

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1677

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

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 22, 2017

Mr. ENGEL (for himself, Mr. ROYCE of California, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MESSER, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, and Mr. BEYER) 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

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## 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 AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act of 2017”.

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

- Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Sense of Congress.
- Sec. 3. Statement of policy.

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

- Sec. 101. Sanctions with respect to Central Bank of Syria and foreign persons that engage in certain transactions.
- Sec. 102. Prohibitions with respect to the transfer of arms and related materials to Syria.
- Sec. 103. Rule of construction.
- Sec. 104. Definitions.

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.
- Sec. 203. Imposition of sanctions with respect to persons who hinder humanitarian access.
- Sec. 204. Report on certain persons who are responsible for or complicit in certain human rights violations in Syria.

TITLE III—REPORTS AND WAIVER FOR HUMANITARIAN-RELATED  
 ACTIVITIES WITH RESPECT TO SYRIA

- Sec. 301. Report 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 advance a comprehensive relief and recovery strategy in Syria.
- Sec. 304. Assistance to support entities taking actions relating to gathering evidence for investigations into war crimes or crimes against humanity in Syria since March 2011.

TITLE IV—SUSPENSION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO SYRIA

- Sec. 401. Suspension of sanctions with respect to Syria.
- Sec. 402. Waivers and exemptions.

TITLE V—REGULATORY AUTHORITY, COST LIMITATION, AND  
 SUNSET

- Sec. 501. Regulatory authority.
- Sec. 502. Cost limitation.
- Sec. 503. Authority to consolidate reports.
- Sec. 504. Sunset.

1 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

2 It is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) Bashar al-Assad’s murderous actions  
4 against the people of Syria have directly contributed  
5 to the deaths of more than 480,000 civilians, led to  
6 the destruction of more than 50 percent of Syria’s  
7 critical infrastructure, and forced the displacement  
8 of more than 14,000,000 people, precipitating one of  
9 the worst humanitarian crises in more than 60  
10 years;

11 (2) international actions to protect vulnerable  
12 populations from attack by uniformed and irregular  
13 forces associated with the Assad regime, including  
14 Hezbollah, on land and by air, including through the  
15 use of barrel bombs, chemical weapons, mass starva-  
16 tion, industrial-scale torture and execution of polit-  
17 ical dissidents, sniper attacks against pregnant  
18 women, and the deliberate targeting of medical fa-  
19 cilities, schools, residential areas, and community  
20 gathering places, including markets, have been insuf-  
21 ficient to date;

22 (3) Assad’s use of chemical weapons, including  
23 chlorine, against the Syrian people violates the  
24 Chemical Weapons Convention;

25 (4) violent attacks resulting in death, injury,  
26 imprisonment or threat of prosecution against hu-

1 humanitarian aid workers and diplomatic personnel, as  
2 well as attacks on humanitarian supplies, facilities,  
3 transports, and assets, and acts to impede the access  
4 and secure movement of all humanitarian personnel  
5 are in violation of international humanitarian law  
6 and impede the lifesaving work of humanitarian or-  
7 ganizations and diplomatic institutions; and

8 (5) Assad's continued claim of leadership and  
9 war crimes in Syria have served as a rallying point  
10 for the extremist ideology of the Islamic State,  
11 Jabhat al-Nusra, and other terrorist organizations.

12 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

13 It is the policy of the United States that all diplo-  
14 matic and coercive economic means should be utilized to  
15 compel the government of Bashar al-Assad to immediately  
16 halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people and to  
17 support an immediate transition to a democratic govern-  
18 ment in Syria that respects the rule of law, human rights,  
19 and peaceful co-existence with its neighbors.

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

5 **SEC. 101. SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO CENTRAL BANK**  
6 **OF SYRIA AND FOREIGN PERSONS THAT EN-**  
7 **GAGE IN CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS.**

8 (a) APPLICATION OF CERTAIN MEASURES TO CEN-  
9 TRAL BANK OF SYRIA.—Except as provided in subsections  
10 (a) and (b) of section 402, the President shall apply the  
11 measures described in section 5318A(b)(5) of title 31,  
12 United States Code, to the Central Bank of Syria.

13 (b) BLOCKING PROPERTY OF FOREIGN PERSONS  
14 THAT ENGAGE IN CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on and after the  
16 date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment  
17 of this Act, the President shall impose on a foreign  
18 person the sanctions described in subsection (c) if  
19 the President determines that such foreign person  
20 has, on or after such date of enactment, knowingly  
21 engaged in an activity described in paragraph (2).

22 (2) ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.—A foreign person  
23 engages in an activity described in this paragraph if  
24 the foreign person—

1 (A) knowingly provided significant finan-  
2 cial, material or technological support to (in-  
3 cluding engaging in or facilitating a significant  
4 transaction or transactions with) or provided  
5 significant financial services for—

6 (i) the Government of Syria (including  
7 Syria’s intelligence and security services or  
8 its armed forces or government entities op-  
9 erating as a business enterprise) and the  
10 Central Bank of Syria, or any of its agents  
11 or affiliates; or

12 (ii) a foreign person subject to sanc-  
13 tions pursuant to—

14 (I) the International Emergency  
15 Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C.  
16 1701 et seq.) with respect to Syria or  
17 any other provision of law that im-  
18 poses sanctions with respect to Syria;  
19 or

20 (II) a resolution that is agreed to  
21 by the United Nations Security Coun-  
22 cil that imposes sanctions with respect  
23 to Syria;

24 (B) knowingly—

1 (i) sold or provided significant goods,  
2 services, technology, information, or other  
3 support that could directly and signifi-  
4 cantly facilitate the maintenance or expan-  
5 sion of Syria's domestic production of nat-  
6 ural gas or petroleum or petroleum prod-  
7 ucts of Syrian origin in areas controlled by  
8 the Government of Syria;

9 (ii) sold or provided to Syria crude oil  
10 or condensate, refined petroleum products,  
11 liquefied natural gas, or petrochemical  
12 products that have a fair market value of  
13 \$500,000 or more or that during a 12-  
14 month period have an aggregate fair mar-  
15 ket value of \$2,000,000 or more in areas  
16 controlled by the Government of Syria;

17 (iii) sold or provided civilian aircraft  
18 or spare parts, or provides significant  
19 goods, services, or technologies associated  
20 with the operation of aircraft or airlines to  
21 any foreign person operating in areas con-  
22 trolled by the Government of Syria; or

23 (iv) sold or provided significant goods,  
24 services, or technology to a foreign person  
25 operating in the shipping (including ports

1           and free trade zones), transportation, or  
2           telecommunications sectors in areas con-  
3           trolled by the Government of Syria;

4           (C) knowingly facilitated efforts by a for-  
5           eign person to carry out an activity described in  
6           subparagraph (A) or (B);

7           (D) knowingly provided loans, credits, in-  
8           cluding export credits, or financing to carry out  
9           an activity described in subparagraph (A) or  
10          (B); and

11          (E) is owned or controlled by a foreign  
12          person that engaged in the activities described  
13          in subparagraphs (A) through (C).

14          (c) SANCTIONS AGAINST A FOREIGN PERSON.—The  
15          sanctions to be imposed on a foreign person described in  
16          subsection (b) are the following:

17               (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall exercise  
18               all powers granted by the International Emergency  
19               Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) (ex-  
20               cept that the requirements of section 202 of such  
21               Act (50 U.S.C. 1701) shall not apply) to the extent  
22               necessary to freeze and prohibit all transactions in  
23               all property and interests in property of the foreign  
24               person if such property and interests in property are  
25               in the United States, come within the United States,



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

3 (2) ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMISSION,  
4 OR PAROLE.—

5 (A) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—An  
6 alien who the Secretary of State or the Sec-  
7 retary of Homeland Security (or a designee of  
8 one of such Secretaries) knows, or has reason  
9 to believe, meets any of the criteria described in  
10 subsection (a) is—

11 (i) inadmissible to the United States;

12 (ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other  
13 documentation to enter the United States;  
14 and

15 (iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted  
16 or paroled into the United States or to re-  
17 ceive any other benefit under the Immigra-  
18 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et  
19 seq.).

20 (B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

21 (i) IN GENERAL.—The issuing con-  
22 sular officer, the Secretary of State, or the  
23 Secretary of Homeland Security (or a des-  
24 ignee of one of such Secretaries) shall re-  
25 voke any visa or other entry documentation

1 issued to an alien who meets any of the  
2 criteria described in subsection (a) regard-  
3 less of when issued.

4 (ii) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—A rev-  
5 ocation under clause (i)—

6 (I) shall take effect immediately;

7 and

8 (II) shall automatically cancel  
9 any other valid visa or entry docu-  
10 mentation that is in the alien's pos-  
11 session.

12 (3) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NA-  
13 TIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.—Sanctions  
14 under paragraph (2) shall not apply to an alien if  
15 admitting the alien into the United States is nec-  
16 essary to permit the United States to comply with  
17 the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the  
18 United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26,  
19 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947,  
20 between the United Nations and the United States,  
21 or other applicable international obligations.

22 (4) PENALTIES.—The penalties provided for in  
23 subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the Inter-  
24 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50  
25 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a person that knowingly

1 violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or  
2 causes a violation of regulations promulgated under  
3 section 501(a) to carry out paragraph (1) of this  
4 subsection to the same extent that such penalties  
5 apply to a person that knowingly commits an unlaw-  
6 ful act described in section 206(a) of that Act.

7 **SEC. 102. PROHIBITIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE TRANSFER**  
8 **OF ARMS AND RELATED MATERIALS TO**  
9 **SYRIA.**

10 (a) SANCTIONS.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on and after the  
12 date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment  
13 of this Act, the President shall impose on a foreign  
14 person the sanctions described in subsection (b) if  
15 the President determines that such foreign person  
16 has, on or after such date of enactment, knowingly  
17 exported, transferred, or provided significant finan-  
18 cial, material, or technological support to the Gov-  
19 ernment of Syria to—

20 (A) acquire or develop chemical, biological,  
21 or nuclear weapons or related technologies;

22 (B) acquire or develop ballistic or cruise  
23 missile capabilities;

1 (C) acquire or develop destabilizing num-  
2 bers and types of advanced conventional weap-  
3 ons;

4 (D) acquire defense articles, defense serv-  
5 ices, or defense information (as such terms are  
6 defined under the Arms Export Control Act (22  
7 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.)); or

8 (E) acquire items designated by the Presi-  
9 dent for purposes of the United States Muni-  
10 tions List under section 38(a)(1) of the Arms  
11 Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778(a)(1)).

12 (2) APPLICABILITY TO OTHER FOREIGN PER-  
13 SONS.—The sanctions described in subsection (b)  
14 shall also be imposed on any foreign person that—

15 (A) is a successor entity to a foreign per-  
16 son described in paragraph (1); or

17 (B) is owned or controlled by a foreign  
18 person described in paragraph (1).

19 (b) SANCTIONS AGAINST A FOREIGN PERSON.—The  
20 sanctions to be imposed on a foreign person described in  
21 subsection (a) are the following:

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall exercise  
23 all powers granted by the International Emergency  
24 Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) (ex-  
25 cept that the requirements of section 202 of such

1 Act (50 U.S.C. 1701) shall not apply) to the extent  
2 necessary to freeze and prohibit all transactions in  
3 all property and interests in property of the foreign  
4 person if such property and interests in property are  
5 in the United States, come within the United States,  
6 or are or come within the possession or control of a  
7 United States person.

8 (2) ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMISSION,  
9 OR PAROLE.—

10 (A) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—An  
11 alien who the Secretary of State or the Sec-  
12 retary of Homeland Security (or a designee of  
13 one of such Secretaries) knows, or has reason  
14 to believe, meets any of the criteria described in  
15 subsection (a) is—

16 (i) inadmissible to the United States;

17 (ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other  
18 documentation to enter the United States;

19 and

20 (iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted  
21 or paroled into the United States or to re-  
22 ceive any other benefit under the Immigra-  
23 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et  
24 seq.).

25 (B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

1 (i) IN GENERAL.—The issuing con-  
2 sular officer, the Secretary of State, or the  
3 Secretary of Homeland Security (or a des-  
4 ignee of one of such Secretaries) shall re-  
5 voke any visa or other entry documentation  
6 issued to an alien who meets any of the  
7 criteria described in subsection (a) regard-  
8 less of when issued.

9 (ii) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—A rev-  
10 ocation under clause (i)—

11 (I) shall take effect immediately;

12 and

13 (II) shall automatically cancel  
14 any other valid visa or entry docu-  
15 mentation that is in the alien's pos-  
16 session.

17 (3) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NA-  
18 TIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.—Sanctions  
19 under paragraph (2) shall not apply to an alien if  
20 admitting the alien into the United States is nec-  
21 essary to permit the United States to comply with  
22 the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the  
23 United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26,  
24 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947,

1 between the United Nations and the United States,  
2 or other applicable international obligations.

3 (4) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, at-  
4 tempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a  
5 violation of any regulation, license, or order issued  
6 to carry out this section shall be subject to the pen-  
7 alties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section  
8 206 of the International Emergency Economic Pow-  
9 ers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a  
10 person that commits an unlawful act described in  
11 subsection (a) of that section.

12 **SEC. 103. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

13 The sanctions that are required to be imposed under  
14 this title are in addition to other similar or related sanc-  
15 tions that are required to be imposed under any other pro-  
16 vision of law.

17 **SEC. 104. DEFINITIONS.**

18 In this title:

19 (1) ADMITTED; ALIEN.—The terms “admitted”  
20 and “alien” have the meanings given such terms in  
21 section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act  
22 (8 U.S.C. 1101).

23 (2) FINANCIAL, MATERIAL, OR TECHNOLOGICAL  
24 SUPPORT.—The term “financial, material, or techno-  
25 logical support” has the meaning given such term in

1 section 542.304 of title 31, Code of Federal Regula-  
2 tions, as such section was in effect on the date of  
3 the enactment of this Act.

4 (3) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign per-  
5 son” means any citizen or national of a foreign  
6 country, or any entity not organized solely under the  
7 laws of the United States or existing solely in the  
8 United States.

9 (4) GOVERNMENT OF SYRIA.—The term “Gov-  
10 ernment of Syria” has the meaning given such term  
11 in section 542.305 of title 31, Code of Federal Reg-  
12 ulations, as such section was in effect on the date  
13 of the enactment of this Act.

14 (5) KNOWINGLY.—The term “knowingly” has  
15 the meaning given such term in section 566.312 of  
16 title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, as such sec-  
17 tion was in effect on the date of the enactment of  
18 this Act.

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

21 (7) PETROLEUM OR PETROLEUM PRODUCTS OF  
22 SYRIAN ORIGIN.—The term “petroleum or petroleum  
23 products of Syrian origin” has the meaning given  
24 such term in section 542.314 of title 31, Code of



1 Federal Regulations, as such section was in effect on  
2 the date of the enactment of this Act.

3 (8) SIGNIFICANT TRANSACTION OR TRANS-  
4 ACTIONS; SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL SERVICES.—A  
5 transaction or transactions or financial services shall  
6 be determined to be a significant for purposes of this  
7 section in accordance with section 566.404 of title  
8 31, Code of Federal Regulations, as such section  
9 was in effect on the date of the enactment of this  
10 Act.

11 (9) SYRIA.—The term “Syria” has the meaning  
12 given such term in section 542.316 of title 31, Code  
13 of Federal Regulations, as such section was in effect  
14 on the date of the enactment of this Act.

15 (10) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term  
16 “United States person” means any United States  
17 citizen, permanent resident alien, entity organized  
18 under the laws of the United States (including for-  
19 eign branches), or any person in the United States.

1 **TITLE II—AMENDMENTS TO**  
2 **SYRIA HUMAN RIGHTS AC-**  
3 **COUNTABILITY ACT OF 2012**

4 **SEC. 201. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**  
5 **CERTAIN PERSONS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE**  
6 **FOR OR COMPLICIT IN HUMAN RIGHTS**  
7 **ABUSES COMMITTED AGAINST CITIZENS OF**  
8 **SYRIA OR THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 702(c) of the Syria  
10 Human Rights Accountability Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C.  
11 8791(c)) is amended to read as follows:

12 “(c) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall exer-  
14 cise all powers granted by the International Emer-  
15 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et  
16 seq.) (except that the requirements of section 202 of  
17 such Act (50 U.S.C. 1701) shall not apply) to the  
18 extent necessary to freeze and prohibit all trans-  
19 actions in all property and interests in property of  
20 a person on the list required by subsection (b) if  
21 such property and interests in property are in the  
22 United States, come within the United States, or are  
23 or come within the possession or control of a United  
24 States person.

1           “(2) ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMIS-  
2           SION, OR PAROLE.—

3           “(A) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—An  
4           alien who the Secretary of State or the Sec-  
5           retary of Homeland Security (or a designee of  
6           one of such Secretaries) knows, or has reason  
7           to believe, meets any of the criteria described in  
8           subsection (b) is—

9                   “(i) inadmissible to the United States;

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

13                   “(iii) otherwise ineligible to be admit-  
14                   ted or paroled into the United States or to  
15                   receive any other benefit under the Immi-  
16                   gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
17                   1101 et seq.).

18           “(B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

19                   “(i) IN GENERAL.—The issuing con-  
20                   sular officer, the Secretary of State, or the  
21                   Secretary of Homeland Security (or a des-  
22                   ignee of one of such Secretaries) shall re-  
23                   voke any visa or other entry documentation  
24                   issued to an alien who meets any of the

1 criteria described in subsection (b) regard-  
2 less of when issued.

3 “(ii) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—A  
4 revocation under clause (i)—

5 “(I) shall take effect imme-  
6 diately; and

7 “(II) shall automatically cancel  
8 any other valid visa or entry docu-  
9 mentation that is in the alien’s pos-  
10 session.

11 “(3) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, at-  
12 tempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a  
13 violation of this section or any regulation, license, or  
14 order issued to carry out this section shall be subject  
15 to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c)  
16 of section 206 of the International Emergency Eco-  
17 nomic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same ex-  
18 tent as a person that commits an unlawful act de-  
19 scribed in subsection (a) of that section.

20 “(4) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The President  
21 shall, not later than 90 days after the date of the  
22 enactment of this section, promulgate regulations as  
23 necessary for the implementation of this section.

24 “(5) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NA-  
25 TIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.—Sanctions

1 under paragraph (2) shall not apply to an alien if  
2 admitting the alien into the United States is nec-  
3 essary to permit the United States to comply with  
4 the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the  
5 United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26,  
6 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947,  
7 between the United Nations and the United States,  
8 or other applicable international obligations.

9 “(6) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in  
10 this section shall be construed to limit the authority  
11 of the President to impose additional sanctions pur-  
12 suant to the International Emergency Economic  
13 Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), relevant Exec-  
14 utive orders, regulations, or other provisions of  
15 law.”.

16 (b) SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES DESCRIBED.—  
17 Section 702 of the Syria Human Rights Accountability  
18 Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8791) is amended by adding at  
19 the end the following:

20 “(d) SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES DE-  
21 SCRIBED.—In subsection (b), the term ‘serious human  
22 rights abuses’ includes—

23 “(1) the deliberate targeting of civilian infra-  
24 structure to include schools, hospitals, markets, and

1 other infrastructure that is essential to human life,  
2 such as power and water systems; and

3 “(2) the deliberate diversion, hindering, or  
4 blocking of access for humanitarian purposes, in-  
5 cluding access across conflict lines and borders.”.

6 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
7 subsections (a) and (b) shall take effect on the date of  
8 the enactment of this Act and shall apply with respect to  
9 the imposition of sanctions under section 702(a) of the  
10 Syria Human Rights Accountability Act of 2012 on after  
11 such date of enactment.

12 **SEC. 202. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**  
13 **THE TRANSFER OF GOODS OR TECH-**  
14 **NOLOGIES TO SYRIA THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE**  
15 **USED TO COMMIT HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.**

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

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

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

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

23 “(iii) any article designated by the  
24 President for purposes of the United  
25 States Munitions List under section

1                   38(a)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act  
2                   (22 U.S.C. 2778(a)(1)); or

3                   “(iv) other goods or technologies that  
4                   the President determines may be used by  
5                   the Government of Syria to commit human  
6                   rights abuses against the people of Syria.”.

7 **SEC. 203. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**  
8                   **PERSONS WHO HINDER HUMANITARIAN AC-**  
9                   **CESS.**

10           The Syria Human Rights Accountability Act of 2012  
11 (22 U.S.C. 8791 et seq.) is amended—

12                   (1) by redesignating sections 705 and 706 as  
13                   sections 706 and 707, respectively;

14                   (2) by inserting after section 704 the following:

15 **“SEC. 705. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**  
16                   **PERSONS WHO HINDER HUMANITARIAN AC-**  
17                   **CESS.**

18                   “(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose sanc-  
19 tions described in section 702(c) with respect to each per-  
20 son on the list required by subsection (b).

21                   “(b) LIST OF PERSONS WHO HINDER HUMANI-  
22 TARIAN ACCESS.—

23                   “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days  
24                   after the date of the enactment of the Caesar Syria  
25                   Civilian Protection Act of 2017, the President shall

1 submit to the appropriate congressional committees  
2 a list of persons that the President determines have  
3 engaged in deliberate diversion, hindering, or block-  
4 ing of access for humanitarian purposes for the  
5 United Nations, its specialized agencies and imple-  
6 menting partners, national and international non-  
7 governmental organizations, and all other actors en-  
8 gaged in humanitarian relief activities in Syria, in-  
9 cluding through the deliberate targeting of such hu-  
10 manitarian actors and activities in Syria and across  
11 conflict lines and borders.

12 “(2) UPDATES OF LIST.—The President shall  
13 submit to the appropriate congressional committees  
14 an updated list under paragraph (1)—

15 “(A) not later than 300 days after the date  
16 of the enactment of the Caesar Syria Civilian  
17 Protection Act of 2017 and every 180 days  
18 thereafter; and

19 “(B) as new information becomes avail-  
20 able.

21 “(3) FORM OF REPORT; PUBLIC AVAIL-  
22 ABILITY.—

23 “(A) FORM.—The list required by para-  
24 graph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified  
25 form but may contain a classified annex.



1           “(B) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The unclas-  
2           sified portion of the list required by paragraph  
3           (1) shall be made available to the public and  
4           posted on the Web sites of the Department of  
5           the Treasury and the Department of State.”;  
6           and

7           (3) in section 706 (as so redesignated), by  
8           striking “or 704” and inserting “704, or 705”.

9   **SEC. 204. REPORT ON CERTAIN PERSONS WHO ARE RE-**  
10                   **SPONSIBLE FOR OR COMPLICIT IN CERTAIN**  
11                   **HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN SYRIA.**

12           (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the  
13           date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall sub-  
14           mit to the appropriate congressional committees a detailed  
15           report with respect to whether each person described in  
16           subsection (c) is a person that meets the requirements de-  
17           scribed in section 702(b) of the Syria Human Rights Ac-  
18           countability Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8791(b)) for purposes  
19           of inclusion on the list of persons who are responsible for  
20           or complicit in certain human rights abuses under such  
21           section.

22           (b) JUSTIFICATION.—The President shall include in  
23           the report required by subsection (a) a description of the  
24           reasons why any of the individuals described in subsection  
25           (c) do not meet the requirements described in section

1 702(b) of the Syria Human Rights Accountability Act of  
2 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8791(b)), including information on  
3 whether sufficient credible evidence of responsibility for  
4 such abuses was found.

5 (c) PERSONS DESCRIBED.—The persons described in  
6 this subsection are the following:

- 7 (1) Bashar Al-Assad.
- 8 (2) Asthma Al-Assad.
- 9 (3) Rami Makhlouf.
- 10 (4) Bouthayna Shaaban.
- 11 (5) Walid Moallem.
- 12 (6) Ali Al-Salim.
- 13 (7) Wael Nader Al-Halqi.
- 14 (8) Jamil Hassan.
- 15 (9) Suhail Hassan.
- 16 (10) Ali Mamluk.
- 17 (11) Muhammed Khadour, Deir Ez Zor Mili-  
18 tary and Security.
- 19 (12) Jamal Razzouq, Security Branch 243.
- 20 (13) Munzer Ghanam, Air Force Intelligence.
- 21 (14) Daas Hasan Ali, Branch 327.
- 22 (15) Jassem Ali Jassem Hamad, Political Secu-  
23 rity.
- 24 (16) Samir Muhammad Youssef, Military Intel-  
25 ligence.

- 1 (17) Ali Ahmad Dayoub, Air Force Intelligence.
- 2 (18) Khaled Muhsen Al-Halabi, Security
- 3 Branch 335.
- 4 (19) Mahmoud Kahila, Political Security.
- 5 (20) Zuhair Ahmad Hamad, Provincial Secu-
- 6 rity.
- 7 (21) Wafiq Nasser, Security Branch 245.
- 8 (22) Qussay Mayoub, Air Force Intelligence.
- 9 (23) Muhammad Ammar Sardini, Political Se-
- 10 curity.
- 11 (24) Fouad Hammouda, Military Security.
- 12 (25) Hasan Daaboul, Branch 261.
- 13 (26) Yahia Wahbi, Air Force Intelligence.
- 14 (27) Okab Saqer, Security Branch 318.
- 15 (28) Husam Luqa, Political Security.
- 16 (29) Sami Al-Hasan, Security Branch 219.
- 17 (30) Yassir Deeb, Political Security.
- 18 (31) Ibrahim Darwish, Security Branch 220.
- 19 (32) Nasser Deeb, Political Security.
- 20 (33) Abdullatif Al-Fahed, Security Branch 290.
- 21 (34) Adeeb Namer Salamah, Air Force Intel-
- 22 ligence.
- 23 (35) Akram Muhammed, State Security.
- 24 (36) Reyad Abbas, Political Security.
- 25 (37) Ali Abdullah Ayoub, Syrian Armed Forces.

1 (38) Fahd Jassem Al-Freij, Defense Ministry.

2 (39) Issam Halaq, Air Force.

3 (40) Ghassan Al-Abdullah, General Intelligence  
4 Directorate.

5 (41) Maher Al-Assad, Republican Guard.

6 (42) Fahad Al-Farouch.

7 (43) Rafiq Shahada, Military Intelligence.

8 (44) Loay Al-Ali, Military Intelligence.

9 (45) Nawfal Al-Husayn, Military Intelligence.

10 (46) Muhammad Zamrini, Military Intelligence.

11 (47) Muhammad Mahallah, Military Intel-  
12 ligence.

13 (d) FORM OF REPORT; PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—

14 (1) FORM.—The list required by subsection (a)  
15 shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may  
16 contain a classified annex if necessary.

17 (2) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The unclassified  
18 portion of the list required by paragraph (1) shall be  
19 made available to the public and posted on the Web  
20 sites of the Department of the Treasury and the De-  
21 partment of State.

22 (e) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “appro-  
23 priate congressional committees” means—

24 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the  
25 Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on

1 Ways and Means, and the Committee on the Judici-  
2 ary of the House of Representatives; and

3 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the  
4 Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-  
5 fairs, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the  
6 Senate.

7 **TITLE III—REPORTS AND WAIV-**  
8 **ER FOR HUMANITARIAN-RE-**  
9 **LATED ACTIVITIES WITH RE-**  
10 **SPECT TO SYRIA**

11 **SEC. 301. REPORT ON MONITORING AND EVALUATING OF**  
12 **ONGOING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN SYRIA**  
13 **AND TO THE SYRIAN PEOPLE.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
15 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State  
16 and the Administrator of the United States Agency for  
17 International Development shall submit to the Committee  
18 on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and  
19 the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a re-  
20 port on the monitoring and evaluation of ongoing assist-  
21 ance programs in Syria and for the Syrian people, includ-  
22 ing assistance provided through multilateral organizations.

23 (b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report re-  
24 quired by subsection (a) shall include—

1           (1) the specific project monitoring and evalua-  
2           tion plans, including measurable goals and perform-  
3           ance metrics for assistance in Syria;

4           (2) a description of the memorandums of un-  
5           derstanding entered into by the Department of  
6           State, the United States Agency for International  
7           Development, and their respective Inspectors Gen-  
8           eral and the multilateral organizations through  
9           which United States assistance will be delivered that  
10          formalize requirements for the sharing of informa-  
11          tion between such entities for the conduct of audits,  
12          investigations, and evaluations; and

13          (3) the major challenges to monitoring and  
14          evaluating such programs.

15 **SEC. 302. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL METHODS TO EN-**  
16 **HANCE THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS.**

17          (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the  
18          date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall sub-  
19          mit to the appropriate congressional committee a report  
20          that—

21               (1) assesses the potential effectiveness, risks,  
22               and operational requirements of the establishment  
23               and maintenance of a no-fly zone over part or all of  
24               Syria, including—

1 (A) the operational and legal requirements  
2 for United States and coalition air power to es-  
3 tablish a no-fly zone in Syria;

4 (B) the impact a no-fly zone in Syria  
5 would have on humanitarian and counterter-  
6 rorism efforts in Syria and the surrounding re-  
7 gion; and

8 (C) the potential for force contributions  
9 from other countries to establish a no-fly zone  
10 in Syria;

11 (2) assesses the potential effectiveness, risks,  
12 and operational requirements for the establishment  
13 of one or more safe zones in Syria for internally dis-  
14 placed persons or for the facilitation of humani-  
15 tarian assistance, including—

16 (A) the operational and legal requirements  
17 for United States and coalition forces to estab-  
18 lish one or more safe zones in Syria;

19 (B) the impact one or more safe zones in  
20 Syria would have on humanitarian and counter-  
21 terrorism efforts in Syria and the surrounding  
22 region; and

23 (C) the potential for contributions from  
24 other countries and vetted non-state actor part-

1           ners to establish and maintain one or more safe  
2           zones in Syria; and

3           (3) assesses the potential effectiveness, risks,  
4           and operational requirements of other non-military  
5           means to enhance the protection of civilians, espe-  
6           cially civilians who are in besieged areas, trapped at  
7           borders, or internally displaced.

8           (b) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a)  
9           shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain  
10          a classified annex if necessary.

11          (c) CONSULTATION.—The report required by sub-  
12          section (a) shall be informed by consultations with the De-  
13          partment of State, the United States Agency for Inter-  
14          national Development, the Department of Defense, and  
15          international and local organizations operating in Syria or  
16          in neighboring countries to alleviate the suffering of the  
17          Syrian people.

18          (d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “appro-  
19          priate congressional committees” means—

20                 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the  
21                 Committee on Armed Services of the House of Rep-  
22                 resentatives; and

23                 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and  
24                 the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.



1 **SEC. 303. ASSISTANCE TO ADVANCE A COMPREHENSIVE RE-**  
2 **LIEF AND RECOVERY STRATEGY IN SYRIA.**

3 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
4 gress that—

5 (1) the Government of Syria is in violation of  
6 numerous United Nations Security Council resolu-  
7 tions regarding the provision of humanitarian assist-  
8 ance to the people of Syria; and

9 (2) the Government of the Russian Federation,  
10 as a guarantor of prospective cessations of hostilities  
11 in Syria, is complicit in the humanitarian crisis in  
12 Syria due to its failure to enforce such United Na-  
13 tions Security Council resolutions.

14 (b) AUTHORIZATION FOR ASSISTANCE.—The Presi-  
15 dent is authorized to provide assistance to advance a com-  
16 prehensive relief and recovery strategy in Syria that in-  
17 cludes the policy objectives described in subsection (c).  
18 The President shall coordinate the provision of assistance  
19 under this subsection with other donors, international or-  
20 ganizations, international financial institutions, and inter-  
21 national and local nongovernmental organizations.

22 (c) POLICY OBJECTIVES DESCRIBED.—The policy  
23 objectives described in this subsection are the following:

24 (1) To meet immediate humanitarian needs in  
25 Syria and in neighboring countries hosting signifi-  
26 cant numbers of Syria refugees.

1           (2) To support the peaceful resolution of the  
2 conflict and the establishment of an inclusive, demo-  
3 cratic government in Syria that demonstrates re-  
4 spect for the rule of law, human rights, religious  
5 freedom, and peaceful co-existence with its neigh-  
6 bors.

7           (3) To build the capacity of legitimate local  
8 councils and leaders inside Syria such that they may  
9 provide basic services in areas liberated from the Is-  
10 lamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

11           (4) To support the inclusion and participation  
12 of women, minorities, business leaders, civil society  
13 organizations, and traditional and religious leaders,  
14 including from religious minority groups, in peace  
15 processes and transitional governance arrangements  
16 in Syria.

17           (5) To work to ensure that any transitional ar-  
18 rangements or future governments in Syria reflect  
19 commitments to—

20                   (A) inclusive and representative democ-  
21 racy;

22                   (B) open and transparent governance;

23                   (C) respect for the rule of law, human  
24 rights, and religious freedom;

25                   (D) accountability and reconciliation;

1 (E) ending the violence and supporting  
2 peace and security throughout the country;

3 (F) stability and peaceful co-existence  
4 throughout the region; and

5 (G) relief, recovery, and reconstruction  
6 throughout the country, including the rehabili-  
7 tation and reintegration of former combatants.

8 (6) To build the capacity of legitimate gov-  
9 erning institutions following a democratic transition  
10 in Syria.

11 (7) To ensure that the Syria Reconstruction  
12 Trust Fund, a multi-donor trust fund established in  
13 2013 to which the United States is a contributing  
14 member, continues to function as a suitable mecha-  
15 nism through which United States contributions can  
16 leverage the support of other donors for the delivery  
17 of essential services in Syria, particularly in areas  
18 liberated from the Assad regime or ISIS control,  
19 until such mechanism is no longer necessary or ap-  
20 propriate.

21 (d) COORDINATION WITH OTHER DONOR NA-  
22 TIONS.—The United States should work with other donor  
23 countries, on a bilateral and multilateral basis, to increase  
24 donor contributions to multilateral mechanisms that meet

1 immediate humanitarian needs in Syria and accomplish  
2 the policy objectives described in subsection (c).

3 **SEC. 304. ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT ENTITIES TAKING AC-**  
4 **TIONS RELATING TO GATHERING EVIDENCE**  
5 **FOR INVESTIGATIONS INTO WAR CRIMES OR**  
6 **CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY IN SYRIA SINCE**  
7 **MARCH 2011.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, acting  
9 through the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human  
10 Rights and Labor and the Assistant Secretary for Inter-  
11 national Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, is au-  
12 thorized to provide assistance to support entities that are  
13 conducting criminal investigations, building Syrian inves-  
14 tigative capacity, supporting prosecutions in national  
15 courts, collecting evidence and preserving the chain of evi-  
16 dence for eventual prosecution against those who have  
17 committed war crimes or crimes against humanity in  
18 Syria, including the aiding and abetting of such crimes  
19 by foreign governments and organizations supporting the  
20 Government of Syria, since March 2011.

21 (b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date  
22 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall  
23 submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House  
24 of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Rela-

1 tions of the Senate a detailed report on assistance pro-  
2 vided under subsection (a).

3 **TITLE IV—SUSPENSION OF**  
4 **SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT**  
5 **TO SYRIA**

6 **SEC. 401. SUSPENSION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**  
7 **SYRIA.**

8 (a) SUSPENSION OF SANCTIONS.—

9 (1) NEGOTIATIONS NOT CONCLUDING IN  
10 AGREEMENT.—If the President determines that  
11 internationally recognized negotiations to resolve the  
12 violence in Syria have not concluded in an agree-  
13 ment or are likely not to conclude in an agreement,  
14 the President may suspend, as appropriate, in whole  
15 or in part, the imposition of sanctions otherwise re-  
16 quired under this Act or any amendment made by  
17 this Act for a period not to exceed 120 days, and re-  
18 newable for additional periods not to exceed 120  
19 days, if the President submits to the appropriate  
20 congressional committees in writing a determination  
21 and certification that the Government of Syria has  
22 ended military attacks against and gross violations  
23 of the human rights of the Syrian people, specifi-  
24 cally—

1           (A) the air space over Syria is no longer  
2 being utilized by the Government of Syria and  
3 associated forces to target civilian populations  
4 through the use of incendiary devices, including  
5 barrel bombs, chemical weapons, and conven-  
6 tional arms, including air-delivered missiles and  
7 explosives;

8           (B) areas besieged by the Assad regime  
9 and associated forces, including Hezbollah and  
10 irregular Iranian forces, are no longer cut off  
11 from international aid and have regular access  
12 to humanitarian assistance, freedom of travel,  
13 and medical care;

14           (C) the Government of Syria is releasing  
15 all political prisoners forcibly held within the  
16 Assad regime prison system, including the fa-  
17 cilities maintained by various security, intel-  
18 ligence, and military elements associated with  
19 the Government of Syria and allowed full access  
20 to the same facilities for investigations by ap-  
21 propriate international human rights organiza-  
22 tions; and

23           (D) the forces of the Government of Syria  
24 and associated forces, including Hezbollah, ir-  
25 regular Iranian forces, and Russian government

1 air assets, are no longer engaged in deliberate  
2 targeting of medical facilities, schools, residen-  
3 tial areas, and community gathering places, in-  
4 cluding markets, in flagrant violation of inter-  
5 national norms.

6 (2) NEGOTIATIONS CONCLUDING IN AGREE-  
7 MENT.—

8 (A) INITIAL SUSPENSION OF SANCTIONS.—

9 If the President determines that internationally  
10 recognized negotiations to resolve the violence  
11 in Syria have concluded in an agreement or are  
12 likely to conclude in an agreement, the Presi-  
13 dent may suspend, as appropriate, in whole or  
14 in part, the imposition of sanctions otherwise  
15 required under this Act or any amendment  
16 made by this Act for a period not to exceed 120  
17 days if the President submits to the appropriate  
18 congressional committees in writing a deter-  
19 mination and certification that—

20 (i) in the case in which the negotia-  
21 tions are likely to conclude in an agree-  
22 ment—

23 (I) the Government of Syria, the  
24 Syrian High Negotiations Committee  
25 or its successor, and appropriate

1 international parties are participating  
2 in direct, face-to-face negotiations;  
3 and

4 (II) the suspension of sanctions  
5 under this Act or any amendment  
6 made by this Act is essential to the  
7 advancement of such negotiations; and

8 (ii) the Government of Syria has dem-  
9 onstrated a commitment to a significant  
10 and substantial reduction in attacks on  
11 and violence against the Syrian people by  
12 the Government of Syria and associated  
13 forces.

14 (B) RENEWAL OF SUSPENSION OF SANC-  
15 TIONS.—The President may renew a suspension  
16 of sanctions under subparagraph (A) for addi-  
17 tional periods not to exceed 120 days if, for  
18 each such additional period, the President sub-  
19 mits to the appropriate congressional commit-  
20 tees in writing a determination and certification  
21 that—

22 (i) the conditions described in clauses  
23 (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A) are con-  
24 tinuing to be met;



1           (ii) the renewal of the suspension of  
2           sanctions is essential to implementing an  
3           agreement described in subparagraph (A)  
4           or making progress toward concluding an  
5           agreement described in subparagraph (A);

6           (iii) the Government of Syria and as-  
7           sociated forces have ceased attacks against  
8           Syrian civilians; and

9           (iv) the Government of Syria has pub-  
10          lically committed to negotiations for a  
11          transitional government in Syria and con-  
12          tinues to demonstrate that commitment  
13          through sustained engagement in talks and  
14          substantive and verifiable progress towards  
15          the implementation of such an agreement.

16           (3) BRIEFING AND REIMPOSITION OF SANC-  
17          TIONS.—

18           (A) BRIEFING.—Not later than 30 days  
19          after the President submits to the appropriate  
20          congressional committees a determination and  
21          certification in the case of a renewal of suspen-  
22          sion of sanctions under paragraph (2)(B), and  
23          every 30 days thereafter, the President shall  
24          provide a briefing to the appropriate congres-

1 sional committees on the status and frequency  
2 of negotiations described in paragraph (2).

3 (B) RE-IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—If  
4 the President provides a briefing to the appro-  
5 priate congressional committees under subpara-  
6 graph (A) with respect to which the President  
7 indicates a lapse in negotiations described in  
8 paragraph (2) for a period that equals or ex-  
9 ceeds 90 days, the sanctions that were sus-  
10 pended under paragraph (2)(B) shall be re-im-  
11 posed and any further suspension of such sanc-  
12 tions is prohibited.

13 (4) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term  
14 “appropriate congressional committees” means—

15 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the  
16 Committee on Financial Services, the Com-  
17 mittee on Ways and Means, and the Committee  
18 on the Judiciary of the House of Representa-  
19 tives; and

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

24 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR  
25 DETERMINING A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT IN

1 SYRIA.—It is the sense of Congress that a transitional  
2 government in Syria is a government that—

3 (1) is taking verifiable steps to release all polit-  
4 ical prisoners and provided full access to Syrian  
5 prisons for investigations by appropriate inter-  
6 national human rights organizations;

7 (2) is taking verifiable steps to remove former  
8 senior Syrian Government officials who are complicit  
9 in the conception, implementation, or cover up of  
10 war crimes, crimes against humanity, or human  
11 rights abuses from government positions and any  
12 person subject to sanctions under any provision of  
13 law;

14 (3) is in the process of organizing free and fair  
15 elections for a new government—

16 (A) to be held in a timely manner and  
17 scheduled while the suspension of sanctions or  
18 the renewal of the suspension of sanctions  
19 under this section is in effect; and

20 (B) to be conducted under the supervision  
21 of internationally recognized observers;

22 (4) is making tangible progress toward estab-  
23 lishing an independent judiciary;

24 (5) is demonstrating respect for and compliance  
25 with internationally recognized human rights and

1 basic freedoms as specified in the Universal Declara-  
2 tion of Human Rights;

3 (6) is taking steps to verifiably fulfill its com-  
4 mitments under the Chemical Weapons Convention  
5 and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear  
6 Weapons and is making tangible progress toward be-  
7 coming a signatory to Convention on the Prohibition  
8 of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of  
9 Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and  
10 on their Destruction, entered into force March 26,  
11 1975, and adhering to the Missile Technology Con-  
12 trol Regime and other control lists, as necessary;

13 (7) has halted the development and deployment  
14 of ballistic and cruise missiles; and

15 (8) is taking verifiable steps to remove from po-  
16 sitions of authority within the intelligence and secu-  
17 rity services as well as the military those who were  
18 in a position of authority or responsibility during the  
19 conflict and who under the authority of their posi-  
20 tion were implicated in or implicit in the torture,  
21 extrajudicial killing, or execution of civilians, to in-  
22 clude those who were involved in decisionmaking or  
23 execution of plans to use chemical weapons.

1 **SEC. 402. WAIVERS AND EXEMPTIONS.**

2 (a) EXEMPTIONS.—The following activities and  
3 transactions shall be exempt from sanctions authorized  
4 under this Act:

5 (1) Any activity subject to the reporting re-  
6 quirements under title V of the National Security  
7 Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.), or to any au-  
8 thorized intelligence activities of the United States.

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

11 (A) the Agreement between the United Na-  
12 tions and the United States of America regard-  
13 ing the Headquarters of the United Nations,  
14 signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and en-  
15 tered into force November 21, 1947; or

16 (B) the Convention on Consular Relations,  
17 done at Vienna April 24, 1963, and entered  
18 into force March 19, 1967.

19 (b) HUMANITARIAN AND DEMOCRACY ASSISTANCE  
20 WAIVER.—

21 (1) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the  
22 policy of the United States to fully utilize the waiver  
23 authority under this subsection to ensure that ade-  
24 quate humanitarian relief or support for democracy  
25 promotion is provided to the Syrian people.

1           (2) WAIVER.—Except as provided in paragraph  
2           (5), the President may waive, on a case-by-case  
3           basis, for a period not to exceed one year, and re-  
4           newable for additional periods not to exceed one  
5           year, the application of sanctions authorized under  
6           this Act with respect to a person if the President  
7           submits to the appropriate congressional committees  
8           a written determination that the waiver is necessary  
9           for purposes of providing humanitarian assistance or  
10          support for democracy promotion to the people of  
11          Syria.

12          (3) CONTENT OF WRITTEN DETERMINATION.—  
13          A written determination submitted under paragraph  
14          (1) with respect to a waiver shall include a descrip-  
15          tion of all notification and accountability controls  
16          that have been employed in order to ensure that the  
17          activities covered by the waiver are humanitarian as-  
18          sistance or support for democracy promotion and do  
19          not entail any activities in Syria or dealings with the  
20          Government of Syria not reasonably related to hu-  
21          manitarian assistance or support for democracy pro-  
22          motion.

23          (4) CLARIFICATION OF PERMITTED ACTIVITIES  
24          UNDER WAIVER.—The President may not impose

1 sanctions authorized under this Act against a hu-  
2 manitarian organization for—

3 (A) engaging in a financial transaction re-  
4 lating to humanitarian assistance or for human-  
5 itarian purposes pursuant to a waiver issued  
6 under paragraph (1);

7 (B) transporting goods or services that are  
8 necessary to carry out operations relating to  
9 humanitarian assistance or humanitarian pur-  
10 poses pursuant to such a waiver; or

11 (C) having incidental contact, in the course  
12 of providing humanitarian assistance or aid for  
13 humanitarian purposes pursuant to such a  
14 waiver, with individuals who are under the con-  
15 trol of a foreign person subject to sanctions  
16 under this Act or any amendment made by this  
17 Act unless the organization or its officers, mem-  
18 bers, representatives or employees have engaged  
19 in (or the President knows or has reasonable  
20 ground to believe is engaged in or is likely to  
21 engage in) conduct described in section  
22 212(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI) of the Immigration and  
23 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
24 1182(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI)).

1           (5) EXCEPTION TO WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The  
2           President may not exercise the waiver authority  
3           under paragraph (2) with respect to a foreign person  
4           who has (or whose officers, members, representatives  
5           or employees have) engaged in (or the President  
6           knows or has reasonable ground to believe is en-  
7           gaged in or is likely to engage in) conduct described  
8           in section 212(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI) of the Immigration  
9           and       Nationality       Act       (8       U.S.C.  
10          1182(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI)).

11          (c) WAIVER.—

12           (1) IN GENERAL.—The President may, on a  
13           case-by-case basis and for periods not to exceed 120  
14           days, waive the application of sanctions under this  
15           Act with respect to a foreign person if the President  
16           certifies to the appropriate congressional committees  
17           that such waiver is vital to the national security in-  
18           terests of the United States.

19           (2) CONSULTATION.—

20           (A) BEFORE WAIVER ISSUED.—Not later  
21           than 5 days before the issuance of a waiver  
22           under paragraph (1) is to take effect, the Presi-  
23           dent shall notify and brief the appropriate con-  
24           gressional committees on the status of the for-



1           eign person involvement in activities described  
2           in this Act.

3           (B) AFTER WAIVER ISSUED.—Not later  
4           than 90 days after the issuance of a waiver  
5           under paragraph (1), and every 120 days there-  
6           after if the waiver remains in effect, the Presi-  
7           dent shall brief the appropriate congressional  
8           committees on the status of the foreign person’s  
9           involvement in activities described in this Act.

10          (3) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term  
11          “appropriate congressional committees” means—

12                 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the  
13                 Committee on Financial Services, the Com-  
14                 mittee on Ways and Means, and the Committee  
15                 on the Judiciary of the House of Representa-  
16                 tives; and

17                 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations,  
18                 the Committee on Banking, Housing, and  
19                 Urban Affairs, and the Committee on the Judi-  
20                 ciary of the Senate.

21          (d) CODIFICATION OF CERTAIN SERVICES IN SUP-  
22          PORT OF NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS’ ACTIVI-  
23          TIES AUTHORIZED.—

24                 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
25                 graph (2), section 542.516 of title 31, Code of Fed-

1 eral Regulations (relating to certain services in sup-  
2 port of nongovernmental organizations' activities au-  
3 thorized), as in effect on the day before the date of  
4 the enactment of this Act, shall—

5 (A) remain in effect on and after such date  
6 of enactment; and

7 (B) in the case of a nongovernmental orga-  
8 nization that is authorized to export or reexport  
9 services to Syria under such section on the day  
10 before such date of enactment, shall apply to  
11 such organization on and after such date of en-  
12 actment to the same extent and in the same  
13 manner as such section applied to such organi-  
14 zation on the day before such date of enact-  
15 ment.

16 (2) EXCEPTION.—Section 542.516 of title 31,  
17 Code of Federal Regulations, as codified under para-  
18 graph (1), shall not apply with respect to a foreign  
19 person who has (or whose officers, members, rep-  
20 resentatives or employees have) engaged in (or the  
21 President knows or has reasonable ground to believe  
22 is engaged in or is likely to engage in) conduct de-  
23 scribed in section 212(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI) of the Immi-  
24 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
25 1182(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI)).

1 (e) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
3 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
4 President shall submit to the appropriate congress-  
5 sional committees a report containing a strategy to  
6 ensure that humanitarian organizations can access  
7 financial services to ensure the safe and timely deliv-  
8 ery of assistance to communities in need in Syria.

9 (2) CONSIDERATION OF DATA FROM OTHER  
10 COUNTRIES AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZA-  
11 TIONS.—In preparing the strategy required by para-  
12 graph (1), the President shall consider credible data  
13 already obtained by other countries and nongovern-  
14 mental organizations, including organizations oper-  
15 ating in Syria.

16 (3) FORM.—The strategy required by para-  
17 graph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but  
18 may contain a classified annex.

19 **TITLE V—REGULATORY AU-**  
20 **THORITY, COST LIMITATION,**  
21 **AND SUNSET**

22 **SEC. 501. REGULATORY AUTHORITY.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall, not later  
24 than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,

1 promulgate regulations as necessary for the implementa-  
2 tion of this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

3 (b) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—Not less than 10  
4 days before the promulgation of regulations under sub-  
5 section (a), the President shall notify and provide to the  
6 appropriate congressional committees the proposed regula-  
7 tions and the provisions of this Act and the amendments  
8 made by this Act that the regulations are implementing.

9 (c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “appro-  
10 priate congressional committees” means—

11 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the  
12 Committee on Financial Services of the House of  
13 Representatives; and

14 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and  
15 the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-  
16 fairs of the Senate.

17 **SEC. 502. COST LIMITATION.**

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

22 **SEC. 503. AUTHORITY TO CONSOLIDATE REPORTS.**

23 Any reports required to be submitted to the appro-  
24 priate congressional committees under this Act or any  
25 amendment made by this Act that are subject to a dead-

1 line for submission consisting of the same unit of time may  
2 be consolidated into a single report that is submitted to  
3 appropriate congressional committees pursuant to such  
4 deadline. The consolidated reports must contain all infor-  
5 mation required under this Act or any amendment made  
6 by this Act, in addition to all other elements mandated  
7 by previous law.

8 **SEC. 504. SUNSET.**

9       This Act shall cease to be effective beginning on De-  
10 cember 31, 2021.

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