Bill Fact Sheet – December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com

Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/110/s/2979

S 2979

A bill to exempt the African National Congress from treatment as a terrorist organization, and for other purposes.

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: May 6, 2008

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 850.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 850. (Jun 26, 2008)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/senate-bill/2979

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]

Party: Democratic • State: MA • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		May 6, 2008
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	$D \cdot NY$		May 7, 2008
Sen. Biden, Joseph R., Jr. [D-DE]	D · DE		May 8, 2008
Sen. Levin, Carl [D-MI]	D · MI		May 8, 2008
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		May 20, 2008
Sen. Corker, Bob [R-TN]	$R \cdot TN$		May 22, 2008
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	$D\cdotMD$		Jun 11, 2008
Sen. Feingold, Russell D. [D-WI]	$D \cdot WI$		Jun 11, 2008
Sen. Gregg, Judd [R-NH]	$R \cdot NH$		Jun 17, 2008
Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]	D · LA		Jun 25, 2008

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jun 26, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 HR 5690	Related bill	Jul 1, 2008: Became Public Law No: 110-257.

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Amends the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2008 to state that for purposes of alien inadmissibility based upon terrorist-related grounds the African National Congress (ANC) shall not be considered to be a terrorist organization on the basis of any act or event that occurred before the date of enactment of such Act.

Authorizes the Secretary of State (after consultation with the Attorney General and the Secretary of Homeland Security) or the Secretary of Homeland Security (after consultation with the Secretary of State and the Attorney General) to determine, in such Secretary's sole unreviewable discretion, that inadmissibility based upon specified criminal convictions or terrorist activities shall not apply to an alien with respect to activities undertaken in opposition to apartheid rule in South Africa.

Expresses the sense of Congress that the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Homeland Security should exercise such authority in appropriate instances to exempt the anti-apartheid activities of aliens who are current or former officials of the government of the Republic of South Africa.

Directs the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Attorney General, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Director of National Intelligence, to ensure that databases used to determine U.S. admissibility are appropriately updated.

Actions Timeline

- Jun 26, 2008: Committee on the Judiciary. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- Jun 26, 2008: Committee on the Judiciary. Reported by Senator Leahy without amendment. Without written report.
- Jun 26, 2008: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 850.
- May 6, 2008: Introduced in Senate
- May 6, 2008: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.