

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 909

To encourage liberty inside the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 13, 1995

Mr. DORNAN (for himself, Mr. SOLOMON, Mr. WOLF, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. KING, Mr. PORTER, and Mr. CUNNINGHAM) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To encourage liberty inside the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

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. STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES.**

4 (a) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to create
5 principles governing the conduct of commercial coopera-
6 tion projects of United States nationals in the Socialist
7 Republic of Vietnam.

8 (b) PRINCIPLES.—It is the sense of the Congress that
9 any United States national conducting a commercial co-
10 operation project in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam
11 should adhere to the following principles:

1 (1) Seek to ensure that political or religious
2 views, sex, ethnic or national background, involve-
3 ment in political activities or nonviolent demonstra-
4 tions, or association with suspected or known dis-
5 sidents will not prohibit hiring, lead to harassment,
6 demotion, or dismissal, or in any way affect the sta-
7 tus or terms of employment in the commercial co-
8 operation project. The United States national should
9 not discriminate in terms or conditions of employ-
10 ment in the commercial cooperation project against
11 former members of the armed forces of the Republic
12 of Vietnam (South Vietnam), former government of-
13 ficials of the Republic of Vietnam, former employees
14 of the United States Government in the Republic of
15 Vietnam, former employees of United States Govern-
16 ment officials in the Republic of Vietnam, former
17 employees of United States enterprises in the Re-
18 public of Vietnam, and repatriated asylum-seekers
19 (so-called “boat people”).

20 (2) Ensure that methods of production used in
21 the commercial cooperation project do not pose an
22 unnecessary physical danger to workers and neigh-
23 boring populations and property and that the com-
24 mercial cooperation project does not unnecessarily
25 risk harm to the surrounding environment.

1 (3) Strive to use business enterprises that are
2 not controlled by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam
3 or its authorized agents and departments as poten-
4 tial partners in the commercial cooperation project.

5 (4) Prohibit any military presence on the prem-
6 ises of the commercial cooperation project.

7 (5) Undertake to promote freedom of associa-
8 tion and assembly among the employees of the Unit-
9 ed States national, including the right of employees
10 to form collective bargaining units. The United
11 States national should protest any infringement by
12 the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam
13 of these freedoms to the appropriate authorities of
14 that government and to the International Labor
15 Organization.

16 (6) Prohibit any compulsory political indoc-
17 trination programs from taking place on the prem-
18 ises of the operations of the commercial cooperation
19 project.

20 (7) Promote freedom of expression, including
21 the freedom to seek, receive, and impart information
22 and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either
23 orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or
24 through any media. To this end, the United States
25 national should raise with appropriate authorities of

1 the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam
2 concerns about restrictions on importation of foreign
3 publications.

4 (8) Undertake to promote a full accounting of
5 all Americans missing in action from the Vietnam
6 conflict.

7 (c) PROMOTION OF PRINCIPLES BY OTHER NA-
8 TIONS.—The Secretary of State shall forward a copy of
9 the principles described in subsection (b) to the member
10 nations of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and
11 Development and encourage them to promote principles
12 similar to these principles.

13 **SEC. 2. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Each United States national con-
15 ducting a commercial cooperation project in the Socialist
16 Republic of Vietnam shall register with the Secretary of
17 State and indicate whether the United States national
18 agrees to implement the principles described in section
19 1(b). No fee shall be required for registration under this
20 subsection.

21 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The registration require-
22 ment of subsection (a) shall take effect 6 months after
23 the date of the enactment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 3. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

2 (a) **REPORT.**—Each United States national conduct-
3 ing a commercial cooperation project in the Socialist Re-
4 public of Vietnam shall report to the Department of State
5 describing the United States national’s adherence to the
6 principles described in section 1(b). Such national shall
7 submit a completed reporting form furnished by the De-
8 partment of State. The first report shall be submitted not
9 later than 1 year after the date on which the national reg-
10 isters under section 2 and not later than the end of each
11 1-year period occurring thereafter.

12 (b) **REVIEW OF REPORT.**—The Secretary of State
13 shall review each report submitted under subsection (a)
14 and determine whether the United States national submit-
15 ting the report is adhering to the principles described in
16 section 1(b). The Secretary may request additional infor-
17 mation from the United States national and other sources
18 to verify the information submitted.

19 (c) **ANNUAL REPORT.**—The Secretary of State shall
20 submit a report to the Congress and to the Secretariat
21 of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Devel-
22 opment, describing the level of adherence to the principles
23 described in section 1(b) by United States nationals sub-
24 ject to the reporting requirement of subsection (a). This
25 report shall be submitted not later than 2 years after the

1 date of the enactment of this Act and not later than the
2 end of each 1-year period occurring thereafter.

3 **SEC. 4. EXPORT MARKETING SUPPORT.**

4 (a) SUPPORT.—Departments and agencies of the
5 United States may only intercede with a foreign govern-
6 ment or foreign national regarding export marketing activ-
7 ity in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on behalf of a
8 United States national subject to the reporting require-
9 ments of section 3(a) if that United States national ad-
10 heres to the principles.

11 (b) TYPE OF CONTACT.—The term “intercede with
12 a foreign government or foreign national” includes any
13 contact by an officer or employee of the United States with
14 officials of any foreign government or foreign national in-
15 volving or contemplating any effort to assist in selling a
16 good, service, or technology in the Socialist Republic of
17 Vietnam. Such term does not include multilateral or bilat-
18 eral government-to-government trade negotiations in-
19 tended to resolve trade issues which may affect United
20 States nationals who do not adhere to the principles.

21 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (a) shall take
22 effect 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

23 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

24 For purposes of this Act—

1 (1) the terms “adhere to the principles”, “ad-
2 hering to the principles” and “adherence to the prin-
3 ciples” mean—

4 (A) agreeing to implement the principles
5 described in section 1(b);

6 (B) implementing those principles by tak-
7 ing good faith measures with respect to each
8 such principle; and

9 (C) reporting accurately to the Department
10 of State on the measures taken to implement
11 those principles;

12 (2) the term “commercial cooperation project”
13 refers to a for-profit activity the business operations
14 of which employ more than 25 individuals or have
15 assets greater than \$25,000; and

16 (3) the term “United States national” means—

17 (A) a citizen or national of the United
18 States or a permanent resident of the United
19 States; and

20 (B) a corporation, partnership, and other
21 business association organized under the laws
22 of the United States, any State or territory
23 thereof, the District of Columbia, the Common-

- 1 wealth of Puerto Rico, or the Commonwealth of
- 2 the Northern Mariana Islands.

