

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1625

To amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to include severe forms of trafficking in persons within the definition of transnational organized crime for purposes of the rewards program of the Department of State, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 20, 2017

Mr. ROYCE of California (for himself and Ms. FRANKEL of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to include severe forms of trafficking in persons within the definition of transnational organized crime for purposes of the rewards program of the Department of State, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Targeted Rewards for
5 the Global Eradication of Human Trafficking” or the
6 “TARGET Act”.

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

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Trafficking in persons is a major
4 transnational crime that threatens United States na-
5 tional security and humanitarian interests.

6 (2) Trafficking in persons is increasingly per-
7 petrated by organized, sophisticated criminal enter-
8 prises.

9 (3) Combating trafficking in persons requires a
10 global approach to identifying and apprehending the
11 world’s worst human trafficking rings.

12 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
13 gress that the Department of State’s rewards program is
14 a powerful tool in combating sophisticated international
15 crime and that the Department of State and Federal law
16 enforcement should work in concert to offer rewards that
17 target human traffickers who threaten United States na-
18 tional security and humanitarian interests by preying on
19 the most vulnerable people around the world.

20 **SEC. 3. REWARDS FOR JUSTICE.**

21 Paragraph (5) of section 36(k) of the State Depart-
22 ment Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708(k))
23 is amended—

24 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
25 by striking “means”;

1 (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and
2 (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively, and moving
3 such clauses, as so redesignated, two ems to the
4 right;

5 (3) by inserting before clause (i), as so redesign-
6 nated, the following:

7 “(A) means—”;

8 (4) in clause (ii), as so redesignated, by striking
9 the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

10 (5) by adding at the end following new subpara-
11 graph:

12 “(B) includes severe forms of trafficking in
13 persons, as such term is defined in section 103
14 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of
15 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).”.

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