *2:19 p.m.* **Ending Time** *2:32 p.m.*

Recesses [*0*] (____to ____) (____to ____) (____to ____) (____to ____) (____to ____) (____to ____)

Presiding Member(s)

Rep. Chris Smith

Check all of the following that apply:

Open Session [✓]
Executive (closed) Session [ ]
Televised [✓]

Electronically Recorded (taped) [✓]
Stenographic Record [✓]

BILLS FOR MARKUP: *(Include bill number(s) and title(s) of legislation.)*

H.R. 1150, To amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to improve the ability of the United States to advance religious freedom globally through enhanced diplomacy, training, counterterrorism, and foreign assistance efforts, and through stronger and more flexible political responses to religious freedom violations and violent extremism worldwide, and for other purposes.
H. Res. 50, Calling for the release of Ukrainian fighter pilot Nadiya Savchenko, who was captured by Russian forces in Eastern Ukraine and has been held illegally in a Russian prison since July 2014.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Scott DesJarlais, Rep. David Cicilline, Rep. Curt Clawson

NON-COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

STATEMENTS FOR THE RECORD: *(List any statements submitted for the record.)*

Statement of Rep. Smith on H. Res. 50, submitted by Rep. Smith
Letter from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in support of H.R. 1150, submitted by Rep. Smith
Letter from the International Religious Freedom Roundtable in support of H.R. 1150, submitted by Rep. Smith

ACTIONS TAKEN DURING THE MARKUP: *(Attach copies of legislation and amendments.)*

H.R. 1150 passed by unanimous consent
H. Res. 50 passed, as amended by Smith (NJ) #31, by unanimous consent

RECORDED VOTES TAKEN (FOR MARKUP): *(Attach final vote tally sheet listing each member.)*

Subject	Yeas	Nays	Present	Not Voting

TIME SCHEDULED TO RECONVENE _____
or
TIME ADJOURNED *2:32 p.m.*

Gregory B. Simpkins
Subcommittee Staff Director

4/15/15 Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations Markup Summary

The Chair obtained unanimous consent to consider two measures and one amendment (previously provided to Members of the Subcommittee) *en bloc*:

1) H.R. 1150 (Smith), "To amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to improve the ability of the United States to advance religious freedom globally through enhanced diplomacy, training, counterterrorism, and foreign assistance efforts, and through stronger and more flexible political responses to religious freedom violations and violent extremism worldwide, and for other purposes; " and

2) H. Res. 50 (Levin), "Calling for the release of Ukrainian fighter pilot Nadiya Savchenko, who was captured by Russian forces in Eastern Ukraine and has been held illegally in a Russian prison since July 2014."

    a. Smith 31.

The items considered *en bloc* were agreed to by voice vote. H.R. 1150 and H. Res. 50, as amended, were ordered favorably reported to the Full Committee by unanimous consent.

The subcommittee adjourned.

Statement of Rep. Chris Smith on H. Res. 50
Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations
April 15, 2015

With respect to our colleague Sander Levin's measure, H. Res. 50 calls for the release of former Ukrainian fighter pilot Nadiya Savchenko, who has been languishing in Russian prisons since she was abducted by pro-Russian forces in eastern Ukraine last June and illegally transferred across the border in handcuffs and a bag over her head.

Since she was incarcerated on specious and unsubstantiated charges, Nadiya has endured interrogations, involuntary psychiatric evaluations and solitary confinement in the same pretrial detention center where Sergei Magnitsky was tortured and killed in 2009.

Nadiya is in poor health, having spent most of the last four months on a hunger strike as a symbol of protest, ending it just last week.

Nadiya is yet another victim of the Putin regime's brutality and contempt for human life; and we must recognize that this isn't just about her but also a very visible manifestation of Putin's aggression towards a Ukraine that wishes to remain free, independent and democratic. Nadiya is a symbol for the struggle of Ukraine.

She was elected in absentia to the Ukrainian Parliament in October and was named a member of Ukraine's delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE). As such, she enjoys diplomatic immunity and PACE has called for her immediate release.

With its illegal annexation of Crimea and the war in eastern Ukraine, Russia has made a mockery of its international commitments, including all ten core OSCE principles enshrined in the 1975 Helsinki Final Act. Nadiya's illegal detention along with that of other Ukrainian citizens held hostage by Moscow, represents yet another in a long list of violations of international agreements and the norms of civilized behavior.

According to the Minsk agreements between Russia along with its separatist proxies, and Ukraine, hostages are supposed to be released. Moscow needs to immediately release Nadiya and the other hostages. It also needs to cease harassing Nadiya's legal team which has come under increasing pressure in recent weeks.

The amendment updates Nadiya's current status, including with respect to her hunger strike, to reflect changes that have taken place since the introduction of H. Res. 50.

This amendment also calls for the imposition of personal sanctions against individuals responsible for the kidnapping, arrest and imprisonment of Nadiya Savchenko and other Ukrainian citizens illegally incarcerated in Russia. Indeed, several weeks ago in Moscow Nadiya's lawyers requested that her trial judge, Artur Karpov, who also happens to be included on the Magnitsky list, be replaced. Not surprisingly, Karpov rejected the request. It is essential that we hold those culpable for human rights violations personally accountable. This amendment is consistent with the Magnitsky Act which punishes human rights violators in Russia and what we hope to accomplish in the Global Magnitsky Act which I introduced earlier this year.

MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD BY THE HONORABLE CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AND CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA, GLOBAL HEALTH, GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS, AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Committee on International Justice and Peace
3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON DC 20017-1194 • 202-541-3160
WEBSITE: WWW.USCCB.ORG/JPHD • FAX 202-541-3339

April 10, 2015

United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative,

At Easter, Pope Francis acknowledged "the suffering of our many brothers and sisters who are persecuted for [Christ's] name, and of all those who suffer injustice as a result of ongoing conflicts and violence." The Holy Father went on to name violent conflicts in Syria, Iraq, the Holy Land, Libya, Nigeria, and most recently Kenya, many of which have a dimension of religious persecution or ethnic/sectarian tensions that have taken on religious overtones. The increase in violence perpetrated against religious minorities has reached staggering proportions. For this reason, on behalf of the Committee on International Justice and Peace of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), I urge you to support and pass H.R. 1150, *The Frank Wolf International Religious Freedom Act of 2015*.

The Catholic Church views protection of religious freedom as a "cornerstone of the structure of human rights" since it is rooted in the dignity of the human person. The USCCB worked with other faith-based groups and members of Congress from both sides of the aisle to pass the landmark 1998 International Religious Freedom Act (IRFA). IRFA created the Office of International Religious Freedom in the Department of State and the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF).

Given this engagement and the Church's ongoing concern over the plight of religious minorities, we strongly support H.R. 1150. This legislation updates the IRFA of 1998 and provides more tools for the U.S. government to advance international religious freedom goals, protecting those who are most vulnerable simply because of their beliefs. The legislation's provisions include:

- Increasing coordination across U.S. government agencies to advance international religious freedom policies and religious engagement strategies, and raising the profile of international religious freedom by establishing interagency policy committees within the National Security Council;
- Specifying annual actions to be taken against countries with severe religious freedom violations as well as the authority to sanction individuals and non-state actors who commit such violations;
- Expanding diplomatic training, counter-terrorism coordination, and foreign assistance efforts to reflect and incorporate religious freedom concerns; and
- Reauthorizing the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom through 2021 and speeding the appointment of Commissioners.

Passage of H.R. 1150 would be an important first step in improving the ability of our nation to advance religious freedom globally. It would signify the determination of the United States to promote and protect this most fundamental of human rights. We urge you to lend your support to this legislation.

Sincerely yours,

Most Reverend Oscar Cantú
Bishop of Las Cruces
Chair, Committee on International Justice and Peace
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD BY THE HONORABLE CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AND CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA, GLOBAL HEALTH, GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS, AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

ROUNDTABLE

Washington, D.C.

April 14, 2015

The Honorable Chris Smith
Chairman, Subcommittee on Africa,
Global Health, Global Human Rights,
and International Organizations
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Karen Bass
Ranking Member, Subcommittee
on Africa, Global Health, Global
Human Rights, and International
Organizations
408 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Bass,

We write as an informal group of organizations and individuals who are scholars, religious leaders, human rights advocates and practitioners to urge you to support swift passage of H.R. 1150, the Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act of 2015, which is sponsored by Representatives Chris Smith (R-NJ) and Anna Eshoo (D-CA).

While there is very little we agree on theologically, or politically, we all agree on the importance of religious freedom. The passage of H.R. 1150 is not only the right thing to do but it is in our vital self-interest to do so. Consider three compelling reasons.

First, religious freedom is perhaps the most personal and fundamental of all human rights, reflecting the very core and dignity of a human being. It strengthens culture and provides the foundation for a stable democracy and its components, including civil society, economic growth, and social harmony. Research has shown that where there is more religious freedom, there is more economic development, more women's empowerment, and more political stability.

As such, religious freedom is also the ultimate counter-terrorism weapon, preemptively undermining religious extremism. From Cyrus' Cylinder to Roger Williams' 1663 Colonial Charter, history and modern scholarship make it clear that where people are allowed to practice their faith freely, they are less likely to be alienated from the government, and more likely to be good citizens.

Third, the current state of international religious freedom is one of deepening crisis. According to the Pew Research Center's latest annual study on global restrictions on religion, 77% of the world's population lives in countries with a high or very high overall level of restrictions on religion in 2013, up from 76% in 2012 and 68% in 2007. If people continue to kill for their religion and die for their faith in a world where 84% of the planet's inhabitants believe in something greater than themselves, then we must work for the best of faith to defeat the worst of religion.

We must work to create a context where people can live with their deepest differences. The recent turmoil in Syria, Iraq and Ukraine—including the alarming spike in incidents of violence and persecution of Christians, Muslim communities, and other religious minorities—offers the latest examples of what happens if we do not.

The attached summary of the bill provides further details, but the purpose of H.R. 1150 is to update the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (IRFA) and improve the capacity of the U.S. government to advance religious freedom globally by:

- Giving the Administration and the State Department new political tools to better counter violent extremism and sectarian violence, growing anti-Semitism and restrictions on religious minorities (e.g., a "tier system" for IRF reports on countries of particular concern and a special watch list, annual actions on countries with severe IRF abuses, authority to sanction individuals responsible for committing severe violations of IRF or materially supporting terrorism or violent extremism, and the ability to designate non-state actors as part of the Country of Particular Concern list and a range of sanctions targeting individual members of such groups);
- Expanding diplomatic training, counter-terrorism coordination, and foreign assistance efforts; and,
- Reauthorizing the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) through 2021.

We deeply appreciate the recent appointment and confirmation of David Saperstein as U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, and we are extremely grateful for the renewed voice and leadership of USCIRF's Commissioners, and for the expertise and diligence of the professional, nonpartisan staffs of the IRF Office and USCIRF. But we need to further strengthen these offices and their collective contribution to the building of sustainable religious freedom worldwide.

With the passage and implementation of H.R. 1150, a strengthened IRFA and a stronger IRF policy—as integrated into U.S. foreign policy and national security—the United States will send a clear and urgent message regarding the inherent dignity of every human being, as well as our common global security in the fight against persecution and religious extremism, and terrorism. Doing so is consistent with the best of our values, practically protecting our interests as a result. Please pass this bill as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

<u>ORGANIZATIONS</u>

21ST CENTURY WILBERFORCE INITIATIVE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM FOR VIETNAM

ADVOCATES INTERNATIONAL

AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY USA

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION OF CON DAU PARISHIONERS

BOAT PEOPLE SOS

CENTER FOR INQUIRY

CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY WORLDWIDE - UK

CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY NATIONAL AFFAIRS OFFICE

COPTIC SOLIDARITY

FEDERATION OF INDIAN AMERICAN CHRISTIAN ORGANIZATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA

FREEMUSLIM, CENTER FOR DE-RADICALIZATION AND EXTREME PREVENTION

HIAS

HOME SCHOOL LEGAL DEFENSE ASSOCIATION

HUMAN RIGHTS LAW FOUNDATION

INDIAN AMERICAN MUSLIM COUNCIL

INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

INSTITUTE ON RELIGION AND DEMOCRACY

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONCERN

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS LIBERTY ASSOCIATION

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS

INTERNATIONAL UYGHUR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY FOUNDATION

JUBILEE CAMPAIGN USA

MISSION EURASIA

NORTH AMERICAN RELIGIOUS LIBERTY ASSOCIATION

OPEN DOORS USA

PEACE CATALYST INTERNATIONAL

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX AUTONOMOUS CHURCH OF AMERICA

SHIA RIGHTS WATCH

TAHRIR INSTITUTE FOR MIDDLE EAST POLICY

UNITED MACEDONIAN DIASPORA

UYHGUR-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

VENN INSTITUTE

WESTMINSTER INSTITUTE

Individuals

C Naseer Ahmad

Mustafa Akhwand
Executive Director
Shia Rights Watch

Stephen Baskerville
Professor of Government
Patrick Henry College

Brian J. Grim, Ph.D.
President
Religious Freedom & Business Foundation

Dr. Joel C. Hunter, Senior Pastor
Northland - A Church Distributed

Lauren Homer
Homer International Law
Law and Liberty Trust

Jeff King
President
International Christian Concern

Kody Kness
Vice President
China Aid

Amjad Mahmood Khan
National Director of Public Affairs
Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA

Rick Love, Ph.D.
President
Peace Catalyst International

Paul Marshall
Senior Fellow, Center for Religious Freedom
Hudson Institute

Terri Marsh
Executive Director
Human Rights Law Foundation

Brent McBurney
President & CEO
Advocates International

Greg Mitchell
President
The Mitchell Firm

Russell D. Moore
President
Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission

Scott Morgan
President
Red Eagle Enterprises

Chris Seiple
President
Institute for Global Engagement

Roy Speckhardt
Executive Director
American Humanist Association

Rev. Sue Taylor
National Public Affairs Director
Church of Scientology National Affairs Office

Anthony Vance
Director of Public Affairs
Bahá'ís of the United States

William C. Walsh
Human Rights Attorney
Bisceglie and Walsh

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