Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act — Senate Bill
(S.65)

The bipartisan Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act aims to ensure that goods made with forced labor in East Turkistan do not enter the United States market. The bill addresses gross violations of human rights against Uyghurs and other Turkic Muslims through targeted sanctions and import controls, and encourages action on such imports internationally. In the Senate, the bill was introduced by Senator Marco Rubio (R), with the support of Senator Jeff Merkely (D) and 28 additional original co-sponsors.

The legislation:

- Finds that forced labor in East Turkistan is Chinese government policy and that “due diligence” to ensure clean supply chains is not reliable, due to mass surveillance, pervasive police presence, and intimidation of workers.
- Within 45 days, requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to solicit public comments on how to best ensure forced labor goods are not imported into the U.S.
- Within 150 days, requires the Secretaries of Homeland Security, Labor, and State, and the US Trade Representative, to jointly conduct a public hearing about forced labor of Uyghurs.
- Within 270 days, requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a report to Congress, and annually thereafter, on the U.S. strategy for preventing import of goods made with forced labor, including the evidence necessary to demonstrate that imported goods are not made with forced labor.
- Within 300 days, creates a “rebuttable presumption” that goods produced in East Turkistan, or by companies working with the Xinjiang government for purposes of “poverty alleviation” and “pairing-assistance” programs, are made with forced labor.
- Within 180 days, requires the Secretary of State to submit a report with a formal determination of whether human rights abuses constitute genocide and whether the forced labor constitutes an atrocity.
- Within 90 days, requires the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on U.S. government efforts to enhance international awareness and address Uyghur forced labor, providing a list of Chinese entities that use Uyghur forced labor and U.S. efforts to provide humanitarian assistance, resettlement, and advocacy for imprisoned family members, to Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, Tibetans, and members of other persecuted groups.
- Within 180 days, requires the President to submit a report identifying and then imposing Global Magnitsky sanctions on foreign persons who are responsible for “serious human rights abuses in connection with forced labor.”