

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 137

To require an accounting of certain property forfeited to the United States,
and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2023

Mr. COHEN (for himself, Ms. SALAZAR, and Mr. FITZPATRICK) introduced the
following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To require an accounting of certain property forfeited to
the United States, 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 “Justice for Victims
5 of Kleptocracy Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. FORFEITED PROPERTY.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 46 of title 18, United
8 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
9 lowing:

1 **“§ 988. Accounting of certain forfeited property**

2 “(a) ACCOUNTING.—The Attorney General shall
3 make available to the public an accounting of any property
4 relating to foreign government corruption that is forfeited
5 to the United States under section 981 or 982.

6 “(b) FORMAT.—The accounting described under sub-
7 section (a) shall be published on the website of the Depart-
8 ment of Justice in a format that includes the following:

9 “(1) A heading as follows: ‘Assets stolen from
10 the people of _____ and recovered by the
11 United States’, the blank space being filled with the
12 name of the foreign government that is the target of
13 corruption.

14 “(2) The total amount recovered by the United
15 States on behalf of the foreign people that is the tar-
16 get of corruption at the time when such recovered
17 funds are deposited into the Department of Justice
18 Asset Forfeiture Fund or the Department of the
19 Treasury Forfeiture Fund.

20 “(c) UPDATED WEBSITE.—The Attorney General
21 shall update the website of the Department of Justice to
22 include an accounting of any new property relating to for-
23 eign government corruption that has been forfeited to the
24 United States under section 981 or 982 not later than
25 14 days after such forfeiture, unless such update would
26 compromise an ongoing law enforcement investigation.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
2 for chapter 46 of title 18, United States Code, is amended
3 by adding at the end the following:

“988. Accounting of certain forfeited property.”.

4 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

5 It is the sense of Congress that recovered assets be
6 returned for the benefit of the people harmed by the cor-
7 ruption under conditions that reasonably ensure the trans-
8 parent and effective use, administration and monitoring
9 of returned proceeds.

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