

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 52

To halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, encourage a negotiated political settlement, and hold Syrian human rights abusers accountable for their crimes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 8, 2019

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. RUBIO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, encourage a negotiated political settlement, and hold Syrian human rights abusers accountable for their crimes.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act of 2019”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Statement of policy.

TITLE I—ADDITIONAL ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE
NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SYRIA

- Sec. 101. Measures with respect to Central Bank of Syria.
 Sec. 102. Sanctions with respect to foreign persons that engage in certain transactions.
 Sec. 103. Strategy relating to areas of Syria in which civilians are subject to forced displacement.

TITLE II—AMENDMENTS TO SYRIA HUMAN RIGHTS
ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2012

- Sec. 201. Imposition of sanctions with respect to certain persons who are responsible for or complicit in human rights abuses committed against citizens of Syria or their family members.
 Sec. 202. Imposition of sanctions with respect to the transfer of goods or technologies to Syria that are likely to be used to commit human rights abuses.

TITLE III—ASSISTANCE FOR THE PEOPLE OF SYRIA

- Sec. 301. Briefing on monitoring and evaluating of ongoing assistance programs in Syria and to the Syrian people.
 Sec. 302. Assessment of potential methods to enhance the protection of civilians.
 Sec. 303. Assistance to support entities taking actions relating to gathering evidence for investigations into war crimes or crimes against humanity in Syria since March 2011.
 Sec. 304. Codification of certain services in support of nongovernmental organizations' activities authorized.
 Sec. 305. Briefing on strategy to facilitate humanitarian assistance.

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 401. Suspension of sanctions.
 Sec. 402. Waivers and exemptions.
 Sec. 403. Implementation and regulatory authorities.
 Sec. 404. Cost limitation.
 Sec. 405. Authority to consolidate reports.
 Sec. 406. Rule of construction.
 Sec. 407. Sunset.

1 SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

2 It is the policy of the United States that diplomatic
3 and coercive economic means should be utilized to compel
4 the government of Bashar al-Assad to halt its murderous
5 attacks on the Syrian people and to support a transition
6 to a government in Syria that respects the rule of law,

1 human rights, and peaceful co-existence with its neigh-
2 bors.

3 **TITLE I—ADDITIONAL ACTIONS**
4 **IN CONNECTION WITH THE**
5 **NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH**
6 **RESPECT TO SYRIA**

7 **SEC. 101. MEASURES WITH RESPECT TO CENTRAL BANK OF**
8 **SYRIA.**

9 (a) DETERMINATION REGARDING CENTRAL BANK OF
10 SYRIA.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the en-
11 actment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall
12 determine, under section 5318A of title 31, United States
13 Code, whether reasonable grounds exist for concluding
14 that the Central Bank of Syria is a financial institution
15 of primary money laundering concern.

16 (b) ENHANCED DUE DILIGENCE AND REPORTING
17 REQUIREMENTS.—If the Secretary of the Treasury deter-
18 mines under subsection (a) that reasonable grounds exist
19 for concluding that the Central Bank of Syria is a finan-
20 cial institution of primary money laundering concern, the
21 Secretary, in consultation with the Federal functional reg-
22 ulators (as defined in section 509 of the Gramm-Leach-
23 Bliley Act (15 U.S.C. 6809)), shall impose one or more
24 of the special measures described in section 5318A(b) of

1 title 31, United States Code, with respect to the Central
2 Bank of Syria.

3 (c) REPORT REQUIRED.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
5 making a determination under subsection (a) with
6 respect to whether the Central Bank of Syria is a
7 financial institution of primary money laundering
8 concern, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit
9 to the appropriate congressional committees a report
10 that includes the reasons for the determination.

11 (2) FORM.—A report required by paragraph (1)
12 shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may in-
13 clude a classified annex.

14 (3) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
15 TEES DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “ap-
16 propriate congressional committees” means—

17 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and
18 the Committee on Financial Services of the
19 House of Representatives; and

20 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations
21 and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and
22 Urban Affairs of the Senate.

1 **SEC. 102. SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN PER-**
2 **SONS THAT ENGAGE IN CERTAIN TRANS-**
3 **ACTIONS.**

4 (a) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—On and after the date that
6 is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this
7 Act, the President shall impose the sanctions de-
8 scribed in subsection (b) with respect to a foreign
9 person if the President determines that the foreign
10 person, on or after such date of enactment, know-
11 ingly engages in an activity described in paragraph
12 (2).

13 (2) ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.—A foreign person
14 engages in an activity described in this paragraph if
15 the foreign person—

16 (A) knowingly provides significant finan-
17 cial, material, or technological support to, or
18 knowingly engages in a significant transaction
19 with—

20 (i) the Government of Syria (including
21 any entity owned or controlled by the Gov-
22 ernment of Syria) or a senior political fig-
23 ure of the Government of Syria;

24 (ii) a foreign person that is a military
25 contractor, mercenary, or a paramilitary
26 force knowingly operating in a military ca-

1 pacity inside Syria for or on behalf of the
2 Government of Syria, the Government of
3 the Russian Federation, or the Govern-
4 ment of Iran; or

5 (iii) a foreign person subject to sanc-
6 tions pursuant to the International Emer-
7 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C.
8 1701 et seq.) with respect to Syria or any
9 other provision of law that imposes sanc-
10 tions with respect to Syria;

11 (B) knowingly sells or provides significant
12 goods, services, technology, information, or
13 other support that significantly facilitates the
14 maintenance or expansion of the Government of
15 Syria's domestic production of natural gas, pe-
16 troleum, or petroleum products;

17 (C) knowingly sells or provides aircraft or
18 spare aircraft parts that are used for military
19 purposes in Syria for or on behalf of the Gov-
20 ernment of Syria to any foreign person oper-
21 ating in an area directly or indirectly controlled
22 by the Government of Syria or foreign forces
23 associated with the Government of Syria;

24 (D) knowingly provides significant goods
25 or services associated with the operation of air-

craft that are used for military purposes in Syria for or on behalf of the Government of Syria to any foreign person operating in an area described in subparagraph (C); or

(E) knowingly, directly or indirectly, provides significant construction or engineering services to the Government of Syria.

(3) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that, in implementing this section, the President should consider financial support under paragraph (2)(A) to include the provision of loans, credits, or export credits.

(b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The sanctions to be imposed with respect to a foreign person subject to subsection (a) are the following:

(A) BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—The President shall exercise all of the powers granted to the President under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in property and interests in property of the foreign person if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or

1 come within the possession or control of a
2 United States person.

3 (B) ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, AD-
4 MISSION, OR PAROLE.—

5 (i) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—

6 An alien who the Secretary of State or the
7 Secretary of Homeland Security (or a des-
8 ignee of one of such Secretaries) knows, or
9 has reason to believe, has knowingly en-
10 gaged in any activity described in sub-
11 section (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 (or a designee of one of such
 2 Secretaries) shall, in accordance with
 3 section 221(i) of the Immigration and
 4 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)),
 5 revoke any visa or other entry docu-
 6 mentation issued to an alien described
 7 in clause (i) regardless of when the
 8 visa or other entry documentation is
 9 issued.

10 (II) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—

11 A revocation under subclause (I)—

12 (aa) shall take effect imme-
 13 diately; and

14 (bb) shall automatically can-
 15 cel any other valid visa or entry
 16 documentation that is in the
 17 alien's possession.

18 (2) PENALTIES.—The penalties provided for in
 19 subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the Inter-
 20 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50
 21 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a person that violates,
 22 attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a
 23 violation of regulations promulgated under section
 24 403(b) to carry out paragraph (1)(A) to the same
 25 extent that such penalties apply to a person that

1 commits an unlawful act described in section 206(a)
 2 of that Act.

3 (3) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NA-
 4 TIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.—Sanctions
 5 under paragraph (1)(B) shall not apply with respect
 6 to an alien if admitting the alien into the United
 7 States is necessary to permit the United States to
 8 comply with the Agreement regarding the Head-
 9 quarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Suc-
 10 cess June 26, 1947, and entered into force Novem-
 11 ber 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the
 12 United States, or other applicable international obli-
 13 gations.

14 **SEC. 103. STRATEGY RELATING TO AREAS OF SYRIA IN**
 15 **WHICH CIVILIANS ARE SUBJECT TO FORCED**
 16 **DISPLACEMENT.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
 18 date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall—

19 (1) identify the areas described in subsection
 20 (b); and

21 (2) submit to the appropriate congressional
 22 committees the strategy described in subsection (c).

23 (b) AREAS DESCRIBED.—The areas described in this
 24 subsection are areas in Syria that the President deter-
 25 mines—

1 (1) are under the control of—

2 (A) the Government of Syria;

3 (B) the Government of the Russian Fed-
4 eration;

5 (C) the Government of Iran; or

6 (D) a foreign person described in section
7 102(a)(2)(A)(ii); and

8 (2) are areas in which civilians have been sub-
9 ject to forced displacement by—

10 (A) a government specified in subpara-
11 graph (A), (B), or (C) of paragraph (1); or

12 (B) a foreign person described in section
13 102(a)(2)(A)(ii).

14 (c) STRATEGY DESCRIBED.—The strategy described
15 in this subsection is a strategy to deter foreign persons
16 from entering into contracts related to reconstruction in
17 the areas described in subsection (b) for or on behalf of—

18 (1) a government specified in subparagraph
19 (A), (B), or (C) of subsection (b)(1); or

20 (2) a foreign person described in section
21 102(a)(2)(A)(ii).

22 (d) FORM.—The strategy required by subsection
23 (a)(2) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may in-
24 clude a classified annex.

1 (e) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
2 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
3 sional committees” means—

4 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
5 House of Representatives; and

6 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the
7 Senate.

8 **TITLE II—AMENDMENTS TO**
9 **SYRIA HUMAN RIGHTS AC-**
10 **COUNTABILITY ACT OF 2012**

11 **SEC. 201. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**
12 **CERTAIN PERSONS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE**
13 **FOR OR COMPLICIT IN HUMAN RIGHTS**
14 **ABUSES COMMITTED AGAINST CITIZENS OF**
15 **SYRIA OR THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 702 of the Syria Human
17 Rights Accountability Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8791) is
18 amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 702. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**
 2 **CERTAIN PERSONS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE**
 3 **FOR OR COMPLICIT IN HUMAN RIGHTS**
 4 **ABUSES COMMITTED AGAINST CITIZENS OF**
 5 **SYRIA OR THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose the
 7 sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to each
 8 person on the list required by subsection (b).

9 “(b) LIST OF PERSONS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR
 10 OR COMPLICIT IN SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
 12 after the date of the enactment of the Caesar Syria
 13 Civilian Protection Act of 2019, the President shall
 14 submit to the appropriate congressional committees
 15 a list of foreign persons that the President deter-
 16 mines are knowingly responsible for or complicit in
 17 serious human rights abuses committed against citi-
 18 zens of Syria or their family members, regardless of
 19 whether such abuses occurred in Syria.

20 “(2) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN PERSONS.—In de-
 21 veloping the list required by paragraph (1), the
 22 President shall consider for inclusion on the list,
 23 among others, the following:

24 “(A) the President of Syria.

25 “(B) The Prime Minister and Deputy
 26 Prime Minister of Syria.

1 “(C) The Council of Ministers of Syria.

2 “(D) The heads of the armed forces of
3 Syria, including the land forces, air forces, and
4 intelligence services.

5 “(E) The heads of the Ministry of Interior
6 of Syria, including the Political Security Direc-
7 torate, the General Intelligence Directorate, and
8 the National Police Force.

9 “(F) The commanders and deputy com-
10 manders of the Fourth Armored Division of the
11 armed forces of Syria.

12 “(G) The commander of the Republican
13 Guard of Syria.

14 “(H) The Advisor for Strategic Affairs to
15 the President of Syria.

16 “(I) The director and deputy director of
17 the Scientific Studies and Research Center of
18 Syria.

19 “(J) The heads of prisons under the con-
20 trol of the Government of Syria.

21 “(K) The governors and other heads of the
22 security branches of the 14 provinces of Syria
23 who are appointed by the President of Syria.

24 “(3) UPDATES OF LIST.—The President shall
25 submit to the appropriate congressional committees

1 an updated list under paragraph (1) not later than
 2 300 days after the date of the enactment of the Cae-
 3 sar Syria Civilian Protection Act of 2019 and annu-
 4 ally thereafter for a period of 5 years.

5 “(4) FORM.—The list required by paragraph
 6 (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may
 7 include a classified annex.

8 “(c) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The sanctions to be im-
 10 posed with respect to a foreign person under sub-
 11 section (a) are the following:

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The President shall
 13 exercise all powers granted by the International
 14 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C.
 15 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block
 16 and prohibit all transactions in all property and
 17 interests in property of a person on the list re-
 18 quired by subsection (b) if such property and
 19 interests in property are in the United States,
 20 come within the United States, or are or come
 21 within the possession or control of a United
 22 States person.

23 “(B) ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, AD-
 24 MISSION, OR PAROLE.—

1 “(i) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—
 2 An alien who the Secretary of State or the
 3 Secretary of Homeland Security (or a des-
 4 ignee of one of such Secretaries) identifies
 5 as on the list required by subsection (b)
 6 is—

7 “(I) inadmissible to the United
 8 States;

9 “(II) ineligible to receive a visa
 10 or other documentation to enter the
 11 United States; and

12 “(III) otherwise ineligible to be
 13 admitted or paroled into the United
 14 States or to receive any other benefit
 15 under the Immigration and Nation-
 16 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

17 “(ii) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

18 “(I) IN GENERAL.—The issuing
 19 consular officer, the Secretary of
 20 State, or the Secretary of Homeland
 21 Security (or a designee of one of such
 22 Secretaries) shall, in accordance with
 23 section 221(i) of the Immigration and
 24 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)),
 25 revoke any visa or other entry docu-

1 mentation issued to an alien who the
 2 Secretary of State or the Secretary of
 3 Homeland Security (or a designee of
 4 one of such Secretaries) identifies as
 5 on the list required by subsection (b),
 6 regardless of when the visa or other
 7 documentation is issued.

8 “(II) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—

9 A revocation under subclause (I)—

10 “(aa) shall take effect imme-

11 diately; and

12 “(bb) shall automatically

13 cancel any other valid visa or

14 entry documentation that is in

15 the alien’s possession.

16 “(2) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, at-

17 tempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a

18 violation of paragraph (1)(A) or any regulation, li-

19 cense, or order issued to carry out paragraph (1)(A)

20 shall be subject to the penalties set forth in sub-

21 sections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the Inter-

22 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50

23 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that

24 commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a)

25 of that section.

1 “(3) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NA-
 2 TIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.—Sanctions
 3 under paragraph (1)(B) shall not apply with respect
 4 to an alien if admitting the alien into the United
 5 States is necessary to permit the United States to
 6 comply with the Agreement regarding the Head-
 7 quarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Suc-
 8 cess June 26, 1947, and entered into force Novem-
 9 ber 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the
 10 United States, or other applicable international
 11 agreements.

12 “(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
 13 tion shall be construed to limit the authority of the Presi-
 14 dent pursuant to the International Emergency Economic
 15 Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), relevant Executive
 16 orders, regulations, or other provisions of law.”.

17 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
 18 gress that the President should impose sanctions under
 19 section 702 of the Syria Human Rights Accountability Act
 20 of 2012, as amended by subsection (a), for—

21 (1) the deliberate targeting of civilian schools,
 22 hospitals, or markets; and

23 (2) the deliberate diversion, hindering, or block-
 24 ing of access for humanitarian purposes, including

1 access across borders and conflict lines, with the in-
 2 tent to inflict suffering on civilians.

3 **SEC. 202. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**
 4 **THE TRANSFER OF GOODS OR TECH-**
 5 **NOLOGIES TO SYRIA THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE**
 6 **USED TO COMMIT HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.**

7 Section 703(b)(2)(C) of the Syria Human Rights Ac-
 8 countability Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8792(b)(2)(C)) is
 9 amended—

10 (1) in clause (i), by striking “or” at the end;

11 (2) in clause (ii), by striking the period at the
 12 end and inserting a semicolon; and

13 (3) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(iii) any article—

15 “(I) designated by the President
 16 for purposes of the United States Mu-
 17 nitions List under section 38(a)(1) of
 18 the Arms Export Control Act (22
 19 U.S.C. 2778(a)(1)); and

20 “(II) that the President deter-
 21 mines is significant for purposes of
 22 the imposition of sanctions under sub-
 23 section (a); or

24 “(iv) other goods or technologies that
 25 the President determines are used by the

1 Government of Syria to commit human
2 rights abuses against the people of Syria.”.

3 **TITLE III—ASSISTANCE FOR THE**
4 **PEOPLE OF SYRIA**

5 **SEC. 301. BRIEFING ON MONITORING AND EVALUATING OF**
6 **ONGOING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN SYRIA**
7 **AND TO THE SYRIAN PEOPLE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
9 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State
10 and the Administrator of the United States Agency for
11 International Development shall brief the Committee on
12 Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the
13 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate on the
14 monitoring and evaluation of ongoing assistance programs
15 in Syria and for the Syrian people, including assistance
16 provided through multilateral organizations.

17 (b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The briefing re-
18 quired by subsection (a) shall include a description of—

19 (1) the specific project monitoring and evalua-
20 tion efforts, including measurable goals and per-
21 formance metrics for assistance in Syria;

22 (2) the memoranda of understanding entered
23 into by the Department of State, the United States
24 Agency for International Development, and their re-
25 spective Inspectors General, and the multilateral or-

1 ganizations through which United States assistance
2 will be delivered that formalize requirements for the
3 sharing of information between such entities for the
4 conduct of audits, investigations, and evaluations;
5 and

6 (3) the major challenges to monitoring and
7 evaluating such programs.

8 **SEC. 302. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL METHODS TO EN-**
9 **HANCE THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
11 date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall brief
12 the appropriate congressional committees on the potential
13 effectiveness, risks, and operational requirements of mili-
14 tary and non-military means to enhance the protection of
15 civilians inside Syria, especially civilians who are in be-
16 sieged areas, trapped at borders, or internally displaced.

17 (b) CONSULTATION.—The briefing required by sub-
18 section (a) shall be informed by consultations with the De-
19 partment of State, the United States Agency for Inter-
20 national Development, the Department of Defense, and
21 international and local humanitarian aid organizations op-
22 erating in Syria.

23 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
24 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
25 sional committees” means—

1 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
2 Committee on Armed Services of the House of Rep-
3 resentatives; and

4 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
5 the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.

6 **SEC. 303. ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT ENTITIES TAKING AC-**
7 **TIONS RELATING TO GATHERING EVIDENCE**
8 **FOR INVESTIGATIONS INTO WAR CRIMES OR**
9 **CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY IN SYRIA SINCE**
10 **MARCH 2011.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
12 (b), the Secretary of State, after consultation with the At-
13 torney General and the heads of other appropriate Federal
14 agencies, is authorized, consistent with the national inter-
15 est, to provide assistance to support entities that are con-
16 ducting criminal investigations, supporting prosecutions,
17 or collecting evidence and preserving the chain of custody
18 for such evidence for eventual prosecution, against those
19 who have committed war crimes or crimes against human-
20 ity in Syria, including the aiding and abetting of such
21 crimes by foreign governments and organizations sup-
22 porting the Government of Syria, since March 2011.

23 (b) LIMITATION.—No assistance may be provided
24 under subsection (a) while President Bashar al-Assad re-
25 mains in power—

1 (1) to build the investigative or judicial capac-
2 ities of the Government of Syria; or

3 (2) to support prosecutions in the domestic
4 courts in Syria.

5 (c) BRIEFING.—Not later than one year after the
6 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State
7 shall brief the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House
8 of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Rela-
9 tions of the Senate on assistance provided under sub-
10 section (a).

11 **SEC. 304. CODIFICATION OF CERTAIN SERVICES IN SUP-**
12 **PORT OF NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZA-**
13 **TIONS' ACTIVITIES AUTHORIZED.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
15 (b), section 542.516 of title 31, Code of Federal Regula-
16 tions (relating to certain services in support of nongovern-
17 mental organizations' activities authorized), as in effect on
18 the day before the date of the enactment of this Act,
19 shall—

20 (1) remain in effect on and after such date of
21 enactment; and

22 (2) in the case of a nongovernmental organiza-
23 tion that is authorized to export or reexport services
24 to Syria under such section on the day before such
25 date of enactment, apply to such organization on

1 and after such date of enactment to the same extent
2 and in the same manner as such section applied to
3 such organization on the day before such date of en-
4 actment.

5 (b) EXCEPTION.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 542.516 of title 31,
7 Code of Federal Regulations, as codified under sub-
8 section (a), shall not apply with respect to a foreign
9 person that has been designated as a foreign ter-
10 rorist organization under section 219 of the Immi-
11 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189), or oth-
12 erwise designated as a terrorist organization, by the
13 Secretary of State, in consultation with or upon the
14 request of the Attorney General or the Secretary of
15 Homeland Security.

16 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Paragraph (1) shall
17 apply with respect to a foreign person on and after
18 the date on which the designation of that person as
19 a terrorist organization is published in the Federal
20 Register.

21 **SEC. 305. BRIEFING ON STRATEGY TO FACILITATE HUMANI-**
22 **TARIAN ASSISTANCE.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
24 date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall brief
25 the appropriate congressional committees on the strategy

1 of the President to help facilitate the ability of humani-
 2 tarian organizations to access financial services to help fa-
 3 cilitate the safe and timely delivery of assistance to com-
 4 munities in need in Syria.

5 (b) CONSIDERATION OF DATA FROM OTHER COUN-
 6 TRIES AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.—In
 7 preparing the strategy required by subsection (a), the
 8 President shall consider credible data already obtained by
 9 other countries and nongovernmental organizations, in-
 10 cluding organizations operating in Syria.

11 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
 12 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
 13 sional committees” means—

14 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
 15 Committee on Financial Services of the House of
 16 Representatives; and

17 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
 18 the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-
 19 fairs of the Senate.

20 **TITLE IV—GENERAL** 21 **PROVISIONS**

22 **SEC. 401. SUSPENSION OF SANCTIONS.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President may suspend in
 24 whole or in part the imposition of sanctions otherwise re-
 25 quired under this Act or any amendment made by this

1 Act for periods not to exceed 180 days if the President
2 determines that the following criteria have been met in
3 Syria:

4 (1) The air space over Syria is no longer being
5 utilized by the Government of Syria or the Govern-
6 ment of the Russian Federation to target civilian
7 populations through the use of incendiary devices,
8 including barrel bombs, chemical weapons, and con-
9 ventional arms, including air-delivered missiles and
10 explosives.

11 (2) Areas besieged by the Government of Syria,
12 the Government of the Russian Federation, the Gov-
13 ernment of Iran, or a foreign person described in
14 section 102(a)(2)(A)(ii) are no longer cut off from
15 international aid and have regular access to humani-
16 tarian assistance, freedom of travel, and medical
17 care.

18 (3) The Government of Syria is releasing all po-
19 litical prisoners forcibly held within the prison sys-
20 tem of the regime of Bashar al-Assad and the Gov-
21 ernment of Syria is allowing full access to the same
22 facilities for investigations by appropriate inter-
23 national human rights organizations.

24 (4) The forces of the Government of Syria, the
25 Government of the Russian Federation, the Govern-

1 ment of Iran, and any foreign person described in
2 section 102(a)(2)(A)(ii) are no longer engaged in de-
3 liberate targeting of medical facilities, schools, resi-
4 dential areas, and community gathering places, in-
5 cluding markets, in violation of international norms.

6 (5) The Government of Syria is—

7 (A) taking steps to verifiably fulfill its
8 commitments under the Convention on the Pro-
9 hibition of the Development, Production, Stock-
10 piling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on
11 their Destruction, done at Geneva September 3,
12 1992, and entered into force April 29, 1997
13 (commonly known as the “Chemical Weapons
14 Convention”), and the Treaty on the Non-Pro-
15 liferation of Nuclear Weapons, done at Wash-
16 ington, London, and Moscow July 1, 1968, and
17 entered into force March 5, 1970 (21 UST
18 483); and

19 (B) making tangible progress toward be-
20 coming a signatory to the Convention on the
21 Prohibition of the Development, Production and
22 Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and
23 Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction, done
24 at Washington, London, and Moscow April 10,

1 1972, and entered into force March 26, 1975
2 (26 UST 583).

3 (6) The Government of Syria is permitting the
4 safe, voluntary, and dignified return of Syrians dis-
5 placed by the conflict.

6 (7) The Government of Syria is taking
7 verifiable steps to establish meaningful account-
8 ability for perpetrators of war crimes in Syria and
9 justice for victims of war crimes committed by the
10 Assad regime, including by participation in a cred-
11 ible and independent truth and reconciliation proc-
12 ess.

13 (b) BRIEFING REQUIRED.—Not later than 30 days
14 after the President makes a determination described in
15 subsection (a), the President shall provide a briefing to
16 the appropriate congressional committees on the deter-
17 mination and the suspension of sanctions pursuant to the
18 determination.

19 (c) REIMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—Any sanctions
20 suspended under subsection (a) shall be reimposed if the
21 President determines that the criteria described in that
22 subsection are no longer being met.

23 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
24 tion shall be construed to limit the authority of the Presi-
25 dent to terminate the application of sanctions under sec-

tion 102 with respect to a person that no longer engages in activities described in subsection (a)(2) of that section.

(e) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on Ways and Means, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate.

SEC. 402. WAIVERS AND EXEMPTIONS.

(a) EXEMPTIONS.—The following activities and transactions shall be exempt from sanctions authorized under this Act or any amendment made by this Act:

(1) Any activity subject to the reporting requirements under title V of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.), or to any authorized intelligence activities of the United States.

(2) Any transaction necessary to comply with United States obligations under—

(A) the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake

1 Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force
2 November 21, 1947, between the United Na-
3 tions and the United States;

4 (B) the Convention on Consular Relations,
5 done at Vienna April 24, 1963, and entered
6 into force March 19, 1967; or

7 (C) any other international agreement to
8 which the United States is a party.

9 (b) WAIVER.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President may, for peri-
11 ods not to exceed 180 days, waive the application of
12 any provision of this Act with respect to a foreign
13 person if the President certifies to the appropriate
14 congressional committees that such a waiver is in
15 the national security interests of the United States.

16 (2) BRIEFING.—Not later than 90 days after
17 the issuance of a waiver under paragraph (1), and
18 every 180 days thereafter while the waiver remains
19 in effect, the President shall brief the appropriate
20 congressional committees on the reasons for the
21 waiver.

22 (c) HUMANITARIAN WAIVER.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President may waive,
24 for renewable periods not to exceed 2 years, the ap-
25 plication of any provision of this Act with respect to

1 a nongovernmental organization providing humani-
2 tarian assistance not covered by the authorization
3 described in section 304 if the President certifies to
4 the appropriate congressional committees that such
5 a waiver is important to address a humanitarian
6 need and is consistent with the national security in-
7 terests of the United States.

8 (2) BRIEFING.—Not later than 90 days after
9 the issuance of a waiver under paragraph (1), and
10 every 180 days thereafter while the waiver remains
11 in effect, the President shall brief the appropriate
12 congressional committees on the reasons for the
13 waiver.

14 (d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES
15 DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate con-
16 gressional committees” means—

17 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the
18 Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on
19 Ways and Means, and the Committee on the Judici-
20 ary of the House of Representatives; and

21 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the
22 Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-
23 fairs, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the
24 Senate.

1 **SEC. 403. IMPLEMENTATION AND REGULATORY AUTHORI-**
2 **TIES.**

3 (a) IMPLEMENTATION AUTHORITY.—The President
4 may exercise all authorities provided to the President
5 under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emer-
6 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704)
7 for purposes of carrying out this Act and the amendments
8 made by this Act.

9 (b) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The President shall,
10 not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment
11 of this Act, promulgate regulations as necessary for the
12 implementation of this Act and the amendments made by
13 this Act.

14 **SEC. 404. COST LIMITATION.**

15 No additional funds are authorized to carry out the
16 requirements of this Act and the amendments made by
17 this Act. Such requirements shall be carried out using
18 amounts otherwise authorized.

19 **SEC. 405. AUTHORITY TO CONSOLIDATE REPORTS.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Any reports required to be sub-
21 mitted to the appropriate congressional committees under
22 this Act or any amendment made by this Act that are sub-
23 ject to a deadline for submission consisting of the same
24 unit of time may be consolidated into a single report that
25 is submitted to the appropriate congressional committees
26 pursuant to such deadline. The consolidated reports shall

1 contain all information required under this Act or any
 2 amendment made by this Act, in addition to all other ele-
 3 ments mandated by previous law.

4 (b) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES
 5 DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate con-
 6 gressional committees” means—

7 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
 8 Committee on Financial Services of the House of
 9 Representatives; and

10 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
 11 the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-
 12 fairs of the Senate.

13 **SEC. 406. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

14 Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the
 15 authority of the President pursuant to the International
 16 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et
 17 seq.) or any other provision of law.

18 **SEC. 407. SUNSET.**

19 This Act shall cease to be effective on the date that
 20 is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

