

Jewish Federations of North America

Right to Worship Act

H.R. 10052 / S. 5289

The Right to Worship Act creates a 100-foot buffer zone around houses of worship to facilitate safe entry and exit for worshippers while maintaining the constitutional right to protest as well as freedom of religion. It both safeguards first amendment rights and establishes enforcement mechanisms for law enforcement to ensure houses of worship can sustain a welcoming environment for their congregants. Everyone deserves to practice their religion freely and safely.

Introduced by Reps. Tom Suozzi (D-NY) & Brad Knott (R-NC), and Sens. Ted Cruz (R-TX) & Elissa Slotkin (D-MI)

What The Legislation Means

1

The bill prohibits disruptions or interference to worshippers from one hour before to one hour after religious services.

2

The bill protects the right to protest while directing Attorneys General to fine those who impede worship $2,500–$10,000.

> **Religious leaders, civic leaders and citizens of every background must say clearly and unequivocally that violence against people of faith has no place in our society. The strength of a free society is measured by whether its citizens can live openly and practice their beliefs without fear. When synagogues, churches, mosques and temples must be protected like fortresses, something fundamental has gone wrong.**
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> Gary Torgow, Chair, Jewish Federations of North America

Jewish Federations requests that Members of Congress co-sponsor this critical legislation to ensure everyone can practice their religion without the fear of being targeted or harassed.

For questions, reach out to Rachel Dembo at Rachel.Dembo@JewishFederations.org.