

107TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4714

To prohibit members of the Armed Forces in Saudi Arabia from being required or formally or informally compelled to wear the abaya garment, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 2002

Mr. HOSTETTNER (for himself, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. TOWNS, Mrs. CAPPS, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. FORD, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. PENCE, Mr. WYNN, Mr. LANTOS, and Ms. SANCHEZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

MAY 14, 2002

Committee on Armed Services discharged; considered under suspension of the rules and passed

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## A BILL

To prohibit members of the Armed Forces in Saudi Arabia from being required or formally or informally compelled to wear the abaya garment, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. WEAR OF ABAYAS BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED**  
2 **FORCES IN SAUDI ARABIA.**

3 (a) PROHIBITION RELATING TO WEAR OF ABAYAS.—

4 A member of the Armed Forces may not be required or  
5 formally or informally compelled to wear the abaya gar-  
6 ment or any part of the abaya garment while in the King-  
7 dom of Saudi Arabia pursuant to a permanent change of  
8 station or orders for temporary duty.

9 (b) INSTRUCTION.—(1) The Secretary of Defense  
10 shall provide each member of the Armed Forces ordered  
11 to a permanent change of station or temporary duty in  
12 the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with instructions regarding  
13 the prohibition in subsection (a). Such instructions shall  
14 be provided to a member within 10 days before the date  
15 of a member's arrival at a United States military installa-  
16 tion within the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or immediately  
17 upon such arrival. The instructions shall be presented  
18 orally and in writing. The written instruction shall include  
19 the full text of this section.

20 (2) In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall  
21 act through the Commander in Chief, United States Cen-  
22 tral Command and Joint Task Force Southwest Asia, and  
23 the commanders of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Ma-  
24 rine Corps components of the United States Central Com-  
25 mand and Joint Task Force Southwest Asia.

1       (c) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR PROCURE-  
2   MENT OF ABAYAS.—Funds appropriated or otherwise  
3   made available to the Department of Defense may not be  
4   used to procure abayas for regular or routine issuance to  
5   members of the Armed Forces serving in the Kingdom of  
6   Saudi Arabia or for any personnel of contractors accom-  
7   panying the Armed Forces in the Kingdom of Saudi Ara-  
8   bia in the performance of contracts entered into with such  
9   contractors by the United States.

10       (d) COMMANDER AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding  
11   subsection (a), the commander of the United States Cen-  
12   tral Command may require the wear of the abaya garment  
13   in specific circumstances that, in the opinion of the com-  
14   mander, constitute an operational requirement essential  
15   for the conduct of the military mission.

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