

Calendar No. \_\_\_\_\_

113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION**H. R. 4028****[Report No. 113-\_\_\_\_\_]**

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 2, 2014

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

\_\_\_\_\_, (legislative day, \_\_\_\_\_), \_\_\_\_\_

Reported by Mr. MENENDEZ, without amendment

---

**AN ACT**

To amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to include the desecration of cemeteries among the many forms of violations of the right to religious freedom.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Cemeteries are sacred sites that are of great  
6 spiritual, cultural, and historical significance to  
7 many religious and ethnic groups.

1           (2) Congress is committed to protecting and  
2           preserving the heritage and sacred sites of national,  
3           religious, and ethnic groups, which includes ceme-  
4           teries in the United States and abroad.

5           (3) Cemeteries around the world have and con-  
6           tinue to be defaced or destroyed as a direct result  
7           of their affiliation with a particular religious or spir-  
8           itual group.

9           (4) Such attacks constitute an assault on the  
10          fundamental right to freedom of religion, and are es-  
11          pecially egregious when sponsored or tolerated by  
12          the local or national governments in the countries in  
13          which such offenses occur.

14 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREE-**  
15 **DOM ACT OF 1998.**

16          Section 2(a)(4) of the International Religious Free-  
17          dom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401(a)(4)) is amended in  
18          the fourth sentence by inserting “desecration of ceme-  
19          teries,” after “confiscations of property,”.