

## HR 440

To provide for the establishment of the Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia.

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** International Affairs

**Introduced:** Jan 25, 2011

**Current Status:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 292.

**Latest Action:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 292. (Jan 23, 2012)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/house-bill/440>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Rep. Wolf, Frank R. [R-VA-10]

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

**Cosponsors** (80 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-14]	D · CA		Jan 25, 2011
Rep. Franks, Trent [R-AZ-2]	R · AZ		Jan 25, 2011
Rep. Holt, Rush [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Jan 25, 2011
Rep. Pitts, Joseph R. [R-PA-16]	R · PA		Jan 25, 2011
Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4]	R · NJ		Jan 25, 2011
Rep. Calvert, Ken [R-CA-44]	R · CA		Jan 26, 2011
Rep. Fortenberry, Jeff [R-NE-1]	R · NE		Jan 26, 2011
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Feb 8, 2011
Rep. Gowdy, Trey [R-SC-4]	R · SC		Feb 8, 2011
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Feb 8, 2011
Rep. Bishop, Rob [R-UT-1]	R · UT		Feb 10, 2011
Rep. Duncan, Jeff [R-SC-3]	R · SC		Feb 10, 2011
Rep. Forbes, J. Randy [R-VA-4]	R · VA		Feb 10, 2011
Rep. Pence, Mike [R-IN-6]	R · IN		Feb 10, 2011
Rep. Bartlett, Roscoe G. [R-MD-6]	R · MD		Feb 11, 2011
Rep. Burton, Dan [R-IN-5]	R · IN		Feb 11, 2011
Rep. Chabot, Steve [R-OH-1]	R · OH		Feb 11, 2011
Rep. Huelskamp, Tim [R-KS-1]	R · KS		Feb 11, 2011
Del. Bordallo, Madeleine Z. [D-GU-At Large]	D · GU		Feb 14, 2011
Rep. Boswell, Leonard L. [D-IA-3]	D · IA		Feb 14, 2011
Rep. Pompeo, Mike [R-KS-4]	R · KS		Feb 14, 2011
Rep. Ross, Dennis A. [R-FL-12]	R · FL		Feb 14, 2011
Rep. Speier, Jackie [D-CA-12]	D · CA		Feb 14, 2011
Rep. Walberg, Tim [R-MI-7]	R · MI		Feb 14, 2011
Rep. Wilson, Joe [R-SC-2]	R · SC		Feb 14, 2011
Del. Faleomavaega, Eni F. H. [D-AS-At Large]	D · AS		Feb 15, 2011
Rep. Ellmers, Renee L. [R-NC-2]	R · NC		Feb 15, 2011
Rep. LoBiondo, Frank A. [R-NJ-2]	R · NJ		Feb 15, 2011
Rep. Marino, Tom [R-PA-10]	R · PA		Feb 17, 2011
Rep. Sensenbrenner, F. James, Jr. [R-WI-5]	R · WI		Feb 17, 2011
Rep. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI-9]	D · MI		Feb 18, 2011
Rep. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Feb 28, 2011
Rep. Myrick, Sue Wilkins [R-NC-9]	R · NC		Feb 28, 2011
Rep. Cleaver, Emanuel [D-MO-5]	D · MO		Mar 3, 2011
Rep. Filner, Bob [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Mar 3, 2011
Rep. Griffith, H. Morgan [R-VA-9]	R · VA		Mar 3, 2011
Rep. Jackson, Jesse L., Jr. [D-IL-2]	D · IL		Mar 3, 2011
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-14]	D · NY		Mar 3, 2011
Rep. McCotter, Thaddeus G. [R-MI-11]	R · MI		Mar 3, 2011
Rep. Olver, John W. [D-MA-1]	D · MA		Mar 3, 2011
Rep. Rogers, Mike D. [R-AL-3]	R · AL		Mar 3, 2011

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Mar 3, 2011
Rep. Sires, Albio [D-NJ-13]	D · NJ		Mar 3, 2011
Rep. Towns, Edolphus [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Mar 3, 2011
Rep. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA-6]	R · LA		Mar 4, 2011
Rep. Roskam, Peter J. [R-IL-6]	R · IL		Mar 4, 2011
Rep. Aderholt, Robert B. [R-AL-4]	R · AL		Mar 8, 2011
Rep. Barletta, Lou [R-PA-11]	R · PA		Mar 8, 2011
Rep. Cardoza, Dennis A. [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Mar 8, 2011
Rep. Honda, Michael M. [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Mar 8, 2011
Rep. Lamborn, Doug [R-CO-5]	R · CO		Mar 8, 2011
Rep. Latham, Tom [R-IA-4]	R · IA		Mar 8, 2011
Rep. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Mar 8, 2011
Rep. Yoder, Kevin [R-KS-3]	R · KS		Mar 8, 2011
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Mar 10, 2011
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-23]	D · FL		Mar 10, 2011
Rep. Payne, Donald M. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Mar 10, 2011
Rep. Bachus, Spencer [R-AL-6]	R · AL		Mar 14, 2011
Rep. Petri, Thomas E. [R-WI-6]	R · WI		Mar 14, 2011
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-38]	D · CA		Mar 16, 2011
Rep. Grimm, Michael G. [R-NY-13]	R · NY		Mar 29, 2011
Rep. Kelly, Mike [R-PA-3]	R · PA		Mar 29, 2011
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		Mar 29, 2011
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-16]	D · CA		Apr 1, 2011
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-3]	D · MA		Apr 5, 2011
Rep. Moran, James P. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Apr 5, 2011
Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-9]	R · FL		Apr 7, 2011
Rep. Wu, David [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Apr 8, 2011
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		May 5, 2011
Rep. Sutton, Betty [D-OH-13]	D · OH		May 10, 2011
Rep. Duffy, Sean P. [R-WI-7]	R · WI		May 11, 2011
Rep. Johnson, Bill [R-OH-6]	R · OH		May 25, 2011
Rep. Kildee, Dale E. [D-MI-5]	D · MI		May 25, 2011
Rep. Rigell, E. Scott [R-VA-2]	R · VA		May 26, 2011
Rep. Carter, John R. [R-TX-31]	R · TX		Jun 15, 2011
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Jul 15, 2011
Rep. Miller, Candice S. [R-MI-10]	R · MI		Jul 15, 2011
Rep. Hartzler, Vicky [R-MO-4]	R · MO		Jul 18, 2011
Rep. Levin, Sander M. [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Jul 25, 2011
Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Jul 26, 2011

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 1, 2011
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 1, 2011

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

International Affairs

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 S 1245	Related bill	Jun 22, 2011: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

## Summary (as of Jul 29, 2011)

(Sec. 2) Directs the President to appoint a Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia within the Department of State.

(Sec. 3) Requires the Special Envoy to: (1) promote the right of religious freedom of religious minorities in the countries of the Near East and South Central Asia, denounce the violation of such right, and recommend appropriate U.S government responses to such violations; (2) monitor and combat acts of religious intolerance and incitement targeted against such religious minorities; (3) ensure that the needs of such religious minority communities are addressed, including economic and security needs directly tied to religious-based discrimination and persecution; (4) work with foreign governments of such countries to address inherently discriminatory laws; and (5) coordinate and assist in the preparation of specified reports required by the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998.

(Sec. 4) Authorizes the Special Envoy, subject to direction by the President and the Secretary of State, to represent the United States in matters and cases relevant to religious freedom in: (1) contacts with foreign governments, intergovernmental organizations, and specialized agencies of the United Nations (U.N.), the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe, and other international organizations; and (2) multilateral conferences and meetings relevant to religious freedom.

(Sec. 5) Requires the Special Envoy to give priority to programs, projects, and activities for Egypt, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

(Sec. 6) Authorizes, from amounts available for Diplomatic and Consular Programs, \$1 million to be appropriated each fiscal year from FY2011-FY2015. Provides that no additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for such Programs to carry out this Act.

Directs the Secretary, unless otherwise authorized or required by law, to eliminate positions within the Department as necessary to offset the costs to be incurred for hiring staff, conducting investigations, and for the necessary travel to carry out this Act.

(Sec. 7) Declares that this Act shall cease to be effective on October 1, 2015.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Jan 23, 2012:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 292.
- **Dec 17, 2011:** Read the first time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under Read the First Time.
- **Jul 29, 2011:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H5750)
- **Jul 29, 2011:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 402 - 20 (Roll no. 673).(text: CR 7/27/2011 H5595-5596)
- **Jul 29, 2011:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 402 - 20 (Roll no. 673). (text: CR 7/27/2011 H5595-5596)
- **Jul 29, 2011:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 29, 2011:** Received in the Senate.
- **Jul 27, 2011:** Mr. Smith (NJ) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Jul 27, 2011:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H5595-5600)
- **Jul 27, 2011:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 440.
- **Jul 27, 2011:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Mar 1, 2011:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Middle East and South Asia .
- **Mar 1, 2011:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights.
- **Jan 25, 2011:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 25, 2011:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E106-107)
- **Jan 25, 2011:** Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.
- **Jan 24, 2011:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H402)