

**§ 6474. Studies on effect of expedited removal provisions on asylum claims**

**(a) Studies**

**(1) Commission request for participation by experts on refugee and asylum issues**

If the Commission so requests, the Attorney General shall invite experts designated by the Commission, who are recognized for their expertise and knowledge of refugee and asylum issues, to conduct a study, in cooperation with the Comptroller General of the United States, to determine whether immigration officers described in paragraph (2) are engaging in any of the conduct described in such paragraph.

**(2) Duties of Comptroller General**

The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study alone or, upon request by the Commission, in cooperation with experts designated by the Commission, to determine whether immigration officers performing duties under section 1225(b) of title 8 with respect to aliens who may be eligible to be granted asylum are engaging in any of the following conduct:

- (A) Improperly encouraging such aliens to withdraw their applications for admission.
- (B) Incorrectly failing to refer such aliens for an interview by an asylum officer for a determination of whether they have a credible fear of persecution (within the meaning of section 1225(b)(1)(B)(v) of title 8).
- (C) Incorrectly removing such aliens to a country where they may be persecuted.
- (D) Detaining such aliens improperly or in inappropriate conditions.

**(b) Reports**

**(1) Participation by experts**

In the case of a Commission request under subsection (a), the experts designated by the Commission under that subsection may submit a report to the committees described in paragraph (2). Such report may be submitted with the Comptroller General's report under subsection (a)(2) or independently.

**(2) Duties of Comptroller General**

Not later than September 1, 2000, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committees on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report containing the results of the study conducted under subsection (a)(2). If the Commission requests designated experts to participate with the Comptroller General in the preparation and submission of the report, the Comptroller General shall grant the request.

**(c) Access to proceedings**

**(1) In general**

Except as provided in paragraph (2), to facilitate the studies and reports, the Attorney General shall permit the Comptroller General of the United States and, in the case of a Commission request under subsection (a), the experts designated under subsection (a) to have

unrestricted access to all stages of all proceedings conducted under section 1225(b) of title 8.

**(2) Exceptions**

Paragraph (1) shall not apply in cases in which the alien objects to such access, or the Attorney General determines that the security of a particular proceeding would be threatened by such access, so long as any restrictions on the access of experts designated by the Commission under subsection (a) do not contravene international law.

(Pub. L. 105-292, title VI, § 606, formerly § 605, Oct. 27, 1998, 112 Stat. 2814; renumbered § 606, Pub. L. 114-281, title V, § 501(1), Dec. 16, 2016, 130 Stat. 1437.)

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on International Relations of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Foreign Affairs of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Tenth Congress, Jan. 5, 2007.

SUBCHAPTER V—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

**§ 6481. Business codes of conduct**

**(a) Congressional finding**

Congress recognizes the increasing importance of transnational corporations as global actors, and their potential for providing positive leadership in their host countries in the area of human rights.

**(b) Sense of Congress**

It is the sense of the Congress that transnational corporations operating overseas, particularly those corporations operating in countries the governments of which have engaged in or tolerated violations of religious freedom, as identified in the Annual Report, should adopt codes of conduct—

- (1) upholding the right to freedom of religion of their employees; and
- (2) ensuring that a worker's religious views and peaceful practices of belief in no way affect, or be allowed to affect, the status or terms of his or her employment.

(Pub. L. 105-292, title VII, § 701, Oct. 27, 1998, 112 Stat. 2815.)

**§ 6482. Voluntary codes of conduct for United States institutions of higher education outside the United States**

**(a) Finding**

Congress recognizes the enduring importance of United States institutions of higher education worldwide—

- (1) for their potential for shaping positive leadership and new educational models in host countries; and
- (2) for their emphasis on teaching universally recognized rights of free inquiry and academic freedom.

**(b) Sense of Congress**

It is the sense of Congress that United States institutions of higher education operating cam-

puses outside the United States or establishing any educational entities with foreign governments, particularly with or in countries the governments of which engage in or tolerate severe violations of religious freedom as identified in the Annual Report, should seek to adopt a voluntary code of conduct for operating in such countries that should—

(1) uphold the right of freedom of religion of their employees and students, including the right to manifest that religion peacefully as protected in international law;

(2) ensure that the religious views and peaceful practice of religion in no way affect, or be allowed to affect, the status of a worker's or faculty member's employment or a student's enrollment; and

(3) make every effort in all negotiations, contracts, or memoranda of understanding engaged in or constructed with a foreign government to protect academic freedom and the rights enshrined in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.

(Pub. L. 105–292, title VII, § 702, as added Pub. L. 114–281, title VI, § 601, Dec. 16, 2016, 130 Stat. 1438.)

**§ 6483. Sense of Congress regarding national security strategy to promote religious freedom through United States foreign policy**

It is the sense of Congress that the annual national security strategy report of the President required under section 3043 of title 50—

(1) should promote international religious freedom as a foreign policy and national security priority; and

(2) should articulate that promotion of the right to freedom of religion is a strategy that—

(A) protects other, related human rights, and advances democracy outside the United States; and

(B) makes clear its importance to United States foreign policy goals of stability, security, development, and diplomacy;

(3) should be a guide for the strategies and activities of relevant Federal agencies; and

(4) should inform the Department of Defense quadrennial defense review under section 118<sup>1</sup> of title 10 and the Department of State Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review.

(Pub. L. 105–292, title VII, § 703, as added Pub. L. 114–281, title VI, § 601, Dec. 16, 2016, 130 Stat. 1439.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 118 of title 10, referred to in par. (4), was repealed by Pub. L. 114–328, div. A, title IX, § 941(b)(1), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2367. Subsequently, a new section 118 of Title 10, Armed Forces, related to annual report on major weapons systems sustainment, was added by Pub. L. 116–92, div. A, title III, § 351(a)(1), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1319. For provisions related to national defense strategy similar to those contained in former section 118 of Title 10 prior to repeal, see section 113(g) of Title 10.

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

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