

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2278

To direct the President to transmit to Congress a report on anti-American incitement to violence in the Middle East, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 6, 2009

Mr. BILIRAKIS (for himself and Mr. CROWLEY) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To direct the President to transmit to Congress a report on anti-American incitement to violence in the Middle East, 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. ANTI-AMERICAN INCITEMENT TO VIOLENCE IN**
4 **THE MIDDLE EAST.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

6 (1) Freedom of the press and freedom of ex-
7 pression are the foundations of free and prosperous
8 societies worldwide, and with the freedom of the
9 press and freedom of expression comes the responsi-

1 bility to repudiate purveyors of incitement to vio-
2 lence.

3 (2) For years, media outlets in the Middle East
4 have repeatedly published or broadcast incitements
5 to violence against the United States and Americans.

6 (3) Television channels that broadcast incite-
7 ment to violence against Americans, the United
8 States, and others have demonstrated the ability to
9 shift their operations to different countries and their
10 transmissions to different satellite providers in order
11 to continue broadcasting and to evade account-
12 ability.

13 (4) Television channels such as al-Manar, al-
14 Aqsa, al-Zawra, and others that broadcast incite-
15 ment to violence against the United States and
16 Americans aid Foreign Terrorist Organizations in
17 the key functions of recruitment, fundraising, and
18 propaganda.

19 (5) The broadcast of incitement to violence
20 against Americans and the United States on tele-
21 vision channels and other media that are accessible
22 in the United States may increase the risk of
23 radicalization and recruitment of Americans into
24 Foreign Terrorist Organizations that seek to carry

1 out acts of violence against American targets and on
2 American soil.

3 (b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the policy
4 of the United States to—

5 (1) designate as Specially Designated Global
6 Terrorists satellite providers that knowingly and
7 willingly contract with entities designated as Spe-
8 cially Designated Global Terrorists under Executive
9 Order 13224, to broadcast their channels, or to con-
10 sider implementing other punitive measures against
11 satellite providers that transmit al-Aqsa TV, al-
12 Manar TV, al-Rafidayn TV, or any other terrorist
13 owned and operated station;

14 (2) consider state-sponsorship of anti-American
15 incitement to violence when determining the level of
16 assistance to, and frequency and nature of relations
17 with, regional states; and

18 (3) urge all governments and private investors
19 who own shares in satellite companies or otherwise
20 influence decisions about satellite transmissions to
21 oppose transmissions of telecasts by al-Aqsa TV, al-
22 Manar TV, al-Rafidayn TV, or any other Specially
23 Designated Global Terrorist owned and operated
24 stations that openly incite their audiences to commit

1 acts of terrorism or violence against the United
2 States and its citizens.

3 (c) REPORT.—

4 (1) REQUIREMENT FOR REPORTS.—Beginning
5 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act
6 and annually thereafter, the President shall transmit
7 to the appropriate congressional committees a report
8 on anti-American incitement to violence in the Mid-
9 dle East.

10 (2) CONTENT.—The reports required under
11 paragraph (1) shall include—

12 (A) a country-by-country list and descrip-
13 tion of media outlets that engage in anti-Amer-
14 ican incitement to violence in the Middle East;
15 and

16 (B) a list of satellite companies that carry
17 mediums described in subparagraph (A) or des-
18 igned under Executive Order 13224.

19 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20 (1) ANTI-AMERICAN INCITEMENT TO VIO-
21 LENCE.—The term “anti-American incitement to vi-
22 olence” means the act of persuading, encouraging,
23 instigating, advocating, pressuring, or threatening so
24 as to cause another to commit a violent act against
25 any person, agent, instrumentality, or official of, is

1 affiliated with, or is serving as a representative of
2 the United States.

3 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
4 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
5 mittees” means the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
6 the House of Representatives and the Committee on
7 Foreign Relations of the Senate.

8 (3) MIDDLE EAST.—The term “Middle East”
9 means Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel,
10 the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Jordan, Kuwait,
11 Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Ara-
12 bia, Syria, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and
13 Yemen.

○