

Extent

10 folders, approximately 199 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records related to the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (IRFA). This collection consists of correspondence, memoranda, schedules, presidential statements and talking points.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2026-0345-F (Segment 1) are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. This collection consists of correspondence, memoranda, schedules, presidential statements and talking points.

Biographical Note

The International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (IRFA) was passed to promote religious freedom as a foreign policy of the United States. Its purpose was to promote greater religious freedom in countries which engage in or tolerate violations of religious freedom, and to advocate on the behalf of individuals persecuted for their religious beliefs and activities in foreign countries. The Act was signed into law by President Bill Clinton on October 27, 1998. Three aligned positions were created by this act to monitor religious persecution: Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, Special Adviser on International Religious Freedom and a bipartisan United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in these collection areas—Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files and Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files.

The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) contains a variety of series created to organize and track documents and correspondence. The WHORM Alpha file was compiled by the White House Office of Records Management from 1993 – 1996 and is a series of documents arranged by name of persons, organizations, or events. The WHORM Subject file was compiled by the White House Office of Records Management and is a series of categories designated by a letter/number combination. In addition, there are WHORM, WHORM Counsel, WHORM (CL), WHORM (OP), WHORM (Too Late); WHORM (Various Offices); and WHORM (Alpha Project) series.

Staff and Office files were maintained at the folder level by staff members within their individual offices and document all levels of administration activity.

Staff and Office files are processed at the folder level, that is, individual documents are not selected and removed from a folder for processing. While this method maintains folder integrity, it frequently results in the incidental processing of documents that are not wholly responsive to the subject area.

FOIA 2026-0345-F (Segment 1) includes WHORM records from these subject codes:

CO Countries and Geographic Areas

FG001-07 Presidential Appointments Granted

FG065 Independent Agencies, Boards and Commissions

FI004 Budget and Appropriations

FO Foreign Affairs

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Clinton Presidential Records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. Chapter 22, as amended) and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552, as amended) and therefore records may be restricted in whole or in part in accordance with legal exemptions.

Copyright

Documents in this collection that were prepared by officials of the United States government as part of their official duties are in the public domain. Researchers are advised to consult the copyright law of the United States (17 U.S.C. Chapter 1) which governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

Provenance

Official records of William Jefferson Clinton's presidency are housed at the Clinton Presidential Library and administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act (PRA).

Subject Headings

International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (United States)

Topical Subjects

Freedom of religion (International law)

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2026.

Last Modified Date

2026-08-20

Related Collections

2015-0959-F

Container List

Box 1

[Previously Processed]

Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: Subject File

Category	Case Number
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CO	318070
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FG001-07	417082
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FG001-07	417122
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FG065	302663
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FI004	295079
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FO	313445SS
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Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files

Agency Liaison

AF

297464 [OA/ID 13317]

Legislative Affairs

Maldon, Al

[Legislative Referral Memo re: State Testimony on S1868 International Religious Freedom Act of 998] [loose] [OA/ID 14163]

[Statement by the President re: Signing into law HR 2431, the "International Religious Freedom Act"] [1] [loose] [OA/ID 14163]

[Statement by the President re: Signing into law HR 2431, the "International Religious Freedom Act"] [2] [loose] [OA/ID 14163]