

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1461

To impose sanctions with respect to the Government of Georgia if the President determines that the Government of Georgia is taking actions to undermine commitments or contractual agreements with United States persons engaging in business operations in the country of Georgia, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 28, 2019

Mr. MULLIN (for himself and Mr. FLORES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To impose sanctions with respect to the Government of Georgia if the President determines that the Government of Georgia is taking actions to undermine commitments or contractual agreements with United States persons engaging in business operations in the country of Georgia, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Georgian Fair Busi-
3 ness Practices Sanctions Act of 2019”.

4 **SEC. 2. REPORT ON ACTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF**
5 **GEORGIA TO UNDERMINE COMMITMENTS OR**
6 **CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS MADE WITH**
7 **UNITED STATES PERSONS ENGAGING IN**
8 **BUSINESS OPERATIONS IN THE COUNTRY OF**
9 **GEORGIA.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
11 date of the enactment of this Act, and not less frequently
12 than once every 180 days thereafter, the President shall
13 submit to the appropriate congressional committees a re-
14 port that—

15 (1) includes a determination of the President of
16 whether or not the Government of Georgia is taking
17 actions to undermine the commitments or contrac-
18 tual agreements made with United States persons
19 engaging in business operations in the country of
20 Georgia; and

21 (2) identifies foreign persons who are current or
22 former officials of the Government of Georgia who
23 are responsible for any actions described in para-
24 graph (1).

25 (b) INFORMATION.—The report required under sub-
26 section (a) shall include—

1 (1) a summary of United States Government
2 and nongovernment investment in Georgia; and

3 (2) an assessment of the impact of actions de-
4 scribed in subsection (a)(1) on the future of United
5 States investment in Georgia.

6 (c) FORM.—The report required under subsection (a)
7 shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include
8 a classified annex.

9 **SEC. 3. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE**
10 **GOVERNMENT OF GEORGIA AND RESPON-**
11 **SIBLE OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF**
12 **GEORGIA.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—If the President submits to the
14 appropriate congressional committees a report under sec-
15 tion 2 that contains an affirmative determination of the
16 President as described in subsection (a)(1) of such sec-
17 tion—

18 (1) the President shall impose the sanctions de-
19 scribed in subsection (b) with respect to the Govern-
20 ment of Georgia; and

21 (2) the President shall impose the sanctions de-
22 scribed in subsection (c) with respect to current or
23 former officials of the Government of Georgia who
24 are identified in subsection (a)(2) of such section.

1 (b) SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO GOVERNMENT OF
2 GEORGIA DESCRIBED.—The sanctions described in this
3 subsection are the following:

4 (1) No loan, credit guarantee, insurance, fi-
5 nancing, or other similar financial assistance be ex-
6 tended by any agency of the Government of the
7 United States (including the Export-Import Bank of
8 the United States or the Overseas Private Invest-
9 ment Corporation) to the Government of Georgia,
10 except with respect to the provision of humanitarian
11 goods and agricultural or medical products.

12 (2) No funds available to the Trade and Devel-
13 opment Agency should be available for activities of
14 the Agency in or for Georgia.

15 (c) SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO RESPONSIBLE
16 OFFICIALS DESCRIBED.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—The sanctions described in
18 this subsection are the following:

19 (A) ASSET BLOCKING.—The exercise of all
20 powers granted to the President by the Inter-
21 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50
22 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) (except that the require-
23 ments of section 202 of such Act (50 U.S.C.
24 1701) shall not apply) to the extent necessary
25 to block and prohibit all transactions in all

1 property and interests in property of an indi-
2 vidual who is subject to subsection (a)(2) if
3 such property and interests in property are in
4 the United States, come within the United
5 States, or are or come within the possession or
6 control of a United States person.

7 (B) ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, AD-
8 MISSION, OR PAROLE.—

9 (i) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—

10 An alien who is subject to subsection
11 (a)(2) is—

12 (I) inadmissible to the United
13 States;

14 (II) ineligible to receive a visa or
15 other documentation to enter the
16 United States; and

17 (III) otherwise ineligible to be
18 admitted or paroled into the United
19 States or to receive any other benefit
20 under the Immigration and Nation-
21 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

22 (ii) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

23 (I) IN GENERAL.—The issuing
24 consular officer, the Secretary of
25 State, or the Secretary of Homeland

1 Security shall revoke any visa or other
2 entry documentation issued to an
3 alien who is subject to subsection
4 (a)(2), regardless of when issued.

5 (II) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—
6 A revocation under subclause (I) shall
7 take effect immediately and shall
8 automatically cancel any other valid
9 visa or entry documentation that is in
10 the possession of the alien.

11 (2) PENALTIES.—The penalties provided for in
12 subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the Inter-
13 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50
14 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a person that violates,
15 attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a
16 violation of regulations prescribed under paragraph
17 (1)(A) to the same extent that such penalties apply
18 to a person that commits an unlawful act described
19 in subsection (a) of such section 206.

20 **SEC. 4. TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS.**

21 The sanctions described in section 3 shall cease to
22 have effect beginning on the day after the date on which
23 the President submits to the appropriate congressional
24 committees a report under section 2 that contains a nega-

1 tive determination of the President as described in sub-
2 section (a)(1) of such section.

3 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) ADMITTED; ALIEN.—The terms “admitted”
6 and “alien” have meanings given those terms in sec-
7 tion 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
8 U.S.C. 1101).

9 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
10 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
11 mittees” means—

12 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the
13 Committee on Armed Services, the Committee
14 on Homeland Security, the Committee on Fi-
15 nancial Services, and the Committee on Ways
16 and Means of the House of Representatives;
17 and

18 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations,
19 the Committee on Armed Services, the Com-
20 mittee on Homeland Security and Govern-
21 mental Affairs, and the Committee on Banking,
22 Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

23 (3) ENTITY.—The term “entity”—

1 (A) means a partnership, association, cor-
2 poration, or other organization, group, or sub-
3 group; and

4 (B) includes a governmental entity.

5 (4) PERSON.—The term “person” means an in-
6 dividual or entity.

7 (5) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term
8 “United States person” means a United States cit-
9 izen, permanent resident alien, entity organized
10 under the laws of the United States (including for-
11 eign branches), or a person in the United States.

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