

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 1911, With an Amendment

(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1911

To amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to monitor and combat anti-Semitism globally, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 5, 2017

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. VEASEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to monitor and combat anti-Semitism globally, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Special Envoy to Mon-
5 itor and Combat Anti-Semitism Act of 2018”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDING.**

2 Congress finds that since the Global Anti-Semitism
3 Review Act of 2004 was enacted, in many foreign coun-
4 tries acts of anti-Semitism have been frequent and wide
5 in scope, the perpetrators and variety of threats to Jewish
6 communities and their institutions have proliferated, and
7 in some countries anti-Semitic attacks have increased in
8 frequency, scope, violence, and deadliness.

9 **SEC. 3. MONITORING AND COMBATING ANTI-SEMITISM.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 59 of the
11 State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22
12 U.S.C. 2731) is amended—

13 (1) in paragraph (2)—

14 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

15 (i) by inserting before the period at
16 the end the following: “, who shall be ap-
17 pointed by the President, by and with the
18 advice and consent of the Senate”; and

19 (ii) by adding at the end the following
20 new sentence: “The Special Envoy shall re-
21 port directly to the Secretary.”; and

22 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

23 (i) in the heading, but striking “AP-
24 POINTMENT” and inserting “NOMINA-
25 TION”;

26 (ii) by striking the first sentence;

1 (iii) in the second sentence, by strik-
2 ing “If the Secretary determines that such
3 is appropriate, the Secretary may appoint”
4 and inserting “If the President determines
5 that such is appropriate, the President
6 may nominate”; and

7 (iv) in the third sentence, by striking
8 “The Secretary may allow such officer or
9 employee to retain the position (and the
10 responsibilities associated with such posi-
11 tion) held by such officer or employee prior
12 to the appointment” and inserting “Such
13 officer or employee may not retain the po-
14 sition (or the responsibilities associated
15 with such position) held by such officer or
16 employee prior to the nomination”; and

17 (2) by adding at the end the following new
18 paragraphs:

19 “(3) DUTIES.—The Special Envoy shall serve
20 as the primary advisor to, and coordinate efforts
21 across, the United States Government relating to
22 monitoring and combating anti-Semitism and anti-
23 Semitic incitement that occur in foreign countries.

1 “(4) RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR.—
2 The Special Envoy shall have the rank of ambas-
3 sador.

4 “(5) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Special Envoy
5 should be a person of recognized distinction in the
6 field of—

7 “(A) combating anti-Semitism;

8 “(B) religious freedom; or

9 “(C) law enforcement.”.

10 (b) NOMINATION.—Not later than 90 days after the
11 date of the enactment of this Act, and not later than 120
12 after any such position becomes vacant, the President
13 shall nominate the Special Envoy for Monitoring and
14 Combating anti-Semitism under section 59 of the State
15 Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956, as amended
16 by subsection (a) of this section.