

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to restrict visa issuance to individuals who have directed, authorized, significantly supported, participated in, or carried out violations of religious freedom.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BUDD (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. MOODY, Mr. COTTON, Mr. BANKS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. CRUZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to restrict visa issuance to individuals who have directed, authorized, significantly supported, participated in, or carried out violations of religious freedom.

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 “Banning Perpetrators
5 of Religious Persecution Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. RESTRICTING VISA ISSUANCE TO INDIVIDUALS**
2 **WHO HAVE CARRIED OUT VIOLATIONS OF RE-**
3 **LIGIOUS FREEDOM.**

4 Section 212(a)(2)(G) of the Immigration and Nation-
5 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2)(G)) is amended to read as
6 follows:

7 “(G) ALIENS WHO HAVE COMMITTED VIO-
8 LATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.—

9 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Any alien who—

10 “(I) while serving as a foreign
11 government official, was responsible
12 for, or directly carried out, at any
13 time, particularly severe violations of
14 religious freedom (as defined in sec-
15 tion 3(13) of the International Reli-
16 gious Freedom Act of 1998 (22
17 U.S.C. 6402(13))); or

18 “(II) at any time while outside
19 the United States, directed, author-
20 ized, significantly supported, partici-
21 pated in, was responsible for, or car-
22 ried out particularly severe violations
23 of religious freedom or violations of
24 religious freedom (as defined in sec-
25 tion 3(16) of such Act (22 U.S.C.
26 6402(16))),

1 is inadmissible.

2 “(ii) PUBLIC NOTICE.—

3 “(I) IN GENERAL.—Notwith-
4 standing the limitations under section
5 222(f) with respect to the confiden-
6 tiality of certain immigration records
7 and except as provided under sub-
8 clause (II), the Secretary of State
9 shall post, on a publicly accessible
10 website of the Department of State—

11 “(aa) the names of all of the
12 aliens determined to be inadmis-
13 sible under clause (i); and

14 “(bb) the countries or other
15 locations in which violations of
16 religious freedom described in
17 such clause took place.

18 “(II) EXCEPTION.—If the Sec-
19 retary of State determines, on a case-
20 by-case basis and in the Secretary’s
21 sole and unreviewable discretion, that
22 the public release of the identity of
23 any particular alien determined to be
24 inadmissible under clause (i) would
25 have adverse foreign policy con-

1 sequences for the United States, the
2 Secretary—

3 “(aa) may exclude such alien
4 from the disclosure requirement
5 under subclause (I); and

6 “(bb) shall submit a semi-
7 annual report to Congress, in ac-
8 cordance with section 51(a) of
9 the State Department Basic Au-
10 thorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C.
11 2723(a)), explaining the reasons
12 for such exclusion.”.