

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3942

To recognize that Christians and Yazidis in Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, Iran, Egypt, and Libya are targets of genocide, and to provide for the expedited processing of immigrant and refugee visas for such individuals, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 5, 2015

Mr. ROHRBACHER (for himself, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. POSEY, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. BARLETTA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To recognize that Christians and Yazidis in Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, Iran, Egypt, and Libya are targets of genocide, and to provide for the expedited processing of immigrant and refugee visas for such individuals, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Save Christians from  
3 Genocide Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY.**

5 Congress—

6 (1) recognizes that Christians and Yazidis in  
7 Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, Iran, Egypt, and Libya are  
8 targets of genocide and encourages other nations to  
9 likewise recognize the ongoing genocide and the  
10 threat of genocide to these people; and

11 (2) further recognizes that such targets of  
12 genocide who are seeking admission to the United  
13 States as immigrants or refugees should be given  
14 priority and expedited processing.

15 **SEC. 3. EMERGENCY ADMISSION OF REFUGEES AND IMMI-  
16 GRANTS.**

17 (a) REFUGEES.—

18 (1) EMERGENCY REFUGEE SITUATION DE-  
19 SCRIBED.—The persecution of Christians and  
20 Yazidis in Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, Iran, Egypt, and  
21 Libya constitutes an unforeseen emergency refugee  
22 situation, and the admission of such persecuted indi-  
23 viduals in response to that situation is of grave hu-  
24 manitarian concern.

25 (2) EXPEDITED PROCESSING.—The Secretary  
26 of Homeland Security shall provide for the expedited

1 processing of the visas for aliens described in para-  
2 graph (3), and shall ensure that such applications  
3 receive first priority among applications for refugee  
4 status.

5 (3) ALIENS DESCRIBED.—An alien is described  
6 in this paragraph if the alien—

7 (A) is a citizen or national of Iraq, Syria,  
8 Pakistan, Iran, Egypt, or Libya, or in the case  
9 of an alien having no nationality, whose country  
10 of last habitual residence was Iraq, Syria, Paki-  
11 stan, Iran, Egypt, or Libya;

12 (B) is a member of the Christian or Yazidi  
13 community; and

14 (C) is seeking admission to the United  
15 States as a refugee under section 207 of the Im-  
16 migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1157).

17 (4) QUALIFICATION AS REFUGEES.—For pur-  
18 poses of qualifying as a refugee under section 101  
19 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
20 1101)—

21 (A) membership in the Christian or Yazidi  
22 community shall qualify an alien described in  
23 paragraph (3) as a member of a persecuted  
24 group; and

1           (B) the requirement that an alien be out-  
2           side any country of such person's nationality or,  
3           in the case of a person having no nationality,  
4           is outside any country in which such person last  
5           habitually resided, shall not apply to an alien  
6           described in paragraph (3).

7           (b) IMMIGRANTS.—

8           (1) EXPEDITED PROCESSING.—The Secretary  
9           of Homeland Security shall provide for the expedited  
10          processing of visas for the aliens described in para-  
11          graph (2), and shall ensure that such applications  
12          receive first priority among applications for immi-  
13          grant status.

14          (2) ALIENS DESCRIBED.—An alien is described  
15          in this paragraph if the alien—

16                (A) is a citizen or national of Iraq, Syria,  
17                Pakistan, Iran, Egypt, Libya, or in the case of  
18                an alien having no nationality, whose country of  
19                last habitual residence was Iraq, Syria, Paki-  
20                stan, Iran, Egypt, or Libya;

21                (B) is a member of the Christian or Yazidi  
22                community; and

23                (C) is seeking admission to the United  
24                States as an immigrant under subsection (a) or

1 (b) of section 203 of the Immigration and Na-  
2 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153).

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