

HRES 861

Supporting respect for human rights and encouraging inclusive governance in Ethiopia.

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Sep 12, 2016

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. (Sep 12, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-resolution/861>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (38 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Coffman, Mike [R-CO-6]	R · CO		Sep 12, 2016
Rep. Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Sep 12, 2016
Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16]	D · NY		Sep 12, 2016
Rep. Green, Al [D-TX-9]	D · TX		Sep 12, 2016
Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1]	D · RI		Sep 21, 2016
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Sep 21, 2016
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		Sep 28, 2016
Rep. Sessions, Pete [R-TX-32]	R · TX		Sep 28, 2016
Rep. Bass, Karen [D-CA-37]	D · CA		Nov 14, 2016
Rep. Brady, Robert A. [D-PA-1]	D · PA		Nov 14, 2016
Rep. Emmer, Tom [R-MN-6]	R · MN		Nov 14, 2016
Rep. Himes, James A. [D-CT-4]	D · CT		Nov 14, 2016
Rep. Hudson, Richard [R-NC-8]	R · NC		Nov 14, 2016
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Nov 14, 2016
Rep. Paulsen, Erik [R-MN-3]	R · MN		Nov 14, 2016
Rep. Pittenger, Robert [R-NC-9]	R · NC		Nov 14, 2016
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		Nov 14, 2016
Rep. Adams, Alma S. [D-NC-12]	D · NC		Nov 15, 2016
Rep. Beyer, Donald S., Jr. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Nov 15, 2016
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Nov 15, 2016
Rep. Katko, John [R-NY-24]	R · NY		Nov 15, 2016
Rep. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2]	D · IL		Nov 15, 2016
Rep. Meeks, Gregory W. [D-NY-5]	D · NY		Nov 15, 2016
Rep. Nolan, Richard M. [D-MN-8]	D · MN		Nov 15, 2016
Rep. Tipton, Scott R. [R-CO-3]	R · CO		Nov 15, 2016
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		Nov 15, 2016
Rep. Waters, Maxine [D-CA-43]	D · CA		Nov 15, 2016
Rep. Westerman, Bruce [R-AR-4]	R · AR		Nov 15, 2016
Rep. Johnson, Sam [R-TX-3]	R · TX		Nov 16, 2016
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Nov 16, 2016
Rep. Marchant, Kenny [R-TX-24]	R · TX		Nov 16, 2016
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Nov 16, 2016
Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]	R · TX		Nov 16, 2016
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Nov 30, 2016
Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5]	D · IL		Nov 30, 2016
Rep. Davis, Rodney [R-IL-13]	R · IL		Dec 6, 2016
Rep. Gutierrez, Luis V. [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Dec 6, 2016
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		Dec 6, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Sep 12, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 SRES 432	Related bill	Jun 28, 2016: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 536.

Condemns: (1) the killing of peaceful protesters and excessive use of force by Ethiopian security forces; (2) the detention of journalists, students, activists and political leaders who exercise their constitutional rights to freedom of assembly and expression through peaceful protests; and (3) the abuse of the Anti-Terrorism Proclamation to stifle political and civil dissent and journalistic freedoms.

Urges protesters in Ethiopia to refrain from violence.

Calls on the government of Ethiopia to:

- end the use of excessive force by security forces;
- investigate the killings and excessive use of force that took place as a result of protests in the Oromia and Amhara regions;
- release dissidents, activists, and journalists who have been imprisoned for exercising constitutional rights;
- respect the right to peaceful assembly and guarantee freedom of the press;
- engage in open consultations with citizens regarding its development strategy;
- allow a United Nations rapporteur to conduct an independent examination of the state of human rights in Ethiopia; and
- investigate and report on the circumstances surrounding the September 3, 2016, shootings and fire at Qilinto Prison.

Calls on such government to repeal proclamations that:

- can be used to harass or prohibit funding for organizations that investigate human rights violations, engage in peaceful political dissent, or advocate for greater political freedoms;
- prohibit those displaced from their land from seeking judicial redress;
- permit the detention of peaceful protesters and political opponents who legally exercise their rights to freedom of expression and association; and
- limit peaceful nonprofit operations in Ethiopia.

Calls on: (1) the Department of State to review security assistance, and improve oversight of U.S. assistance, to Ethiopia; and (2) the U.S. Agency for International Development to lead efforts to develop a strategy to support improved democracy and governance in Ethiopia.

Supports the peaceful efforts of the Ethiopian people to exercise their constitutional rights.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 12, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 12, 2016:** Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

LegiList

CONGRESS, MADE CLEAR.

Search Every Federal Bill, Law, and Vote

LegiList is the fastest way to research Congress. Track any bill from introduction to enactment, see how every legislator voted, follow committee activity, and read the full text of every bill — all in one place, always up to date.

legilist.com

Free Course: Learn How Congress Actually Works

LegiList Learn is a free, self-paced course that walks through the entire legislative process — from drafting a bill to a presidential signature. Seven modules, plain language, no politics. Earn a certificate when you finish.

legilist.com/learn

Developer API: Build Apps on Legislative Data

The LegiList API gives developers direct access to bills, votes, legislators, committees, and more. Start free with 1,000 requests per day — no credit card required. Upgrade to Pro when you need to scale.

legilist.com/api

Public data belongs to the public. — legilist.com