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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that an alien may not be denied admission or entry to the United States, or other immigration benefits, because of the aliens religion, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BEYER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that an alien may not be denied admission or entry to the United States, or other immigration benefits, because of the aliens religion, 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 “Freedom of Religion
5 Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON DENYING ADMISSION, ENTRY, OR**
2 **OTHER BENEFIT BECAUSE OF RELIGION.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 2 of title I of the Immi-
4 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1181 et seq.) is
5 amended by inserting after section 219 the following:

6 **“SEC. 220. PROHIBITION ON DENYING ADMISSION, ENTRY,**
7 **OR OTHER BENEFIT BECAUSE OF RELIGION.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other pro-
9 vision of the immigration laws, an alien may not be denied
10 entry, reentry, or admission to the United States, or any
11 other immigration benefit, because of the alien’s religion
12 or lack of religious beliefs.

13 “(b) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in subsection (a)
14 shall be construed to affect the authorities under section
15 212(f), subsections (h) and (i) of section 221, or any other
16 provision of the immigration laws, when exercised on a
17 case-by-case basis with respect to an individual who a con-
18 sular officer, an immigration officer, the Attorney General,
19 the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
20 rity, or the President determines may pose a threat to
21 United States national security interests.”.

22 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
23 for the Immigration and Nationality Act is amended by
24 inserting after the item relating to section 219 the fol-
25 lowing:

“Sec. 220. Prohibition on denying admission, entry, or other benefit because of religion.”.