

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1461

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

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 28, 2019

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

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## A BILL

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

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

9 (i) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—

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

12 (I) inadmissible to the United  
13 States;

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

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

22 (ii) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

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

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

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

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

23 (3) ENTITY.—The term “entity”—

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

4           (B) includes a governmental entity.

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

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

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