Why I voted Yes on H.R. 2867

I voted Yes on H.R. 2867, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom Reform and Reauthorization Act. The bill reauthorizes the International Religious Freedom Act through 2013. The legislation requires a report to Congress on the effectiveness of government programs to promote international religious freedom. In 1998, Congress enacted the International Religious Freedom Act to promote religious freedom as a foreign policy priority, but it is due to expire on September 30, 2011. I supported this bill because it is important that the U.S. continue to stand as a champion of universal human rights, including the freedom of religion.