

119TH CONGRESS
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H. R. 6151

To impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons responsible for violations of the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI) individuals, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 19, 2025

Ms. McBRIDE (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. AMO, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. BALINT, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. BEYER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CASAR, Mr. CASE, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. CHU, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CORREA, Mr. COSTA, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. DEXTER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARCIA of California, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. IVEY, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. KEATING, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LATIMER, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEU, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. McIVER, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mr. MIN, Ms. MORRISON, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PETTERSEN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. SIMON, Mr. SORENSEN, Mr. STANTON, Mr. SWALWELL, Mrs. SYKES, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. TRAN, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. NADLER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by

the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons responsible for violations of the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI) individuals, 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 “Global Respect Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6 Congress finds the following:

7 (1) The dignity, freedom, and equality of all
8 human beings are fundamental to a thriving global
9 community.

10 (2) The rights to life, liberty, and security of
11 the person, the right to privacy, and the right to
12 freedom of expression and association are funda-
13 mental human rights.

14 (3) Many countries are making positive develop-
15 ments in the protection of the basic human rights of
16 LGBTQI individuals.

1 (4) The alarming trend of increasing violence
2 directed at LGBTQI individuals around the world
3 continues.

4 (5) Approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ of all countries have laws
5 criminalizing consensual same-sex relations, and 12
6 countries carry the possibility of the death penalty.

7 (6) Laws criminalizing consensual same-sex re-
8 lations severely hinder access to HIV/AIDS treat-
9 ment, information, and preventive measures for
10 LGBTQI individuals and families.

11 (7) Celebrations of LGBTQI individuals and
12 communities, such as film festivals, Pride events,
13 and demonstrations, are often forced underground
14 due to inaction on the part of, or harassment by,
15 local law enforcement and government officials, in
16 violation of freedoms of assembly and expression.

17 (8) Every year, countless individuals around the
18 world are targeted for discrimination, harassment,
19 arbitrary arrest and detention, physical attack, and
20 murder on the basis of their actual or perceived sex-
21 ual orientation, gender identity, or sex characteris-
22 tics.

23 (9) Those who commit crimes against LGBTQI
24 individuals often do so with impunity, and are not
25 held accountable for their crimes.

1 (10) Homophobic and transphobic statements
2 by government officials in many countries in every
3 region of the world promote negative public attitudes
4 and can lead to increased discrimination and vio-
5 lence toward LGBTQI individuals.

6 (11) In many instances, police, prison, military,
7 and civilian government authorities have been di-
8 rectly complicit in abuses aimed at LGBTQI citi-
9 zens, including arbitrary arrest, extortion, cruel, in-
10 human, or degrading treatment, torture, and sexual
11 abuse.

12 **SEC. 3. SANCTIONS ON INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR**
13 **VIOLATIONS OF HUMANRIGHTS AGAINST**
14 **LGBTQI PEOPLE.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
16 date of the enactment of this Act and biannually there-
17 after, the President shall transmit to the appropriate con-
18 gressional committees a list of each foreign person the
19 President determines, based on credible information, in-
20 cluding information obtained by other countries or by non-
21 governmental organizations that monitor violations of
22 human rights—

23 (1) is responsible for, or complicit in, with re-
24 spect to persons based on actual or perceived sexual
25 orientation, gender identity, or sex characteristics—

1 (A) torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrad-
2 ing treatment or punishment;

3 (B) prolonged detention without charges
4 and a trial;

5 (C) causing the disappearance of such per-
6 sons by the abduction and clandestine detention
7 of such persons; or

8 (D) other flagrant denial of the right to
9 life, liberty, or the security of such persons; or

10 (2) acted as an agent of or on behalf of a for-
11 eign person in a matter relating to an activity de-
12 scribed in paragraph (1).

13 (b) FORM; UPDATES; REMOVAL.—

14 (1) FORM.—The list required by subsection (a)
15 shall be transmitted in unclassified form and pub-
16 lished in the Federal Register, except that the Presi-
17 dent may include a foreign person in a classified,
18 unpublished annex to such list if the President—

19 (A) determines that—

20 (i) it is vital for the national security
21 interests of the United States to do so; and

22 (ii) the use of such annex, and the in-
23 clusion of such person in such annex,
24 would not undermine the overall purpose of
25 this section to publicly identify foreign per-

1 sons engaging in the conduct described in
2 subsection (a) in order to increase account-
3 ability for such conduct; and

4 (B) not later than 15 days before including
5 such person in a classified annex, provides to
6 the appropriate congressional committees notice
7 of, and a justification for, including or con-
8 tinuing to include each foreign person in such
9 annex despite the existence of any publicly
10 available credible information indicating that
11 each such foreign person engaged in an activity
12 described in subsection (a).

13 (2) UPDATES.—The President shall transmit to
14 the appropriate congressional committees an update
15 of the list required by subsection (a) as new infor-
16 mation becomes available.

17 (3) REMOVAL.—A foreign person may be re-
18 moved from the list required by subsection (a) if the
19 President determines and reports to the appropriate
20 congressional committees, not later than 15 days be-
21 fore the removal of such person from such list,
22 that—

23 (A) new, credible information is discovered
24 confirming that such person did not in fact en-

1 gage in the activity for which the person was
2 included in such list;

3 (B) such person has been prosecuted ap-
4 propriately for the activity in which such person
5 engaged;

6 (C) such person has credibly demonstrated
7 a significant change in behavior, has paid an
8 appropriate consequence for the activities in
9 which such person engaged, and has credibly
10 committed to not engage in an activity de-
11 scribed in subsection (a); or

12 (D) removal of such sanctions is in the
13 vital national security interests of the United
14 States.

15 (c) PUBLIC SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION.—The
16 President shall issue public guidance, including through
17 United States diplomatic and consular posts, setting forth
18 the manner by which the names of foreign persons that
19 may meet the criteria to be included on the list required
20 by subsection (a) may be submitted to the Department
21 of State for evaluation.

22 (d) REQUESTS FROM CHAIR AND RANKING MEMBER
23 OF APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—

24 (1) CONSIDERATION OF INFORMATION.—In ad-
25 dition to the guidance issued pursuant to subsection

1 (c), the President shall also consider information
2 provided by the Chair or Ranking Member of each
3 of the appropriate congressional committees in de-
4 termining whether to include a foreign person in the
5 list required by subsection (a).

6 (2) REQUESTS.—Not later than 120 days after
7 receiving a written request from the Chair or Rank-
8 ing Member of one of the appropriate congressional
9 committees with respect to whether a foreign person
10 meets the criteria for being included in the list re-
11 quired by subsection (a), the President shall trans-
12 mit a response to such Chair or Ranking Member,
13 as the case may be, with respect to the President's
14 determination relating to such foreign person.

15 (3) REMOVAL.—If the President removes from
16 the list required by subsection (a) a foreign person
17 that had been included in such list pursuant to a re-
18 quest under paragraph (2), the President shall pro-
19 vide to the relevant Chair or Ranking Member of the
20 appropriate congressional committees any informa-
21 tion that contributed to such decision.

22 (4) FORM.—The President may transmit a re-
23 sponse required by paragraph (2) or paragraph (3)
24 in classified form if the President determines that it

1 is necessary for the national security interests of the
2 United States to do so.

3 (e) INADMISSIBILITY OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.—

4 (1) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—An alien
5 who the Secretary of State or the Secretary of
6 Homeland Security (or a designee of one of such
7 Secretaries) knows, or has reason to believe, is de-
8 scribed in subsection (a) is—

9 (A) inadmissible to the United States;

10 (B) ineligible for a visa or other docu-
11 mentation to enter the United States; and

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

16 (2) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—The issuing consular
18 officer, the Secretary of State, or the Secretary
19 of Homeland Security (or a designee of one of
20 such Secretaries) shall, in accordance with sec-
21 tion 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality
22 Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)), revoke any visa or other
23 entry documentation issued to an alien de-
24 scribed in subparagraph (A) regardless of when
25 the visa or other entry documentation is issued.

1 (B) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—A revoca-
2 tion under clause (i)—

3 (i) shall take effect immediately; and

4 (ii) shall automatically cancel any
5 other valid visa or entry documentation
6 that is in the alien's possession.

7 (3) SENSE OF CONGRESS WITH RESPECT TO
8 ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS.—It is the sense of Con-
9 gress that the President should impose additional
10 targeted sanctions with respect to foreign persons on
11 the list required by subsection (a) to push for ac-
12 countability for flagrant denials of the right to life,
13 liberty, or the security of the person, through the
14 use of designations and targeted sanctions provided
15 for such conduct under other existing authorities.

16 (4) EXCEPTIONS.—

17 (A) EXCEPTION WITH RESPECT TO NA-
18 TIONAL SECURITY.—This section shall not
19 apply with respect to—

20 (i) activities subject to the reporting
21 requirements under title V of the National
22 Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et
23 seq.); or

24 (ii) any authorized intelligence or law
25 enforcement activities of the United States.

1 (B) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH INTER-
2 NATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.—Sanctions under
3 paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply with re-
4 spect to a person if admitting or paroling the
5 person into the United States is necessary to
6 permit the United States to comply with the
7 Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the
8 United Nations signed at Lake Success June
9 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21,
10 1947, between the United Nations and the
11 United States or other applicable international
12 obligations.

13 (C) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN IMMEDIATE
14 FAMILY MEMBERS.—

15 (i) IN GENERAL.—A covered indi-
16 vidual shall not be subject to sanctions
17 under this section if the President certifies
18 to the appropriate congressional commit-
19 tees, in accordance with clause (ii), that
20 such individual has a reasonable fear of
21 persecution based on—

22 (I) actual or perceived sexual ori-
23 entation, gender identity, or sex char-
24 acteristics;

1 (II) race, religion, or nationality;

2 or

3 (III) political opinion or member-
4 ship in a particular social group.

5 (ii) DETERMINATION AND CERTIFI-
6 CATION.—A certification under clause (i)
7 shall be made not later than 30 days after
8 the date of the determination required by
9 such clause. Any proceedings relating to
10 such determination shall not be publicly
11 available.

12 (iii) COVERED INDIVIDUAL.—For pur-
13 poses of this subparagraph, the term “cov-
14 ered individual” means an individual who
15 is an immediate family member of foreign
16 person on the list required by subsection
17 (a).

18 (5) WAIVER.—The President may waive the ap-
19 plication of sanctions or restrictions imposed with
20 respect to a foreign person under this section if the
21 President certifies to the appropriate congressional
22 committees, not later than 15 days before such waiv-
23 er is to take effect, that the waiver is vital to the
24 national interest of the United States.

1 (f) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually
3 thereafter, the President, acting through the Secretary of
4 State, shall submit to the appropriate congressional com-
5 mittees a report on—

6 (1) the actions taken to carry out this section,
7 including—

8 (A) the number of foreign persons added
9 to or removed from the list required by sub-
10 section (a) during the year preceding each such
11 report, the dates on which such persons were so
12 added or removed, and the reasons for so add-
13 ing or removing such persons; and

14 (B) an analysis that compares increases or
15 decreases in the number of such persons added
16 or removed year-over-year and the reasons
17 therefor;

18 (2) any efforts by the President to coordinate
19 with the governments of other countries, as appro-
20 priate, to impose sanctions that are similar to the
21 sanctions imposed under this section;

22 (3) the impact of the sanctions imposed under
23 this section with respect to altering the behavior of
24 each of the foreign persons included, as of the date

1 of submission of the report, in the list required by
2 subsection (a); and

3 (4) steps the Department can take to improve
4 coordination with foreign governments, civil society
5 groups, and the private sector, to prevent the com-
6 mission of the human rights violations described in
7 section 3(a)(1) against persons based on actual or
8 perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or sex
9 characteristics.

10 (g) FORM; PUBLICATION.—The report required by
11 subsection (f) shall be submitted in unclassified form but
12 may include a classified annex. The unclassified portion
13 of such report shall be published on a publicly available
14 website of the Department of State.

15 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
17 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
18 mittees” means—

19 (A) the Committee on Armed Services, the
20 Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee
21 on Homeland Security, and the Committee on
22 the Judiciary of the House of Representatives;
23 and

24 (B) the Committee on Armed Services, the
25 Committee on Foreign Relations, the Com-

1 mittee on Homeland Security and Govern-
2 mental Affairs, and the Committee on the Judi-
3 ciary of the Senate.

4 (2) IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER.—The term
5 “immediate family member” has the meaning given
6 such term for purposes of section 7031(c) of division
7 K of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021.

8 (i) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
9 tion may be construed to allow the imposition of sanctions
10 with respect to, or otherwise authorize any other action
11 against, any foreign person based solely upon religious be-
12 lief.

13 **SEC. 4. DISCRIMINATION RELATED TO SEXUAL ORIENTA-**
14 **TION, GENDER IDENTITY, OR SEX CHARAC-**
15 **TERISTICS.**

16 (a) TRACKING VIOLENCE OR CRIMINALIZATION RE-
17 LATED TO SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDEN-
18 TITY.—The Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy,
19 Human Rights, and Labor shall designate 1 or more bu-
20 reau-based senior officer or officers, who shall be respon-
21 sible for tracking violence, criminalization, and restrictions
22 on the enjoyment of fundamental freedoms in foreign
23 countries based on actual or perceived sexual orientation,
24 gender identity, or sex characteristics.

1 (b) ANNUAL COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS
2 PRACTICES.—The Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 is
3 amended—

4 (1) in section 116(d) (22 U.S.C. 2151n(d))—

5 (A) in paragraph (11)(C), by striking
6 “and” after the semicolon at the end;

7 (B) in paragraph (12)—

8 (i) in subparagraph (B), by striking
9 “and” after the semicolon at the end; and

10 (ii) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by strik-
11 ing the period at the end and inserting “;
12 and”; and

13 (C) by adding at the end the following new
14 paragraph:

15 “(13) Wherever applicable, information relating
16 to violence or discrimination that affects funda-
17 mental freedoms, including widespread or systematic
18 violation of the freedoms of expression, association,
19 or assembly, of individuals in foreign countries that
20 is based on actual or perceived sexual orientation,
21 gender identity, or sex characteristics.”; and

22 (2) in section 502B(b) (22 U.S.C. 2304(b)), by
23 inserting after the ninth sentence the following new
24 sentence: “Wherever applicable, such report shall
25 also include information relating to violence or dis-

1 crimination that affects the fundamental freedoms,
2 including widespread or systematic violation of the
3 freedoms of expression, association, or assembly, of
4 individuals in foreign countries that is based on ac-
5 tual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity,
6 or sex characteristics.”.

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