

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 687

To require certain actions relating to the United Nations Human Rights Council, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 31, 2023

Mr. STEUBE (for himself and Mr. TIFFANY) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To require certain actions relating to the United Nations
Human Rights Council, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “United Nations
5 Human Rights Council Reform Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON VOLUNTARY AND ASSESSED CON-**
2 **TRIBUTIONS TO UNITED NATIONS COMMIS-**
3 **SIONS OF INQUIRIES THAT RELATE TO**
4 **ISRAEL.**

5 The United States may not make any voluntary or
6 assessed contributions to United Nations Commissions of
7 Inquiries that relate to Israel as mandated by the United
8 Nations Human Rights Council.

9 **SEC. 3. ACTIONS RELATING TO UNITED NATIONS HUMAN**
10 **RIGHTS COUNCIL.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall take
12 such actions as may be necessary to use the voice, vote,
13 and influence of the United States in the United Nations
14 Human Rights Council and the United Nations General
15 Assembly to seek to—

16 (1) eliminate Agenda Item 7 of the Human
17 Rights Council;

18 (2) eliminate secret-ballot elections for member-
19 ship to the Human Rights Council; and

20 (3) institute baseline criteria for membership in
21 the Human Rights Council.

22 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date
23 of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the
24 President shall submit to the appropriate congressional
25 committees a report on the implementation of the actions
26 described in subsection (a).

1 **SEC. 4. CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING RELATING TO UNITED**
2 **NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL.**

3 Not later than 30 days before the start of each ses-
4 sion of the United Nations Human Rights Council, the
5 Secretary of State shall provide to the appropriate con-
6 gressional committees a briefing on—

7 (1) the session agenda of the Human Rights
8 Council; and

9 (2) reports, appointments of mandate holders of
10 special procedures and expert mechanisms, and ac-
11 creditation requests relating to the Human Rights
12 Council.

13 **SEC. 5. REPORT.**

14 The Secretary of State shall submit to the appro-
15 priate congressional committees, on an annual basis, a re-
16 port on—

17 (1) each vote related to Israel and Palestinian
18 territories taken by the United Nations Human
19 Rights Council in the preceding calendar year, indi-
20 cating—

21 (A) the agenda item under which the vote
22 was taken; and

23 (B) how each member state of the Human
24 Rights Council voted; and

25 (2) the amount of bilateral United States for-
26 eign assistance, by account and program area, pro-

1 vided under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to
2 each member state of the United Nations Human
3 Rights Council in the preceding calendar year.

4 **SEC. 6. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-**
5 **FINED.**

6 In this Act, the term “appropriate congressional com-
7 mittees” means—

8 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
9 Committee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-
10 resentatives; and

11 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
12 the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

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