

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1841

To review current restrictions on travel to North Korea, call for a formal end to the Korean War, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 4, 2025

Mr. SHERMAN (for himself, Mr. BIGGS of Arizona, Ms. CHU, Mr. MIN, Mr. MOYLAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. AMO, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CASAR, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CORREA, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. OMAR, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TRAN, and Mr. VARGAS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To review current restrictions on travel to North Korea, call for a formal end to the Korean War, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Peace on the Korean  
5 Peninsula Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) On July 27, 1953, the commander in chief  
4 of the United Nations Command signed an armistice  
5 agreement with the supreme commander of the  
6 North Korean People’s Army and the commander of  
7 the Chinese People’s Volunteers, aiming to “insure  
8 a complete cessation of hostilities and of all acts of  
9 armed force in Korea until a final peaceful settle-  
10 ment is achieved”.

11 (2) The armistice agreement neither formally  
12 ended the war nor represented a final peaceful set-  
13 tlement.

14 (3) On April 27, 2018, in Panmunjom, the  
15 leaders of South Korea and North Korea declared  
16 that “a new era of peace has begun on the Korean  
17 peninsula”, and committed “to declare the end of  
18 war” on the Korean peninsula 65 years after the  
19 signing of the armistice agreement.

20 (4) In its roll out of its policy towards North  
21 Korea, the Biden Administration expressed support  
22 for the Singapore framework, which identifies peace  
23 on the Korean peninsula as an objective of any fu-  
24 ture negotiations between the United States and  
25 North Korea.

1           (5) The United States should pursue a sus-  
2           tained and credible diplomatic process to achieve an  
3           end to the Korean war, and every effort should be  
4           made to avoid military confrontation with North  
5           Korea.

6           (6) The persistence of a state of war does not  
7           serve the national interest of the United States and  
8           its allies.

9           (7) One major consequence of the continuation  
10          of the Korean war is that the United States does not  
11          have formal relations with North Korea, which has  
12          prevented Korean Americans with relatives in North  
13          Korea from seeing their families.

14          (8) Approximately 100,000 Americans have rel-  
15          atives living in North Korea.

16          (9) At the Hanoi Summit in February 2019,  
17          the United States and North Korea discussed for-  
18          mally ending the Korean war and the exchange of  
19          diplomatic liaison offices, however these discussions  
20          did not advance due to a stalemate on nuclear and  
21          missile issues.

22          (10) The ongoing nuclear- and ballistic-missile-  
23          related activities of North Korea continue to pose a  
24          threat to international peace and security.

1 **SEC. 3. HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING VIS-**  
2 **ITING NORTH KOREA.**

3 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
4 gress that the current restrictions barring United States  
5 nationals traveling to the Democratic People’s Republic of  
6 Korea (DPRK) warrant review by the Secretary of State.

7 (b) REVIEW.—The Secretary of State shall conduct  
8 a full review of the restrictions in place conditioning the  
9 travel of United States nationals to the DPRK. Such re-  
10 view shall include consideration of the following:

11 (1) The Department of State’s guidance as to  
12 the nature of travel to the DPRK that qualifies as  
13 “in the national interest” of the United States, in-  
14 cluding whether the scope of travel qualifying as  
15 such should be adjusted.

16 (2) The “compelling humanitarian consider-  
17 ations” that qualify a United States national for  
18 travel to the DPRK, including whether the scope of  
19 travel permissible under such considerations should  
20 be adjusted.

21 (3) Whether, and if so, to what extent and  
22 under what conditions, travel to the DPRK for the  
23 purposes of attending to or witnessing funerals, bur-  
24 ials, or other religious and family commemorations  
25 of relatives of United States nationals in the DPRK  
26 does or should qualify as “compelling humanitarian

1 considerations” meriting issuance of Special Valida-  
2 tion Passports to such nationals.

3 (c) REPORT.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
5 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
6 retary of State shall submit to the Committee on  
7 Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and  
8 the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate  
9 a report detailing the review conducted under sub-  
10 section (b). Such report shall include a comprehen-  
11 sive description of the Department of State’s consid-  
12 eration of all matters described in paragraphs (1),  
13 (2), and (3) of such subsection, including, as appli-  
14 cable, any related policy changes and the rationale  
15 behind the Department’s decision to make or refrain  
16 from making policy changes relating to such mat-  
17 ters.

18 (2) FORM.—The report required under para-  
19 graph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but  
20 may contain a classified annex.

21 **SEC. 4. CALLING FOR A FORMAL END TO THE KOREAN**  
22 **WAR.**

23 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
24 gress that given the commitment of the leaders of South  
25 Korea and North Korea in Panmunjom on April 27, 2018,

1 to actively promote meetings involving the United States  
2 “with a view to replacing the Armistice Agreement with  
3 a peace agreement and establishing a permanent and solid  
4 peace regime”, the Secretary of State should pursue seri-  
5 ous, urgent diplomatic engagement with North Korea and  
6 South Korea in pursuit of a binding peace agreement con-  
7 stituting a formal and final end to the state of war be-  
8 tween North Korea, South Korea, and the United States.

9 (b) REPORT.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
11 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
12 retary of State shall submit to the Committee on  
13 Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and  
14 the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate  
15 a report that describes a clear roadmap for achieving  
16 a permanent peace agreement on the Korean penin-  
17 sula.

18 (2) CONTENTS.—The report required under  
19 paragraph (1) shall—

20 (A) contain an accounting of the steps nec-  
21 essary to enter into negotiations with North  
22 Korea and South Korea to conclude a binding  
23 peace agreement;

24 (B) identify the key stakeholders involved  
25 in such negotiations; and

1 (C) describe the challenges concerning the  
2 ability of the United States to achieve a binding  
3 peace agreement constituting a formal and final  
4 end to the state of war between North Korea,  
5 South Korea, and the United States.

6 (3) FORM.—The report required under para-  
7 graph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but  
8 may contain a classified annex.

9 **SEC. 5. ESTABLISHING LIAISON OFFICES.**

10 It is the sense of Congress that given the joint state-  
11 ment signed by the United States and North Korea in  
12 Singapore on June 12, 2018, which included an agreement  
13 to “establish new U.S.-DPRK relations in accordance with  
14 the desire of the peoples of the two countries for peace  
15 and prosperity”, the Secretary of State should seek to  
16 enter into negotiations with the Democratic People’s Re-  
17 public of North Korea (DPRK) to establish liaison offices  
18 of the DPRK and the United States in the respective cap-  
19 itals of each such country.

20 **SEC. 6. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

21 Nothing in this Act may be construed to affect the  
22 status of United States Armed Forces stationed in South  
23 Korea or any other foreign country.

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