



Uyghur Policy Act of 2021 ([H.R. 4785](#))

The Uyghur Policy Act of 2021 was introduced in the House on July 29, 2021, by Rep. Young Kim (R-CA), co-sponsored by Rep. Ami Bera (D-CA) and 9 other original cosponsors. The full title is: “To support the human rights of Uyghurs and members of other minority groups residing in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and safeguard their distinct identity, and for other purposes.”

The bill authorizes a United States Special Coordinator for Uyghur Issues, within the State Department (Section 4), who will seek to promote the protection and preservation of the distinct ethnic, cultural, religious, and linguistic identities of the Uyghurs. Duties and responsibilities:

- (1) coordinate U.S. Government policies, programs, and projects concerning the Uyghurs;
- (2) vigorously promote the policy of seeking to protect the distinct ethnic, religious, cultural, and linguistic identity of the Uyghurs;
- (3) maintain close contact with religious, cultural, and political leaders of the Uyghurs, including seeking regular travel to the XUAR and to Uyghur settlements in Central Asia, Turkey, Albania, Germany, and other parts of Europe;
- (4) lead coordination efforts for the release of political prisoners who are being detained for exercising their human rights;
- (5) consult with Congress on policies relevant to the XUAR and the Uyghurs;
- (6) coordinate with relevant Federal agencies to administer aid to Uyghur rights advocates; and
- (7) make efforts to establish contacts with foreign ministries of other countries, especially in Europe, Central Asia, and the Islamic world, to pursue a policy of promoting greater respect for human rights and religious freedom for Uyghurs and other groups.

Sense of Congress Concerning Atrocity Crimes in the Uyghur Region

- Condemning the ongoing genocide and crimes against humanity being committed against Uyghurs and members of other religious and ethnic minority groups by the People's Republic of China.

Sec. 5 Strategy to Address Genocide in the Uyghur Region

- Sixty days after the bill's passage, the President will deliver a report to Congress on the steps taken to address the Uyghur genocide and the strategy for ending the genocide.

Sec. 6 Protection of Uyghurs, Kazakhs, and other Ethnic Minorities in the Uyghur Region

- The Secretary of State shall provide all appropriate assistance to women who belong to the Uyghur, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, or other ethnic minority and who experienced sexual violence, torture, forced sterilizations and forced abortions in the People's Republic of China in order for them to receive needed medical care and psychological support. All existing authorities shall be used to allow such women to at least temporarily enter the United States.

Sec. 7 Sanctions with Respect to Individuals Committing, Responsible for, or Complicit in, Forced Sterilizations, Forced Abortions, or other Sexual Violence

- Adds authority to deny entry to cabinet officials of foreign states if the Secretary of State makes a public determination that population control policies of a foreign state meet the definition of genocide.
- Forced sterilization and forced abortion are both defined as a "gross violation of internationally recognized human rights," as applied under the [Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act](#).