

AMENDMENT TO H.R. __

OFFERED BY M. _____

(Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2012)

At the end of title VIII, add the following:

1 **SEC. 8xx. STATEMENT OF POLICY ON HUMAN RIGHTS**
2 **ABUSES BY THE GOVERNMENT OF SYRIA.**

3 (a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress makes the following find-
4 ings:

5 (1) The Syrian Arab Republic is governed by an
6 authoritarian regime which continues to commit
7 massive, systematic, and extraordinary human rights
8 abuses, including the use of torture and arbitrary
9 arrest and detention, and the most basic human and
10 political rights to its citizens.

11 (2) The Government of Syria continues to ruth-
12 lessly suppress pro-democracy protests within its
13 borders and has wantonly killed an estimated 1,500
14 people since the unrest began.

15 (3) The United States, European Union, and
16 other responsible nations have imposed sanctions
17 against the Syrian regime for its extensive human
18 rights abuses.

1 (4) The Department of State's Country Reports
2 on Human Rights Practices for 2010 states that—

3 (A) the Government of Syria “systemati-
4 cally repressed citizens’ ability to change their
5 government. . . imposed severe restrictions on
6 civil liberties: freedoms of speech and press, in-
7 cluding Internet and academic freedom; free-
8 doms of assembly and of association, including
9 severe restrictions on nongovernmental organi-
10 zations (NGOs); and freedoms of religion and
11 movement”; and

12 (B) “the security forces committed arbi-
13 trary or unlawful killings, caused politically mo-
14 tivated disappearances, and tortured and phys-
15 ically abused prisoners and detainees with im-
16 punity”.

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

19 (1) continue to strongly condemn the Govern-
20 ment of Syria’s suppression of pro-democracy pro-
21 tests and its extensive and systematic violations of
22 and denial of the human rights of the Syrian people;
23 and

24 (2) fully implement and enforce the full range
25 of United States sanctions against the Government

1 of Syria pursuant to the Syria Accountability and
2 Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act of 2003 and
3 other provisions of law.

