THE REPUBLICAN STUDY COMMITTEE

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H.R. 2548 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6310 North University Street in Peoria, Illinois, as the "Charles 'Chip' Lawrence Chan Post Office Building" (Schock, R-IL)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on July 28, 2011, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

<u>Summary</u>: H.R. 2548 would designate the United States Postal Service located at 6310 North University Street in Peoria, Illinois, as the "Charles 'Chip' Lawrence Chan Post Office Building."

<u>Additional Information</u>: Charles 'Chip' Lawrence Chan died at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

<u>Committee Action</u>: H.R. 2548 was introduced on July 14, 2011, and was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which took no public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is provided.

<u>Cost to Taxpayers:</u> No CBO score was available at press time, but the only costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

<u>Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?</u>: No.

<u>Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax</u>

<u>Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?</u>: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

<u>Constitutional Authority</u>: Rep. Schock's statement of constitutional authority, found in the Congressional Record, states "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution."

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576.

H.R. 2244 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 67 Castle Street in Geneva, New York, as the "Corporal Steven Blaine Riccione Post Office" (Hanna, R-NY)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on July 28, 2011, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

<u>Summary</u>: H.R. 2244 would designate the United States Postal Service located at 67 Castle Street in Geneva, New York, as the "Corporal Steven Blaine Riccione Post Office."

<u>Additional Information</u>: According to the sponsor: "Corporal Steven Blaine Riccione was 20 years-old when he volunteered to join the United States Army during the Vietnam War. Riccione, a former Geneva High School student, was killed in action in Quang Tin province in South Vietnam on Sept. 27, 1967 while helping evacuate wounded soldiers after a fierce battle with North Vietnamese troops." More information can be <u>found here</u>.

<u>Committee Action</u>: H.R. 2244 was introduced on June 21, 2011, and referred to the committee on House Oversight and Government. The committee held a markup and reported the legislation by unanimous consent.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is provided.

<u>Cost to Taxpayers:</u> No CBO score was available at press time, but the only costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

<u>Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?</u>: No.

<u>Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax</u>

<u>Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?</u>: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

<u>Constitutional Authority</u>: Rep. Hanna's statement of constitutional authority, found in the Congressional Record, states "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to establish Post Offices and post roads, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution."

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H.R. 2213 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 801 West Eastport Street in Iuka, Mississippi, as the "Sergeant Jason W. Vaughn Post Office" (Nunnelee, R-MS)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on July 28, 2011, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2213 would designate the United States Postal Service located at 801 West Eastport Street in Iuka, Mississippi, as the "Sergeant Jason W. Vaughn Post Office."

<u>Additional Information</u>: Army Sergeant Jason W. Vaughn was assigned to the 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, Washington. He was killed on May 10, 2007, while serving his country during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

<u>Committee Action</u>: H.R. 2213 was introduced on June 16, 2011, and referred to the committee on House Oversight and Government. The committee held a markup and reported the legislation by unanimous consent.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is provided.

<u>Cost to Taxpayers:</u> No CBO score was available at press time, but the only costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

<u>Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?</u>: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax

Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

<u>Constitutional Authority</u>: Rep. Nunnelee's statement of constitutional authority, found in the Congressional Record, states "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 7. Congress has the power to "To establish post offices and post roads."

RSC Staff Contact: Curtis Rhyne, Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576.

H.R. 789 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20 Main Street in Little Ferry, New Jersey, as the "Sergeant Matthew J. Fenton Post Office" (Rothman, D-NJ)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on July 28, 2011, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 789 would designate the United States post office at 20 Main Street in Little Ferry, New Jersey, as the "Sergeant Matthew J. Fenton Post Office."

Additional Information: Marine Sergeant Matthew J. Fenton was assigned to the Marine Forces Reserve's Inspector and Instructor Staff, 1st Battalion, 25th Regiment, 4th Marine Division in Fort Devens, Massachusetts. He died May 6, 2006, from wounds received April 26, 2006, while serving his country and conducting combat operations against enemy forces in Anbar province, Iraq.

<u>Committee Action</u>: H.R. 789 was introduced on February 17, 2011, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service and Labor Policy, which took no public action. The full committee held a markup and reported the legislation by unanimous consent.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is provided.

<u>Cost to Taxpayers:</u> No CBO score was available at press time, but the only costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

<u>Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?</u>: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax

Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

<u>Constitutional Authority</u>: Rep. Rothman's statement of constitutional authority, found in the Congressional Record, states "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution."

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H.R. 1975 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 281 East Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena, California, as the "First Lieutenant Oliver Goodall Post Office Building" (Schiff, D-CA)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on July 28, 2011, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1975 would designate the United States post office at 281 East Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena, California, as the "First Lieutenant Oliver Goodall Post Office."

<u>Additional Information</u>: According to the sponsor, First Lieutenant Oliver Goodall served more than 50 years as a Tuskegee Airman, public information officer and postal worker. More information from the sponsor can be <u>found here</u>.

<u>Committee Action</u>: H.R. 1975 was introduced on May 24, 2011, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform, which held a markup and reported the legislation by unanimous consent.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is provided.

<u>Cost to Taxpayers:</u> No CBO score was available at press time, but the only costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

<u>Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?</u>: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax

<u>Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?</u>: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: Rep. Schiff's statement of constitutional authority, found in the Congressional Record, states "H.R. 1975. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, the Necessary and Proper Clause. Legislation to name a Post Office after an individual is constitutional under Article I, Section 8, Clause 7, which gives Congress the power to establish Post Offices and post roads. The bill is also constitutionally authorized under the Necessary and Proper Clause, which supports the expansion of congressional authority beyond the explicit authorities that are directly discernible from the text."

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H.R. 1843 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 489 Army Drive in Barrigada, Guam, as the "John Pangelinan Gerber Post Office Building" (Del. Bordallo, D-GU)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on July 28, 2011, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 1843 would designate the United States Postal Service at 489 Army Drive in Barrigada, Guam, as the "John Pangelinan Gerber Post Office Building."

<u>Additional Information</u>: John Pangelinan Gerber served as a Marine during the Vietnam War. He was the 2011 recipient of the <u>Colonel John H. Magruder Award</u>. The award was posthumously bestowed on Mr. Gerber by the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. More information regarding the service of John Pangelinan Gerber <u>can be found here</u>. He died on May 4, 2010.

<u>Committee Action</u>: H.R. 1843 was introduced on May 11, 2011, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service and Labor Policy, which took no public action. The full committee held a markup and reported the legislation by unanimous consent.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is provided.

<u>Cost to Taxpayers:</u> No CBO score was available at press time, but the only costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-

Sector Mandates?: No.

<u>Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax</u>

<u>Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?</u>: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply,

by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

<u>Constitutional Authority</u>: Rep. Cuellar's statement of constitutional authority, found in the Congressional Record, states "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article 1, Section 8, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution."

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H.R. 2062 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 45 Meetinghouse Lane in Sagamore Beach, Massachusetts, as the "Matthew A. Pucino Post Office" (*Keating*, *D-MA*)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on July 28, 2011, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

<u>Summary</u>: H.R. 2062 would designate the United States Postal Service located at 45 Mettinghouse Lane in Sagamore Beach, Massachusetts, as the "Matthew A. Pucino Post Office."

Additional Information: Matthew A. Pucino was a Special Forces Operational Detachment-Alpha Intelligence Sergeant assigned to Company B, 2nd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group (Airborne) of the Maryland Army National Guard. He was killed on November 23, 2009, while serving his country on a combat patrol in the vicinity of Pashay Kala, Afghanistan.

<u>Committee Action</u>: H.R. 2062 was introduced on May 31, 2011, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which held a markup and reported the legislation by unanimous consent.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is provided.

<u>Cost to Taxpayers</u>: No CBO score was available at press time, but the only costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

<u>Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?</u>: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax

<u>Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?</u>: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

<u>Constitutional Authority</u>: Rep. Keating's statement of constitutional authority, found in the Congressional Record, states "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution."

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H.R. 2149 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4354 Pahoa Avenue in Honolulu, Hawaii, as the "Cecil L. Heftel Post Office Building" (Hanabusa, D-HI)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The legislation is scheduled to be considered on July 28, 2011, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 2149 would designate the United States Postal Service located at 4354 Pahoa Avenue, in Honolulu, Hawaii, as the "Cecil L. Heftel Post Office Building."

<u>Additional Information</u>: Cecil L. Heftel was a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, from Hawaii, from January 3, 1977 through July 11, 1986. He also served in the United States Army from 1943 – 1946. He died February 4, 2010. More information can be <u>found here</u>.

<u>Committee Action</u>: H.R. 2149 was introduced on June 13, 2011, and referred to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which held a markup and ordered the bill to be reported by unanimous consent.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is provided.

<u>Cost to Taxpayers:</u> No CBO score was available at press time, but the only costs associated with naming U.S. federal buildings and post offices are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

<u>Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?</u>: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax

Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

<u>Constitutional Authority</u>: Rep. Hanabusa's statement of constitutional authority, found in the Congressional Record, states "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article 1, Section 8, Clause 6, "The Congress shall have Power . . . To establish Post Offices and post Roads."

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H.R. 2056 - To Instruct the Inspector General of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to Study the Impact of Insured Depository Institution Failures, and for other Purposes (Westmoreland, R-GA)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The bill is scheduled to be considered on July 28, 2011, under a motion to suspend the rules requiring two-thirds majority vote for passage.

<u>Summary</u>: H.R. 2056 requires the Inspector General of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) to conduct a comprehensive study on the impact of the failure of insured depository institutions. In conducting the study, the Inspector General is required to address the following:

LOSS-SHARING AGREEMENTS

- The legislation requires a study that includes the impact of loss-sharing agreements (LSAs) on the insured depository institutions that survive and the borrowers of insured depository institutions that fail, including:
 - The impact on the rate of loan modifications and adjustments;
 - Whether more types of loans (such as commercial, residential, or small business loans) could be modified with fewer LSAs, or if LSAs could be phased out altogether;
 - The impact on current borrowers seeking loan modification from an acquiring institution with an LSA;
 - The impact on the availability of credit; and
 - The impact on loans with participation agreements outstanding with other insured depository institutions.
- The legislation requires a study of the effect of FDIC policies and procedures regarding maturing LSAs, including:
 - Any impact LSAs may have on continuing weakness in the real estate market; and

- The likelihood that banks will sell off assets to take advantage of LSAs before such agreements are no longer available
- The legislation requires a study of the methods of ensuring the orderly end of expiring LSAs to prevent any adverse impact on borrowing, real estate industry and the Depositors Insurance Fund.

> PAPER LOSSES

- o The legislation requires the study of the significance of paper losses, including:
 - The number of insured depository institutions that have been placed into receivership or conservatorship due to paper losses;
 - The impact on paper losses of raising more capital;
 - The effect of changes in the application of the fair value of real estate accounting rules and other accounting standards;
 - Whether field examiners are using proper appraisal procedures with respect to paper losses; and
 - Methods of stopping the vicious downward spiral of losses and write downs.

➤ WORKOUTS

- The legislation requires the study of the success of FDIC field examiners in implementing FDIC guidelines regarding workouts of commercial real estate, including:
 - Whether field examiners are using the correct appraisals; and
 - Whether there is any difference in implementation between residential workouts and commercial workouts.

➢ ORDERS

- The legislation requires the study of the application and impact of consent orders and cease and desist orders, including:
 - Whether such orders have been applied uniformly and fairly across all insured depository institutions;
 - The reasons for failing to apply such orders uniformly and fairly when such failure occurs:
 - The impact of such orders on the ability of insured depository institutions to raise capital;

- The impact of such orders on the ability of insured depository institutions to extend credit to existing and new borrowers;
- Whether individual insured depository institutions have improved enough to have such orders removed; and
- The reasons for failure where insured depository institutions have not so improved.

> FDIC POLICY

- The legislation requires the study of the application and impact of FDIC policies, including:
 - The impact of FDIC policies on the private capitalization of insured depository institutions, especially in States where more than 10 such institutions have failed since 2008:
 - Whether the FDIC fairly and consistently applies capital standards when an insured depository institution is successful in raising private capital; and;
 - Whether the FDIC steers potential investors away from insured depository institutions that may be in danger of being placed in receivership or conservatorship.

➤ PRIVATE EQUITY COMPANIES

- The legislation requires the study of the FDIC's handling of potential investment from private equity companies in insured depository institutions, including:
 - The number of insured depository institutions that have been approved to receive private equity investment by the FDIC;
 - The number of insured depository institutions that have been rejected from receiving private equity investment by the FDIC; and
 - The reasons for rejection of private equity investment when such rejection occurs.
- The legislation requires that not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General is required to submit to Congress a report on the results of the study conducted and any recommendations based on the study.

➤ Lastly, the FDIC is required to make available from the portion of the FDIC budget allocated to management expenses, sums allowing the FDIC Inspector General to complete this study.

Background: In 2008, the economic crisis causes many large and small banks to fail, and as result of their failure there has been a shortage of credit. H.R. 2056 is a attempt by congress to ensure that the issues that hampered financial institutions and banks will not get in the way of future economic growth.

<u>Committee Action</u>: H.R. 2056 was introduced by Rep. Lynn Westmoreland (R-GA) on 5/31/2011 and the legislation was referred to the Committee on Financial Service. The legislation was amended on July 20, 2011 and reported to the House by voice vote by the Committee on Financial Services.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: No statement from CBO is available

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

<u>Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited</u>

<u>Tariff Benefits?</u>: A committee report citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

<u>Constitutional Authority</u>: According the Congressman Westmoreland's constitutional authority statement, "Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution."

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H.R. 440 - To provide for the establishment of the Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia. (Wolf, R-VA)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The legislation is scheduled to be considered July 28, 2011, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

<u>Summary:</u> This legislation would establish a Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia with the Department of State. This individual will be appointed by the President, not subject to Senate confirmation, and shall have the rank of ambassador. This individual shall represent the U.S. to foreign governments,

intergovernmental organizations and agencies of the U.N. regarding maters of religious freedom in the Near East and South Central Asia. The individual is prohibited from holding any other position within the federal government as long as they are the Special Envoy.

The duties of the Special Envoy shall include:

- ➤ Promote the right of religious freedom of religious minorities in the countries of the Near East and the countries of South Central Asia, denounce the violation of such right, and recommend appropriate responses by the United States Government when such right is violated.
- Monitor and combat acts of religious intolerance and incitement targeted against religious minorities in the countries of the Near East and the countries of South Central Asia.
- ➤ Work to ensure that the unique needs of religious minority communities in the countries of the Near East and the countries of South Central Asia are addressed, including the economic and security needs of such communities.
- ➤ Work with foreign governments of the countries of the Near East and the countries of South Central Asia to address laws that are inherently discriminatory toward religious minority communities in such countries.

H.R. 440 directs that funding for this legislation shall be derived from existing funds available for "Diplomatic and Consular Programs," and shall not exceed \$1,000,000 for each fiscal year 2011 through 2015. This amount will be used for the hiring of staff, the conduct of investigations, and for travel expenses. The Secretary of State is allowed to eliminate positions within the Department (that are not authorized or required by law) for the purpose of offsetting this cost. This legislation prohibits additional funds from being authorized to "Diplomatic and Consular Programs" in order to offset funding for this legislation.

This legislation directs the Special Envoy to give priority to program, projects and activities for Egypt, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

H.R. 440 contains a sunset date of October 1, 2015.

<u>Potential Conservative Concerns</u>: This legislation directs the Special Envoy to work with foreign nations to address their laws that the U.S. feels are discriminatory. While this legislation contains no enforcement mechanism (i.e. cutting off foreign aid to countries that do not adhere to the Special Envoy's recommendations or concerns), some Members would have concerns with a foreign government official coming to the U.S. and working with our governmental officials to address laws they might disagree with. Some Members might feel that the duties of the Special Envoy might infringe on the sovereignty of other nations.

<u>Committee Action</u>: H.R. 440 was introduced on January 25, 2011, and was referred to the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Middle East and South Asia, and the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights, which took no public action.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is provided.

<u>Cost to Taxpayers</u>: A report from CBO was unavailable at press time, however the legislation does not authorize any additional funds.

<u>Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?</u>: Yes. The legislation creates a Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia with the Department of State.

<u>Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?</u>: No.

<u>Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax</u>

<u>Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?</u>: Though the bill contains no earmarks, and there's no accompanying committee report, the earmarks rule (House Rule XXI, Clause 9(a)) does not apply, by definition, to legislation considered under suspension of the rules.

Constitutional Authority: Rep. Wolf's statement of constitutional authority states that Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution, which states: "The Congress shall have Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof" Article II, Section 2, Clause 2 of the United States Constitution, which states: "[The President] shall have Power, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, Judges of the Supreme Court, and all other Officers of the United States, whose Appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by Law: but the Congress may by Law vest the Appointment of such inferior Officers, as they think proper, in the President alone, in the Courts of Law, or in the Heads of Departments.""

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