

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1268

To amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to establish the position of Special Envoy for the Abraham Accords, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 28, 2023

Mr. TORRES of New York (for himself and Mr. LAWLER) 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 establish the position of Special Envoy for the Abraham Accords, 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 for the
5 Abraham Accords Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that the policy of the United States,
8 as enacted in section 104 of the Israel Relations Normal-

1 ization Act of 2022 (division Z of Public Law 117–103),
2 with respect to the Abraham Accords remains unchanged.

3 **SEC. 3. SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE ABRAHAM ACCORDS.**

4 Title I of the State Department Basic Authorities Act
5 of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a et seq.) is amended by adding
6 at the end the following new section:

7 **“SEC. 64. SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE ABRAHAM ACCORDS.**

8 “(a) SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE ABRAHAM AC-
9 CORDS.—There is in the Department of State a Special
10 Envoy for the Abraham Accords (in this section referred
11 to as the ‘Special Envoy’).

12 “(b) NOMINATION.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Special Envoy shall be
14 appointed by the President, by and with the advice
15 and consent of the Senate. The Special Envoy shall
16 report directly to the Secretary.

17 “(2) DETERMINATION.—If the President deter-
18 mines that such is appropriate, the President may
19 nominate the Special Envoy from among officers
20 and employees of the Department. Such officer or
21 employee may not retain the position (or the respon-
22 sibilities associated with such position) held by such
23 officer or employee prior to the nomination of such
24 officer or employee to the position of Special Envoy
25 under this paragraph.

1 “(c) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Special Envoy should be
2 a person of recognized distinction in the field high-level
3 diplomatic experience, and or knowledge of the Islamic
4 and Jewish worlds, knowledge of economics, security, and
5 human rights.

6 “(d) RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR.—The
7 Special Envoy who shall have the rank of ambassador and
8 shall hold the office at the pleasure of the President.

9 “(e) DUTIES.—The Special Envoy shall seek to ex-
10 pand and strengthen the Abraham Accords, in coordina-
11 tion with regional ambassadors, nongovernmental organi-
12 zations, and other stakeholders determined appropriate by
13 the Special Envoy.

14 “(f) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Special Envoy shall—

15 “(1) serve as the primary advisor to, and co-
16 ordinate efforts across, the United States Govern-
17 ment relating to expanding and strengthening the
18 Abraham Accords;

19 “(2) engage in discussions with nation-state of-
20 ficials lacking official diplomatic relations with Israel
21 regarding the Abraham Accords; and

22 “(3) consult with representatives of nongovern-
23 mental organizations that have attempted to expand
24 and strengthen the Abraham Accords.”.

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