

HR 1410

Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2012

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Apr 7, 2011

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (Sep 12, 2012)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/house-bill/1410>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4]

Party: Republican • **State:** NJ • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (15 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-16]	D · CA		Apr 7, 2011
Rep. Royce, Edward R. [R-CA-40]	R · CA		Apr 7, 2011
Rep. Sanchez, Loretta [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Apr 7, 2011
Rep. Wolf, Frank R. [R-VA-10]	R · VA		Apr 7, 2011
Rep. Stark, Fortney Pete [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Oct 25, 2011
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Nov 25, 2011
Rep. Coble, Howard [R-NC-6]	R · NC		Nov 25, 2011
Rep. Burton, Dan [R-IN-5]	R · IN		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Green, Gene [D-TX-29]	D · TX		Mar 21, 2012
Rep. Coffman, Mike [R-CO-6]	R · CO		Apr 16, 2012
Rep. Moran, James P. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		May 15, 2012
Rep. Barton, Joe [R-TX-6]	R · TX		May 16, 2012
Rep. Olson, Pete [R-TX-22]	R · TX		Jul 11, 2012

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	May 13, 2011
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	May 13, 2011
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 12, 2012

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Sep 11, 2012)

Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2012 - Prohibits U.S. nonhumanitarian assistance to the government of Vietnam in excess of FY2011 amounts unless: (1) the federal government provides assistance, in addition to democracy building assistance under this Act, supporting human rights training, civil society building, and exchange programs between the Vietnamese National Assembly and Congress at levels commensurate with or exceeding any increases in nonhumanitarian assistance to Vietnam; and (2) the President certifies to Congress that the government of Vietnam has made substantial progress respecting political, media, and religious freedoms, minority rights, access to U.S. refugee programs, and actions to end trafficking in persons and the release of political prisoners.

Authorizes the President to waive such requirements if increased U.S. nonhumanitarian assistance would promote the purposes of this Act or is otherwise in the U.S. national interest. Limits waiver authority to: (1) all U.S. nonhumanitarian assistance to Vietnam; or (2) one or more programs, projects, or activities of such assistance.

Expresses the sense of Congress that: (1) the United States should take measures to overcome the jamming of Radio Free Asia by Vietnam and that the Broadcasting Board of Governors should not cut staffing, funding, or broadcast hours for the Vietnamese language services of the Voice of America and Radio Free Asia; and (2) U.S.-Vietnam educational and cultural exchange programs should promote freedom and democracy in Vietnam by providing opportunities to Vietnamese nationals from a wide range of occupations and perspectives to see freedom and democracy in action and, also, by ensuring that Vietnamese nationals who have demonstrated a commitment to these values are included in such programs.

Sets forth reporting requirements.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 12, 2012:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.
- **Sep 11, 2012:** Ms. Ros-Lehtinen moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Sep 11, 2012:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H5835-5842)
- **Sep 11, 2012:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 1410.
- **Sep 11, 2012:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H5835-5837)
- **Sep 11, 2012:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H5835-5837)
- **Sep 11, 2012:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Mar 7, 2012:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Mar 7, 2012:** Ordered to be Reported by Unanimous Consent.
- **May 13, 2011:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.
- **May 13, 2011:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights.
- **Apr 7, 2011:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 7, 2011:** Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs