

## HR 4653

United States Commission on International Religious Freedom Reauthorization Act of 2014

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** International Affairs

**Introduced:** May 9, 2014

**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. (Jul 9, 2014)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/4653>

### Sponsor

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

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

**Cosponsors** (41 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Aderholt, Robert B. [R-AL-4]	R · AL		May 19, 2014
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18]	D · CA		May 19, 2014
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		May 19, 2014
Rep. Rohrabacher, Dana [R-CA-48]	R · CA		May 19, 2014
Rep. Waxman, Henry A. [D-CA-33]	D · CA		May 19, 2014
Rep. Fortenberry, Jeff [R-NE-1]	R · NE		May 20, 2014
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		May 20, 2014
Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4]	R · NJ		May 20, 2014
Rep. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD-8]	D · MD		May 21, 2014
Rep. Pitts, Joseph R. [R-PA-16]	R · PA		May 22, 2014
Rep. Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]	D · MN		May 28, 2014
Rep. Rogers, Mike D. [R-AL-3]	R · AL		May 28, 2014
Rep. Franks, Trent [R-AZ-8]	R · AZ		May 29, 2014
Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]	D · NY		May 29, 2014
Rep. Bridenstine, Jim [R-OK-1]	R · OK		May 30, 2014
Rep. Sarbanes, John P. [D-MD-3]	D · MD		May 30, 2014
Rep. Edwards, Donna F. [D-MD-4]	D · MD		Jun 9, 2014
Rep. Honda, Michael M. [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Jun 9, 2014
Rep. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI-14]	D · MI		Jun 9, 2014
Rep. Sensenbrenner, F. James, Jr. [R-WI-5]	R · WI		Jun 9, 2014
Rep. Meadows, Mark [R-NC-11]	R · NC		Jun 10, 2014
Rep. Young, Don [R-AK-At Large]	R · AK		Jun 10, 2014
Rep. Duffy, Sean P. [R-WI-7]	R · WI		Jun 12, 2014
Rep. Ros-Lehtinen, Ileana [R-FL-27]	R · FL		Jun 12, 2014
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Jun 17, 2014
Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Jun 17, 2014
Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16]	D · NY		Jun 18, 2014
Rep. Duncan, Jeff [R-SC-3]	R · SC		Jun 19, 2014
Rep. Gowdy, Trey [R-SC-4]	R · SC		Jun 19, 2014
Rep. Pascrell, Bill, Jr. [D-NJ-9]	D · NJ		Jun 19, 2014
Rep. Salmon, Matt [R-AZ-5]	R · AZ		Jun 19, 2014
Rep. Bishop, Timothy H. [D-NY-1]	D · NY		Jun 20, 2014
Rep. Lipinski, Daniel [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Jun 20, 2014
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Jun 23, 2014
Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1]	D · RI		Jun 24, 2014
Rep. Johnson, Bill [R-OH-6]	R · OH		Jun 25, 2014
Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Jun 25, 2014
Rep. Speier, Jackie [D-CA-14]	D · CA		Jun 25, 2014
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Jun 26, 2014
Rep. Forbes, J. Randy [R-VA-4]	R · VA		Jun 26, 2014
Rep. Pittenger, Robert [R-NC-9]	R · NC		Jul 8, 2014

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Reported by	Jun 18, 2014
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 9, 2014

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

International Affairs

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 5816	Related bill	<b>Dec 18, 2014:</b> Became Public Law No: 113-271.
113 S 2711	Related bill	<b>Jul 30, 2014:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (text of measure as introduced: CR S5144-5145)

## Summary (as of Jul 8, 2014)

United States Commission on International Religious Freedom Reauthorization Act of 2014 - Amends the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to reauthorize the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) as an independent federal government advisory body through FY2019.

(Sec. 2) Requires USCIRF as a whole to have expertise on the variety of faiths practiced around the world.

Requires appointments to USCIRF to be made within 90 days of a vacancy. Removes authority under which a USCIRF member may serve after the expiration of that member's term until a successor has taken office.

(Sec. 3) Amends the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to require the Secretary of State to receive assistance from USCIRF when establishing training for Foreign Service officers in the field of internationally recognized human rights, including instruction regarding the relationship between religious freedom and security, as well as the role of religious freedom in U.S. foreign policy.

(Sec. 4) Encourages the Department of State to allow classified information to be accessed by USCIRF Commissioners and staff with the appropriate security clearance.

Requires discrimination on the basis of religion to be treated as a category of employment discrimination for purposes of the employment protections for USCIRF employees.

(Sec. 5) Revises restrictions on USCIRF's acceptance of gifts and donations to permit sponsoring private parties to provide compensation and benefits to interns, fellows, and volunteers. Requires the number, duration, and funding source of any such internship, fellowship, or volunteer programs to be described in USCIRF's annual financial report.

(Sec. 6) Terminates USCIRF on September 30, 2019.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Jul 9, 2014:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.
- **Jul 8, 2014:** Mr. Smith (NJ) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Jul 8, 2014:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H5836-5839)
- **Jul 8, 2014:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 4653.
- **Jul 8, 2014:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H5836)
- **Jul 8, 2014:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H5836)
- **Jun 26, 2014:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jun 26, 2014:** Ordered to be Reported in the Nature of a Substitute (Amended) by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jun 18, 2014:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jun 18, 2014:** Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee in the Nature of a Substitute (Amended) by Unanimous Consent .
- **Jun 4, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights and International Organizations.
- **May 9, 2014:** Introduced in House
- **May 9, 2014:** Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.