

My Turn: Andy Biggs' bill would cause a global panic

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My Turn: The Mesa congressman is pushing a dangerous agenda that would isolate us from the world.



(Photo: Mosa'ab Elshamy/AP)

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Arizona has a long bipartisan history of its congressional delegation wielding an outside influence on foreign policy matters.

In the past, leaders like Goldwater, DeConcini and Kyl worked to safeguard the national interest. Sens. Flake and McCain continue this tradition, with McCain criticizing Presidents Clinton, Bush, Obama and now Trump when they have tried to take actions that harm America.

When Rep. Andy Biggs [won his primary last year](#) by a mere 48 votes, I expected him to be careful to represent his constituency and continue in this tradition. Instead, Biggs is not only failing to fill the shoes of his predecessors, but he is working to actively undermine their legacy by embracing a radical libertarian isolationist position by co-sponsoring House Resolution 193, the [American Sovereignty Restoration Act](#).

Biggs' bill would gut the UN

This misguided legislation, authored by Congressman Mike Rogers of Alabama, would rescind the U.S. signature on the 1946 treaty that created the United Nations, prohibit U.S. agencies from cooperating with international agencies and strip diplomatic status from ambassadors sent to the United States to represent their governments.

It would effectively gut the UN and remove America from the global stage. The immediate consequences of H.R. 193 to the global order would be staggering.

Eliminating UN sanctions would give a green light to North Korea's nuclear missile program. Countries would no longer be required to report to the Counter Terrorism Committee on the specific measures they are taking to make it difficult for terror groups to finance their activities or enjoy safe havens where they can work openly.

Peacekeeping missions attempting to contain Al Qaeda and ISIS affiliates in Mali, Somalia and Kenya would be closed. H.R. 193 would strip the U.S. of its veto at the Security Council, something our enemies have wished they could do for decades.

Disease, chaos: It's all within reach

The World Health Organization would no longer monitor and contain global pandemics like Ebola, Zika or the H1N1 flu virus. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention would be prevented from cooperating with WHO to keep diseases at bay, effectively forced to wait until Americans are dying on our own shores before taking action.

Not content to say no to refugees entering our own country, H.R. 193 would eliminate the ability of the UN to maintain refugee camps around the world. When those camps close, several million refugees would be sent packing, flooding the borders of nearby countries and throwing the Middle East and Europe into chaos.

In a hundred little ways, H.R. 193 would diminish U.S. leadership and presence in the day to day functioning of the global system. Even Arizona moms might not be able to send care packages to their LDS missionaries abroad since the U.S. Post Office would be prohibited from participating in the Universal Postal Union, which is part of the UN system.