

## S 1649

Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2013

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** International Affairs

**Introduced:** Nov 5, 2013

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (Nov 5, 2013)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/1649>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** AR • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Nov 5, 2013
Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA]	R · LA		Dec 18, 2013
Sen. Blunt, Roy [R-MO]	R · MO		May 8, 2014

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Referred To	Nov 5, 2013

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

International Affairs

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 1897	Related bill	<b>Sep 9, 2013:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Vietnam Human Rights Act of 2013 - Prohibits U.S. nonhumanitarian assistance to the government of Vietnam in excess of FY2012 amounts unless 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, return of confiscated religious estates and property, and actions to end trafficking in persons and to release 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. Allows the President to waive such authority with respect 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; (2) U.S.-Vietnam educational and cultural exchange programs should promote freedom and democracy in Vietnam; (3) the Secretary of State should oppose Vietnam's candidacy for membership on the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC); (4) Vietnam should be designated as a country of particular concern for religious freedom; and (5) Vietnam does not fully comply with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking and is not making significant efforts to bring itself into compliance.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Nov 5, 2013:** Introduced in Senate
- **Nov 5, 2013:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.