



## Suspensions – June 6, 2017

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## **H.Res. 354 – Condemning the violence against peaceful protesters outside the Turkish Ambassador’s residence on May 16, 2017, and calling for the perpetrators to be brought to justice and measures to be taken to prevent similar incidents in the future, as amended (Royce, R-CA)**

CONTACT: [Brittan Specht](#), 202-226-9143

### **FLOOR SCHEDULE:**

Expected to be considered on June 6 under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

### **TOPLINE SUMMARY:**

[H.Res. 354](#) would express the sense of the House that the Turkish Security officials involved in efforts to illegally suppress peaceful protests in Washington, DC on May 16, 2017, should be charged and prosecuted under U.S. law, and that the State Department and Secret Service should take appropriate actions to ensure visiting security details do not engage in similar activities.

### **COST:**

Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates are not required for House resolutions.

### **CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:**

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

### **DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:**

On May 16, 2017, several dozen peaceful protesters [gathered outside](#) of the residence of the Turkish Ambassador to protest Turkish policies while President Erdogan was visiting the U.S. for meetings with President Trump. After several hours of peaceful protest, a number of Turkish security officials advanced into the crowd and violently attacked several protesters. Two Turkish security officials were detained for the assault, which included assaults on federal officers, but were later released as they enjoyed diplomatic immunity.

H.Res. 354 would express the sense of the House that the rights to peaceably assemble and express one's views are essential to American Democracy. Further, the resolution would state that the actions of Turkish security forces were brutal, unprofessional, and reflected poorly upon their nations, and that those who directed, oversaw, or participated in the assault should be charged and prosecuted under U.S. law. Finally, the resolution calls on the Secretary of State and the Secret Service to take appropriate steps to prevent such abuses by foreign security details in the future, as well as expressing that the U.S. should take steps to strengthen freedoms for the press and civil society in Turkey.

**COMMITTEE ACTION:**

This resolution was introduced on May 24, 2017 and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The committee marked up and order the bill reported on May 25.

**ADMINISTRATION POSITION:**

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

**CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:**

Constitutional authority statements are not required for House resolutions.

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## H.R. 390 – Iraq and Syria Genocide Emergency Relief and Accountability Act, as amended (Smith, R-NJ)

CONTACT: [Brittan Specht](#), 202-226-9143

### FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on June 6 under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

### TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 390](#) would establish that it is the policy of the United States to ensure that humanitarian assistance in Iraq and Syria is prioritized for those most in need, including persecuted minorities, and would authorize the Secretary of State and USAID to provide assistance to groups involved in such activities.

### COST:

As reported by the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that providing additional assistance authorized under the bill and administering that assistance would require additional appropriations of \$3 million a year. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 390 would cost \$8 million over the 2017-2022 period

This score does not reflect the prohibition on the authorization of additional funds that is included in the amended bill scheduled for consideration.

### CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

### DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 390 would establish that it is the policy of the United States to ensure that assistance for humanitarian, stabilization, and recovery needs of individuals from Iraq and Syria is directed to individuals and communities with the greatest need, including those from ethnic and religious minorities at risk of persecution.

The Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) would be authorized to provide assistance to support efforts of entities to undertake the following actions: (1) conduct criminal investigations; (2) develop indigenous investigative and judicial skills and resources; and, (3) collecting and preserving evidence of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes

in Iraq and Syria, including crimes committed by members of a foreign terrorist organization. The Secretary of State would also be directed to encourage foreign governments to prosecute and maintain information about those individuals committing such crimes in appropriate security databases, in consultation with the Attorney General, Secretary of Homeland Security, Director of National Intelligence (DNI), and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

The Secretary of State, along with the DNI and the Administrator of USAID, would be further directed to identify threats of genocide or other crimes against ethnic and religious minorities in Iraq and Syria and populations of such minorities at risk of forced migration within or across the borders of Iraq and Syria or a country of first asylum. The secretary would also be directed to identify humanitarian assistance available to such populations, as well as entities, including faith-based entities, that are providing such assistance. The secretary and the USAID Administrator would be authorized to provide assistance to support such identified entities.

The bill would require the Secretary of State to report to Congress within 90 days of enactment on the implementation of the act. The report would be required to include a detailed description of implementation actions, an assessment of the feasibility and advisability of prosecuting individuals for genocide, crimes against humanity, or other war crimes, and recommendations for legislative remedies and administrative actions to facilitate further implementation.

No additional funds would be authorized to carry out the provisions of the bill.

The bill would state that religious and ethnic minorities in Iraq and Syria are persecuted groups and that the Islamic State is responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity against several of these groups, including Christians and Yazidis. The bill would further find that the Christian populations of Iraq and Syria have been significantly reduced as a result of Islamic State persecution, violence, and civil war.

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION:**

This bill was introduced on January 10, 2017 and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The committee marked up and order the bill reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute on March 29.

#### **ADMINISTRATION POSITION:**

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

#### **CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:**

According to the sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution". No enumerating clause was cited.

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## **H.Res. 355 – Condemning in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks in Manchester, United Kingdom on May 22, 2017, expressing heartfelt condolences, and reaffirming unwavering support for the special relationship between our peoples and nations in the wake of these attacks, as amended (Meeks, D-NY)**

CONTACT: [Brittan Specht](#), 202-226-9143

### **FLOOR SCHEDULE:**

Expected to be considered on June 6 under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

### **TOPLINE SUMMARY:**

[H.Res. 354](#) would express the sense of the House condemning the terrorist attacks in Manchester and London in the United Kingdom on May 22 and June 3, and would reaffirm the American commitment to the special relationship with the United Kingdom.

### **COST:**

Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates are not required for House resolutions.

### **CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:**

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

### **DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:**

On May 22, 2017, Salman Abedi [detonated a suicide bomb](#) outside a concert by American recording artist Ariana Grande in Manchester, UK. The attack killed at least 22 victims, and injured dozens more, including scores of children. The Islamic State has claimed responsibility for the attack.

On June 6, 2017, three attackers [drove a vehicle](#) into pedestrians on the London Bridge before exiting the vehicle and engaging in a stabbing attack, killing at least 7 and injuring nearly 50. Armed officers neutralized the attackers.

H.Res. 355 would express the sense of the House condemning both attacks, reaffirming the special relationship between the U.S. and U.K., recognizing the persistent and growing threat posed by Islamist terror groups worldwide and reaffirming the commitment of the U.S. to the multilateral, global fight against such violent extremists, and remaining committed to the defense of universal democratic values.

**COMMITTEE ACTION:**

This resolution was introduced on May 24, 2017 and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The committee marked up and order the bill reported on May 25.

**ADMINISTRATION POSITION:**

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

**CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:**

Constitutional authority statements are not required for House resolutions.

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