

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2870

To amend the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 to authorize appropriations to provide assistance for domestic and foreign programs and centers for the treatment of victims of torture, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 24, 2015

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. MCGOVERN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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 Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 to authorize appropriations to provide assistance for domestic and foreign programs and centers for the treatment of victims of torture, 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 “Torture Victims Relief
5 Reauthorization Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR DOMES-**
2 **TIC TREATMENT CENTERS FOR VICTIMS OF**
3 **TORTURE.**

4 Section 5(b)(1) of the Torture Victims Relief Act of
5 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2152 note) is amended to read as follows:

6 “(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Of
7 the amounts authorized to be appropriated for the
8 Department of Health and Human Services for fis-
9 cal years 2016 and 2017, there are authorized to be
10 appropriated to carry out subsection (a)
11 \$25,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2016 and
12 2017.”.

13 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR FOR-**
14 **EIGN TREATMENT CENTERS FOR VICTIMS OF**
15 **TORTURE.**

16 Section 4(b)(1) of the Torture Victims Relief Act of
17 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2152 note) is amended to read as follows:

18 “(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Of
19 the amounts authorized to be appropriated for fiscal
20 years 2016 and 2017 pursuant to chapter 1 of part
21 I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, there are
22 authorized to be appropriated to the President to
23 carry out section 130 of such Act \$12,000,000 for
24 each of the fiscal years 2016 and 2017.”.

1 **SEC. 4. SPECIALIZED TRAINING FOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF-**
2 **FICERS.**

3 Section 7 of the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998
4 (22 U.S.C. 2152 note) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding
6 paragraph (1), by inserting “through the Foreign
7 Service Institute” after “foreign service officers”;
8 and

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

11 “(c) REPORT.—The Secretary of State shall submit
12 to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-
13 resentatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of
14 the Senate an annual report on the implementation of sub-
15 section (a) for the preceding year, including a description
16 of training on victims of torture for foreign service officers
17 and the number of foreign service officers trained.”.

18 **SEC. 5. REPORT ON VICTIMS OF TORTURE WHO ENTER THE**
19 **UNITED STATES.**

20 The Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee
21 on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and
22 the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate an an-
23 nual report on the percentage and number of identified
24 victims of torture who are approved to enter the United
25 States as refugees and their initial placement in the
26 United States.

1 **SEC. 6. GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT FOR INDIGENOUS FOR-**
2 **EIGN TREATMENT CENTERS AND PROGRAMS**
3 **FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the United
5 States Agency for International Development shall provide
6 guidance and support for indigenous foreign treatment
7 centers and programs for victims of torture in order to
8 increase the capacity of such centers and programs and
9 to train other local health care providers, including hos-
10 pitals, clinics and other health treatment facilities.

11 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Of the
12 amounts authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years
13 2016 and 2017 to carry out section 130 of the Foreign
14 Assistance Act of 1961, there are authorized to be appro-
15 priated to the Administrator such sums as may be nec-
16 essary to carry out subsection (a) for each of the fiscal
17 years 2016 and 2017.

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