

Torture Victims Relief Reauthorization Act of 1999

Prime Sponsor: Mr. Christopher H. Smith (NJ-04)

Public Law 106-87
Signed by the President
November 3, 1999

Introduced by Mr. Smith as
HR 2367 *on June 29, 1999*

Public Law 106–87
106th Congress

An Act

To reauthorize a comprehensive program of support for victims of torture.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Torture Victims Relief Reauthorization Act of 1999”.

SEC. 2. FOREIGN TREATMENT CENTERS FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE.

(a) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 2001, 2002, and 2003 pursuant to chapter 1 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, there are authorized to be appropriated to the President \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2001, \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2002, and \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2003 to carry out section 130 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

(b) **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.**—Amounts appropriated pursuant to this section shall remain available until expended.

SEC. 3. DOMESTIC TREATMENT CENTERS FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE.

(a) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Health and Human Services for fiscal years 2001, 2002, and 2003, there are authorized to be appropriated to carry out subsection (a) of section 5 of the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 2152) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2001, \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2002, and \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2003.

(b) **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.**—Amounts appropriated pursuant to this section shall remain available until expended.

SEC. 4. MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) **FUNDING.**—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 2001, 2002, and 2003 for “Voluntary Contributions to International Organizations” pursuant to chapter 3 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, there are authorized to be appropriated for a United States contribution to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (in this section referred to as the “Fund”) the following amounts for the following fiscal years:

- (1) **FISCAL YEAR 2001.**—For fiscal year 2001, \$5,000,000.
- (2) **FISCAL YEAR 2002.**—For fiscal year 2002, \$5,000,000.
- (3) **FISCAL YEAR 2003.**—For fiscal year 2003, \$5,000,000.

(b) **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.**—Amounts appropriated pursuant to subsection (a) shall remain available until expended.

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[H.R. 2367]

Torture Victims
Relief
Reauthorization
Act of 1999.
22 USC 2151
note.

(c) SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.—It is the sense of the Congress that the President, acting through the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations, should—

(1) request the Fund—

(A) to find new ways to support and protect treatment centers and programs that are carrying out rehabilitative services for victims of torture; and

(B) to encourage the development of new such centers and programs;

(2) use the voice and vote of the United States to support the work of the Special Rapporteur on Torture and the Committee Against Torture established under the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; and

(3) use the voice and vote of the United States to establish a country rapporteur or similar procedural mechanism to investigate human rights violations in a country if either the Special Rapporteur or the Committee Against Torture indicates that a systematic practice of torture is prevalent in that country.

SEC. 5. REPORTING REQUIREMENT.

Deadline.

Not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives on the specialized training for foreign service officers required by section 7 of the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-320). The report shall include detailed information regarding—

(1) efforts by the Department of State to implement the specialized training requirement;

(2) the curriculum that is being used in the specialized training;

(3) the number of foreign service officers who have received the specialized training as of the date of the report; and

(4) the nongovernmental organizations that have been involved in the development of the specialized training curriculum or in providing the specialized training, and the nature and extent of that involvement.

SEC. 6. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS RELATING TO THE SECOND SECTION 129 OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.

(a) AMENDMENT TO FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.—The second section 129 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as added by section 4(a) of the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-320), is redesignated as section 130.

22 USC 2152.

22 USC 2152
note.

(b) AMENDMENT TO TORTURE VICTIMS RELIEF ACT OF 1998.—Section 4(b)(1) of the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 is amended by striking “section 129 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as added by subsection (a)” and inserting “section 130 of the Foreign

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113 STAT. 1303

Assistance Act of 1961 (as redesignated by section 6(a) of the
Torture Victims Relief Reauthorization Act of 1999”).

Approved November 3, 1999.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 2367:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 145 (1999):

Sept. 21, considered and passed House.

Oct. 21, considered and passed Senate.

