

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2539

To prohibit the use of United States funds to provide for the participation of certain Chinese officials in international conferences, exchanges, programs, and activities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 24, 1997

Mr. BEREUTER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To prohibit the use of United States funds to provide for the participation of certain Chinese officials in international conferences, exchanges, programs, and activities, 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 **TITLE I—PROHIBITION ON USE**
2 **OF FUNDS FOR THE PARTICI-**
3 **PATION OF CERTAIN CHI-**
4 **NESE OFFICIALS IN CON-**
5 **FERENCES, EXCHANGES, PRO-**
6 **GRAMS, AND ACTIVITIES**

7 **SEC. 101. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS.**

8 (a) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
9 sion of law, for fiscal years after fiscal year 1997, no funds
10 appropriated or otherwise made available for the Depart-
11 ment of State, the United States Information Agency, and
12 the United States Agency for International Development
13 may be used for the purpose of providing travel expenses
14 and per diem for the participation of nationals of the Peo-
15 ple’s Republic of China described in paragraphs (1) and
16 (2) in conferences, exchanges, programs, and activities:

17 (1) The head or political secretary of any of the
18 following Chinese Government-created or approved
19 organizations:

20 (A) The Chinese Buddhist Association.

21 (B) The Chinese Catholic Patriotic Asso-
22 ciation.

23 (C) The National Congress of Catholic
24 Representatives.

1 (D) The Chinese Catholic Bishops' Con-
2 ference.

3 (E) The Chinese Protestant "Three Self"
4 Patriotic Movement.

5 (F) The China Christian Council.

6 (G) The Chinese Taoist Association.

7 (H) The Chinese Islamic Association.

8 (2) Any military or civilian official or employee
9 of the Government of the People's Republic of China
10 who is directly involved in any of the following poli-
11 cies or practices or who was responsible for the su-
12 pervision of persons directly involved in such policies
13 or practices:

14 (A) Formulating, drafting, or implement-
15 ing repressive religious policies.

16 (B) Imprisoning, detaining, or harassing
17 individuals on religious grounds.

18 (C) Promoting or participating in policies
19 or practices which hinder religious activities or
20 the free expression of religious beliefs.

21 (b) CERTIFICATION.—

22 (1) Each Federal agency subject to the prohibi-
23 tion of subsection (a) shall certify in writing to the
24 appropriate congressional committees no later than
25 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act,

1 and every 90 days thereafter, that it did not pay, ei-
2 ther directly or through a contractor or grantee, for
3 travel expenses or per diem of any national of the
4 People's Republic of China described in subsection
5 (a).

6 (2) Each certification under paragraph (1) shall
7 be supported by the following information:

8 (A) The name of each employee of any
9 agency of the Government of the People's Re-
10 public of China whose travel expenses or per
11 diem were paid by funds of the reporting agen-
12 cy of the United States Government.

13 (B) The procedures employed by the re-
14 porting agency of the United States Govern-
15 ment to ascertain whether each individual
16 under subparagraph (A) did or did not partici-
17 pate in activities described in subsection (a)(2).

18 (C) The reporting agency's basis for con-
19 cluding that each individual under subpara-
20 graph (A) did not participate in such activities.

21 (c) DEFINITION OF APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL
22 COMMITTEES.—For purposes of this section the term “ap-
23 propriate congressional committees” means the Commit-
24 tee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee

1 on International Relations of the House of Representa-
 2 tives.

3 **SEC. 102. SUNSET PROVISION.**

4 Section 101 shall cease to have effect 4 years after
 5 the date of the enactment of this Act.

6 **TITLE II—AUTHORIZATION OF**
 7 **APPROPRIATIONS FOR IN-**
 8 **CREASED FUNDING FOR**
 9 **RADIO FREE ASIA AND VOICE**
 10 **OF AMERICA**

11 **SEC. 201. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR IN-**
 12 **CREASED FUNDING.**

13 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR
 14 INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING TO CHINA.—In addition
 15 to such sums as are otherwise authorized to be appro-
 16 priated for “International Broadcasting Activities” for fis-
 17 cal years 1998 and 1999, there are authorized to be ap-
 18 propriated for “International Broadcasting Activities”
 19 \$46,900,000 for fiscal year 1998 and \$31,200,000 for fis-
 20 cal year 1999, which shall be available only for broadcast-
 21 ing to China.

22 (b) LIMITATIONS.—

23 (1) RADIO FREE ASIA.—

24 (A) Of the funds authorized to be appro-
 25 priated under subsection (a) \$26,900,000 is au-

1 thorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 1998
2 and \$21,200,000 is authorized to be appro-
3 priated for fiscal year 1999 for Radio Free
4 Asia.

5 (B) Of the funds under subparagraph (A),
6 \$1,200,000 is authorized to be appropriated for
7 each such fiscal year for additional personnel to
8 staff Cantonese language broadcasting.

9 (C) Of the funds under subparagraph (A)
10 authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year
11 1998, \$900,000 is authorized to be appro-
12 priated for additional advanced editing equip-
13 ment.

14 (2) 1998.—

15 (A) Of the funds under subsection (a) au-
16 thorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 1998,
17 \$11,800,000 is authorized to be appropriated
18 for capital expenditures for the purchase and
19 construction of transmission facilities.

20 (B) Of the funds under subsection (a) au-
21 thorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 1998,
22 \$3,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated to
23 facilitate the timely augmentation of transmit-
24 ters at Tinian, Commonwealth of Northern
25 Marianas.

1 (c) ALLOCATION.—Of the amounts authorized to be
2 appropriated under subsection (a), the Director of the
3 United States Information Agency and the Board of
4 Broadcasting Governors shall seek to ensure that the
5 amounts made available for broadcasting to nations whose
6 people do not fully enjoy freedom of expression do not de-
7 cline in proportion to the amounts made available for
8 broadcasting to other nations.

9 **SEC. 202. REPORTING REQUIREMENT.**

10 Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment
11 of this Act, in consultation with the Board of Broadcast-
12 ing Governors, the President shall prepare and transmit
13 to Congress a report on a plan to achieve continuous
14 broadcasting of Radio Free Asia and Voice of America to
15 the People’s Republic of China in multiple major dialects
16 and languages.

17 **SEC. 203. REDUCTION IN AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-**
18 **TIONS FOR MIGRATION AND REFUGEE AS-**
19 **SISTANCE.**

20 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, such
21 amounts as are authorized to be appropriated for “Migra-
22 tion and Refugee Assistance” for fiscal year 1998 shall
23 be reduced by \$21,900,000 and for fiscal year 1999 shall
24 be reduced by \$6,200,000.

1 **TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS**
2 **PROVISIONS**

3 **SEC. 301. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR ADDI-**
4 **TIONAL PERSONNEL AT DIPLOMATIC POSTS**
5 **TO MONITOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE PEO-**
6 **PLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.**

7 There are authorized to be appropriated to support
8 personnel to monitor political repression in the People’s
9 Republic of China in the United States Embassy in
10 Beijing, as well as the American consulates in Guangzhou,
11 Shanghai, Shenyang, Chengdu, and Hong Kong,
12 \$2,200,000 for fiscal year 1998 and \$2,200,000 for fiscal
13 year 1999.

14 **SEC. 302. CONGRESSIONAL STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

15 It is the sense of the Congress that the President
16 should make freedom of religion one of the major objec-
17 tives of United States foreign policy with respect to China.
18 As part of this policy, the Department of State should
19 raise in every relevant bilateral and multilateral forum the
20 issue of individuals imprisoned, detained, confined, or oth-
21 erwise harassed by the Chinese Government on religious
22 grounds. In its communications with the Chinese Govern-
23 ment, the Department of State should provide specific
24 names of individuals of concern and request a complete
25 and timely response from the Chinese Government regard-

1 ing the individuals' whereabouts and condition, the
2 charges against them, and sentence imposed. The goal of
3 these official communications should be the expeditious re-
4 lease of all religious prisoners in China and the end of
5 the Chinese Government's policy and practice of harassing
6 and repressing religious believers.

