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## Sharia Free America Congressional Caucus Anti-Muslim Extremist Designation

(February 2026)

The U.S. House's "Sharia-Free America Caucus" is an anti-Muslim extremist organization.

Caucus members support extreme policies that would effectively ban the practice of the world's second largest religion in the United States. Like canon law for Catholics and halacha for Orthodox Jews, sharia refers to the rules that Muslims follow, including praying five times a day, fasting in Ramadan, giving in charity, and [following the laws of the land in which they live](#).

To support their proposals, caucus members use language that dehumanizes Muslims. Caucus member **Rep. Randy Fine (R-FL)** has endorsed destroying all "mainstream Muslims" in what would be a genocidal religious cleansing of the United States. Other members call those who practice Islam "infiltrators" who are uncivilized, "barbaric," "radical," reject Western civilization and, bring "violent submission and oppression." Members paint Islamic religious practices as an inherent and urgent threat to the existence of the United States or Western civilization.

This combination of dehumanization and urgency is often used to [justify extreme measures against target populations](#).

Islam, not simply its practices, is the Caucus' target. Caucus co-founder **Rep. Keith Self (R-TX)** says "Islam intends to dominate the West" and "while Western civilization has evolved, Islam has not." Caucus Member **Rep. Brandon Gill (R-TX)** calls Islam a "political ideology." In a post to X (formerly Twitter) on Feb. 17, 2026, Caucus Member **Rep. Andy Ogles (R-TN)** wrote, "No more public displays of Islam please. It is not American." While not a Caucus member, **Sen. Tommy Tuberville (R-AL)** was praised by the Caucus founders and a [quote from the Senator was included in a press release announcing the Caucus](#). This was four days after Tuberville said, "[Islam is not a religion. It is a cult.](#)" That quote is repeated in the Sharia-Free America inaugural press release.

Legislation supported by Caucus members such as **Rep. Chip Roy's (R-TX) H.R.6225 - PAUSE Act of 2025** and H.R. 5722 [Preserving a Sharia-Free America Act](#) and **Rep. Randy Fine's (R-FL) H.R.5512 No Shari'a Act would deny adherents of the world's second largest faith basic civil rights such as free speech, freedom of religion and equal protection under the law using their choice of faith as the disfavored characteristic. Non-citizens would be subjected to ideological purity tests and screened out if their prayer and charity options were guided by Islamic rules.**

If enacted, their extreme policies could have significant impacts on U.S. commercial interests, international adoptions, foreign marriages, business arbitration, and inheritance disputes where contracts may include considerations of the laws of Muslim majority nations.

The anti-Muslim bias in their extreme policy proposals has implications for the domestic religious landscape. Adherents of any faith these legislators view with disfavor may find their traditions targeted as Caucus members seek to impose government approval on which religions qualify as American.

Texas representatives **Chip Roy (R-TX)** and **Keith Self (R-TX)** formed the [Congressional Sharia-Free America Caucus](#) in December 2025. On February 17, 2026, **Rep. Keith Self (R-TX)** posted a statement to his X (formerly

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Twitter) account saying, "40 Members of Congress have now joined the Sharia-Free America Caucus, [representing 19 states nationwide.](#)"

### **Dehumanizing Muslims and characterizing the practice of Islam as an inherent and urgent threat to the existence of the United States or Western civilization.**

Caucus members have used their positions of public trust to make statements fitting the hallmarks of language traditionally used to dehumanize a disfavored group. This language sets the stage for broad acceptance of problematic policies and increasing the likelihood that audiences "[will condone or participate in violence against members of another group.](#)"

Caucus member **Rep. Randy Fine (R-FL)** has discussed the need to "[solve the Muslim problem](#)," and suggested the need to "[destroy](#)" "mainstream Muslims." Fine has supported [the starvation of Palestinian civilians](#), a war crime, and a religious cleansing of the U.S. via the [mass removals of mainstream Muslims](#) from the United States. Fine has faced backlash for implying dogs are [preferable to Muslims](#).

Caucus co-founder **Rep. Keith Self (R-TX)** describes Muslims [as infiltrators](#) who have already caused European nations to "lose their identity." In a [press release announcing the caucus](#), Rep. Roy is quoted as saying, "Those who succumb to this political ideology seek to replace our legal system and Constitution." Self says Muslims follow "a culture of violence and domination" and "if they succeed at imposing their beliefs upon us, we will be dragged back into the Dark Ages." Rep. Self posted, "[Islam is on the march and seeks world domination](#)" to his X (formerly Twitter) account. He also referred to the "[horrors of Sharia.](#)" Self also paints a vision of immanent threat, "Either we defeat the sharia advances in America, or government of the people, by the people, and [for the people may indeed perish from the Earth.](#)" On January 28, 2026, Rep. Self posted, "[We cannot bend to its evils!](#)"

In an interview with WBAP's Morning News Podcast on February 3, 2026, Caucus co-founder **Rep. Chip Roy (R-TX)** warned against the "Islamification of our country" which, according to Roy, "[is inconsistent with Western civilization.](#)" In December 2025 Roy [spoke on the House floor](#) saying, in part, "This is a political movement, well-funded targeted at the American people, western civilization our rule of law and the Constitution." Roy claimed, "Europe has fallen." Using the "state-within-a-state" trope often deployed by antisemites and anti-Catholic bigots, Roy implies Muslims want to live under laws separate from the Constitution, "[You can't have two sets of laws.](#) In a [press release announcing the House version](#) of the Preserving a Sharia-Free America Act, Roy said, "America is facing an existential threat - the spread of Sharia Law." Across America, "Sharia Law adherents have threatened the American way of life."

**U.S. House Majority Whip Tom Emmer (R-MN)** characterized Islamic religious practices as "completely incompatible with the American way of life and [threatens the very fabric of our society.](#)" Emmer added, "It is radical, oppressive, and must never be allowed to gain a foothold in America."

In June 2025, **Rep. Andy Ogles (R-TN)** [wrote to U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi and demanded](#) that the federal government pursue denaturalization proceedings against New York Assemblymember Zohran Mamdani, then running for the office of New York Mayor. Ogles has also said Islam is not American. [See below.]

**Rep. Brandon Gill (R-TX)** [posted a video of New York mayoral candidate Zohran Mamdani eating biryani with his hand](#), a common practice for eating traditional American foods such as hot dogs and hamburgers, and wrote: "Civilized people in America don't eat like this. If you refuse to adopt Western customs, go back to the Third World." Gill also says, "Sharia Law is utterly barbaric and [has no place in America whatsoever.](#)"

During the Caucus' inaugural press conference **Rep. Mary Miller (R-IL)** said, "The result of mass migration from regions that reject Western values has brought with it growing attempts to impose [sharia law on our communities.](#)" Rep. Miller calls Islamic religious practices a "radical ideology that seeks to uproot the constitutional principles and Christian values on which our nation was founded" and labels it a "serious issue facing our country" in a January 16, 2026 [Sharia Free American Caucus press release](#).

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**Rep. Andy Biggs (R-AZ)** says "Its radical ideology is [antithetical to our Judeo-Christian values](#) and to the freedoms our great Republic was founded on. Biggs looks forward to "the work we will do to stop radical Islam in its tracks."

**Rep. Scott Perry (R-PA)** alleges, "Sharia law is sweeping across America" and that "too many policymakers and community leaders are willing to sell out our liberties and safety by bowing to the intolerant and oppressive ideology of militant and radical Islam" and "we did not, however, invite them to leave their theological oppression abroad to come and conquer America under the flag of [violent submission and oppression that is Sharia law.](#)"

**Rep. Barry Moore (R-AL)** appeared to describe Islamic religious practices as, "outside ideologies that are [incompatible with American liberty.](#)"

**Rep. Michael Cloud (R-TX)** is quoted in a January 16, 2026, press release saying, Islamic religious practices are "an assault on our Constitution, our freedoms, and the Christian foundations of our nation." He adds, "We cannot allow this oppressive ideology to take root in America. We cannot become like Europe and stand idly by while the bastions of [liberty are eroded away, community by community.](#)"

During the Caucus' inaugural press conference, **U.S. Rep. Eli Crane (R-AZ)** said, "sharia law cannot, cannot, coexist with Western values and our constitutional republic." Crane added that he believes European nations have "surrendered to this coercive ideology," and "If we fail to act we risk eroding our freedoms [to appease those who refuse to respect or operate within our Constitutional system.](#)"

**Rep. Cory Mills (R-FL)** is reported to have said, "freedom of religion does not mean freedom to impose a parallel legal system or [undermine constitutional governance.](#)" This falsely implies that Muslims are attempting to impose a parallel legal system, which they are not.

[Islam, not simply its practices, is the target of the Caucus.](#)

Using "sharia" as a code word for "Islam" was a tactic developed by anti-Muslim extremists in the 2000s to get around America's Constitutional aversion to attacking entire faith traditions. Like canon law for Catholics and halacha for Orthodox Jews, sharia refers to the rules that Muslims follow, including praying five times a day, fasting in Ramadan, giving in charity, and [following the laws of the land in which they live.](#)

During a November 19, 2025 floor speech **Rep. Self** said he believes "[Islam is a culture with a patina of religion.](#)" He later also added, "There is no denying Islam's intent to dominate Western civilization. Their stated objective is to destroy us from within." Finally, Self believes, "While Western civilization has evolved, Islam has not. Islam is stuck in the eighth century."

During an interview with Newsmax, **Rep. Gill** said, "The reality is that Islam is a political ideology that is incompatible with the United States. It's [incompatible with our constitutional system and with Western civilization more broadly.](#)"

In a social media post announcing his call for a Muslim candidate for New York Mayor to be deported, **Caucus Member Ogles** called the candidate "Zohran 'little muhammad' Mamdani" a reference to Islam's Prophet. [Archive.](#)

While not a Caucus Member, **Senator Tommy Tuberville (R-AL)** was praised by the Caucus founders and a [quote from the Senator was included in a press release announcing the Caucus.](#) This was four days after Tuberville said, "[Islam is not a religion. It is a cult.](#)"

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## Members by State as of February 17, 2026

As noted above, on February 17, 2026, **Rep. Keith Self (R-TX)** posted a list of Caucus members to his X (formerly Twitter) account listing the 40 caucus members. Based on that list Texas (10) and Florida (6) have the most elected officials on the Caucus. Arizona and Virginia both have 3 members.

1. AK (1): Nick Begich (AK-At Large)
2. AL (1): Barry Moore (AL-01)
3. AZ (3): Andy Biggs (AZ-05), Eli Crane (AZ-02), Paul Gosar (AZ-09)
4. FL (6): Byron Donalds (FL-19), Randy Fine (FL-06), Cory Mills (FL-07), Mike Haridopolos (FL-08), Aaron Bean (R-FL), John Rutherford (R-FL)
5. GA (1): Andrew Clyde (GA-09)
6. ID (1): Russ Fulcher (ID-01)
7. IL (1): Mary Miller (IL-15)
8. KS (1): Tracey Mann (KS-01)
9. MO (1): Eric Burlison (MO-07)
10. MN (1): Tom Emmer (MN-06)
11. NC (2): Mark Harris (NC-08), Addison McDowell (NC-06)
12. OK (1): Josh Brecheen (OK-02)
13. PA (2): Scott Perry (PA-10), Mike Kelly (PA-16)
14. SC (2): Sheri Biggs (SC-03), Ralph Norman (SC-05)
15. TN (1): Andy Ogles (TN-05)
16. TX (7): Keith Self (TX-03), Chip Roy (TX-21), Brandon Gill (TX-26), Michael Cloud (TX-27), Monica De La Cruz (TX-15), Wesley Hunt (TX-38), Brian Babin (TX-36), Pete Sessions (R-TX), Pat Fallon (R-TX), Craig Goldman (R-TX)
17. UT (1): Mike Kennedy (UT-03)
18. VA (1): Ben Cline (VA-06), John McGuire (VA-05)
19. WV (1): Riley Moore (R-WV)

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