

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2583

OFFERED BY MR. DUNCAN OF SOUTH CAROLINA

At the end of title VIII, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 8xx. THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR**
2 **REFUGEES AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.**

3 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
4 gress that the United Nations High Commissioner for Ref-
5 ugees (UNHCR) should, within the next 12 months, ac-
6 complish the following:

7 (1) A review by UNHCR of the extent to which
8 UNHCR ^{is processing} ~~has implemented~~ Religion-Based Refugee
9 Claims ^{consistent with} ~~under~~ Article 1A(2) of the 1951 Convention
10 or the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refu-
11 gees.

12 (2) A thorough training of ^g ~~all~~ UNHCR staff
13 utilizing the UNHCR Guidelines for Religion-Based
14 Refugee Claims, including any additional materials
15 necessary based on the review conducted pursuant to
16 paragraph (1), such as the Department of State's
17 Annual Report on International Religious Freedom
18 under section 102(b) of the International Religious
19 Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6412(b)).

20 (b) REPORTING.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
2 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
3 of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional
4 committees a report on whether UNHCR has
5 accomplished the measures specified in paragraphs
6 (1) and (2) of subsection (a), and ~~whether and how~~
7 ~~UNHCR has subsequently implemented new policies~~
8 ~~to address concerns of uneven implementation of the~~
9 Guidelines referred to in paragraph (2) of such subsection,
10 with a particular focus on countries that are
11 contiguous to, or hosting asylum-seekers from, countries
12 identified as “countries of particular concern
13 for religious freedom” under section 402(b) of the
14 International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22
15 U.S.C. 6442(b)) or listed on the “Watchlist” of the
16 United States Commission on International Religious
17 Freedom for violations of religious freedom.

18 (2) JUSTIFICATION AND DOCUMENTATION.— If
19 the Secretary determines ^{in the} ~~and~~ reports ^g under paragraph
20 (1) that UNHCR has not accomplished the
21 aforementioned measures, or has not ~~implemented~~
22 ~~new policies~~ to address the aforementioned concerns,
23 the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional
24 committees ^{the} justification and documenta-

any new steps
UNHCR has
taken to
strengthen

taken any new steps

provided by UNHCR,

- 1 tion ^{if any} ~~is~~ available, of the reasons why no such
- 2 actions were taken.

