

Calendar No. 244

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2950

To require the Secretary of State and relevant executive branch agencies to address international scam compounds defrauding people in the United States, to hold significant transnational criminal organizations accountable, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. RICKETTS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

OCTOBER 30, 2025

Reported by Mr. RISCH, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To require the Secretary of State and relevant executive branch agencies to address international scam compounds defrauding people in the United States, to hold significant transnational criminal organizations accountable, 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 “Seam Compound Ac-
3 countability and Mobilization Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

5 It is the sense of Congress that—

6 (1) transnational cyber-enabled fraud, particu-
7 larly perpetrated from seam compounds in Southeast
8 Asia, is a growing threat to citizens of the United
9 States, national security, and economic interests
10 globally, with the Federal Bureau of Investigation
11 reporting \$13,700,000,000 in losses in the United
12 States due to cyber-enabled fraud in 2024, including
13 schemes commonly perpetrated by significant
14 transnational criminal organizations operating seam
15 compounds;

16 (2) significant transnational criminal organiza-
17 tions responsible for a large proportion of these
18 seam compounds are affiliated with the People’s Re-
19 public of China (PRC), actively spread PRC propa-
20 ganda, promote unification with Taiwan, and have
21 brokered projects for the Belt and Road Initiative;

22 (3) significant transnational criminal organiza-
23 tions have lured hundreds of thousands of human
24 trafficking victims from over 40 countries to seam
25 compounds, primarily in Burma, Cambodia, and
26 Laos, for purposes of forced criminality;

1 (4) significant transnational criminal organiza-
2 tions are expanding scam compounds internationally
3 including in Africa, the Middle East, South Asia,
4 and the Pacific Islands, and related money laun-
5 dering, human trafficking and recruitment fraud
6 have occurred in Europe, North America, and South
7 America;

8 (5) the United States should redouble efforts to
9 hold the perpetrators and enablers of scam com-
10 pound operations accountable, including those in-
11 volved in related money laundering, human traf-
12 ficking, and recruitment fraud, by employing tools,
13 such as targeted financial sanctions, visa restric-
14 tions, asset seizures, and forfeiture;

15 (6) to effectively address cyber-enabled fraud
16 originating from scam compounds internationally,
17 the United States Government should work with
18 partner governments, multilateral institutions, civil
19 society experts, and private sector stakeholders to
20 improve information sharing, strengthen preventa-
21 tive measures, raise public awareness, and increase
22 coordination on law enforcement investigations and
23 regulatory actions; and

24 (7) survivors of human trafficking, including
25 forced criminality, require victim-centered support to

1 ensure they are not punished for offenses committed
 2 under duress.

3 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—In this Act:

5 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
 6 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
 7 mittees” means—

8 (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of
 9 the Senate;

10 (B) the Committee on the Judiciary of the
 11 Senate;

12 (C) the Committee on Banking, Housing,
 13 and Urban Affairs of the Senate;

14 (D) the Select Committee on Intelligence
 15 of the Senate;

16 (E) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
 17 the House of Representatives;

18 (F) the Committee on the Judiciary of the
 19 House of Representatives;

20 (G) the Committee on Financial Services
 21 of the House of Representatives; and

22 (H) the Permanent Select Committee on
 23 Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

24 (2) CYBER-ENABLED FRAUD.—The term
 25 “cyber-enabled fraud” means the use of the internet

1 or other technology to commit fraudulent activity,
2 including illicitly obtaining money, property, data,
3 identification documents, or authentication features,
4 or creating counterfeit goods or services.

5 (3) ENABLING COUNTRY.—The term “enabling
6 country” means a country where—

7 (A) government authorities actively or im-
8 plicitly permit, enable, or perpetuate scam com-
9 pound operations; or

10 (B) ineffective law enforcement or a failure
11 to enact legislation intended to prevent facili-
12 tating services from reaching scam compounds
13 or significant transnational criminal organiza-
14 tions enables scam compound operators to ob-
15 tain facilitating services.

16 (4) FORCED CRIMINALITY.—The term “forced
17 criminality” means a form of forced labor for the
18 purpose of causing the victim to engage in criminal
19 activity, which may include cyber-enabled fraud.

20 (5) FORCED LABOR.—The term “forced labor”
21 has the meaning given the term severe form of traf-
22 ficking in persons in section 103(11)(B) of the Traf-
23 ficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C.
24 7102(11)(B)).

(6) **RELEVANT FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS.**—The term “relevant foreign assistance programs and diplomatic efforts”—

(A) means unclassified voluntary support programs funded directly by the United States Government that provide assistance to one or more foreign countries for the purpose of combating scam compound operations and related significant transnational criminal organizations; and

(B) excludes intelligence activities, including activities authorized by the President and reported to Congress in accordance with section 503 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3093).

(7) **HUMAN TRAFFICKING.**—The term “human trafficking” has the meaning given the term severe form of trafficking in persons in section 103(11) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(11)).

(8) **HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIM.**—The terms “human trafficking victim” and “victim of human trafficking” mean a person subject to an act or practice described in section 103(11) of the Traf-

1 ficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C.
2 7102(11)).

3 ~~(9) IMPACTED COUNTRY.~~—The term “impacted
4 country” means a country that is a significant—

5 (A) transit location for victims of human
6 trafficking to scam compounds;

7 (B) source location for victims of human
8 trafficking for scam compounds; or

9 (C) target of cyber-enabled fraud origi-
10 nating from scam compounds internationally.

11 ~~(10) SCAM COMPOUND.~~—The term “scam com-
12 pound” means a physical installation where a signifi-
13 cant transnational criminal organization carries out
14 cyber-enabled fraud operations, frequently using vic-
15 tims of human trafficking and forced criminality.

16 ~~(11) SIGNIFICANT TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL~~
17 ~~ORGANIZATION.~~—The term “significant
18 transnational criminal organization” means a group
19 of persons that—

20 (A) includes one or more foreign person;

21 (B) engages in or facilitates an ongoing
22 pattern of serious criminal activity involving the
23 jurisdictions of at least two foreign states or
24 one foreign state and the United States; and

1 (C) threatens the national security, foreign
2 policy, or economy of the United States.

3 (12) STRATEGY.—The term “Strategy” means
4 the strategy to counter scam compounds and hold
5 significant transnational criminal organizations ac-
6 countable required under section 4.

7 (b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The definitions under
8 this section are exclusive to this Act and may not be con-
9 strued to affect any other provision of United States law.

10 **SEC. 4. STRATEGY TO COUNTER SCAM COMPOUNDS AND**
11 **HOLD SIGNIFICANT TRANSNATIONAL CRIMI-**
12 **NAL ORGANIZATIONS ACCOUNTABLE.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
14 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in
15 consultation with the Attorney General, the Secretary of
16 the Treasury, and the heads of other Federal departments
17 and agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congres-
18 sional committees a comprehensive strategy that—

19 (1) is designed to counter scam compounds and
20 hold significant transnational criminal organizations
21 accountable;

22 (2) is global in scope; and

23 (3) may prioritize efforts focused on Southeast
24 Asian countries where scam compound operations
25 are most prevalent.

1 (b) CONTENTS.—The Strategy shall—

2 (1) articulate a comprehensive problem state-
3 ment identifying the structural vulnerabilities ex-
4 ploited by significant transnational criminal organi-
5 zations operating scam compounds;

6 (2) develop a comprehensive list of enabling
7 countries and impacted countries;

8 (3) identify all active executive branch relevant
9 foreign assistance programs and diplomatic efforts
10 underway to address scam compounds, significant
11 transnational criminal organizations connected to
12 scam compounds, and related money laundering,
13 human trafficking and forced criminality, including
14 efforts with enabling countries and impacted coun-
15 tries;

16 (4) identify relevant foreign assistance re-
17 sources needed to fully implement the Strategy and
18 any obstacles to the response of the Federal Govern-
19 ment to scam compounds, including coordination
20 with partner governments, to address the human
21 trafficking, including forced criminality, and money
22 laundering that facilitates and sustains scam com-
23 pound operations;

1 (5) include objectives, activities, and perform-
2 ance indicators regarding the response of the Fed-
3 eral Government to scam compounds, including—

4 (A) the prevention of recruitment fraud
5 and human trafficking, including by—

6 (i) engaging private sector entities op-
7 erating internet platforms or other services
8 that can be abused or exploited to per-
9 petrate recruitment fraud, human traf-
10 ficking or cyber-enabled fraud;

11 (ii) raising awareness among at-risk
12 populations to identify common recruit-
13 ment fraud strategies and improve due
14 diligence and self-protection measures;

15 (iii) urging governments to monitor
16 and enforce laws against fraudulent and
17 unlawful recruitment practices; and

18 (iv) sharing information and building
19 awareness among foreign counterparts, in-
20 cluding law enforcement and border offi-
21 cials, to identify potential human traf-
22 ficking victims;

23 (B) the support for survivors of human
24 trafficking and forced criminality under the di-

rection of the Ambassador at Large to Monitor
and Combat Trafficking in Persons;

(C) the enhancement of coordination and
strengthening the capabilities of partner gov-
ernments and law enforcement agencies;

(D) the use of sanctions, visa restrictions,
and other accountability measures against ena-
bling countries, significant transnational crimi-
nal organizations, and related third-party
facilitators of scam compound operations;

(E) the support of partner governments in
countering corruption and money laundering re-
lated to scam compound operations; and

(F) the investigation of PRC connections
to significant transnational criminal organiza-
tions operating scam compounds.

(c) LIMITATION.—Nothing in the Strategy may af-
fect, apply to, or create obligations related to past,
present, or future criminal or civil law enforcement or in-
telligence activities of the United States or the law en-
forcement activities of any State or subdivision of a State.

**SEC. 5. ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO IMPLEMENT THE
STRATEGY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after sub-
mitting the Strategy pursuant to section 4(a), the Sec-

1 retary of State, in consultation with the Attorney General,
 2 the Secretary of the Treasury, and the heads of other Fed-
 3 eral departments and agencies, shall establish an inter-
 4 agency task force (referred to in this section as the “Task
 5 Force”)—

6 (1) to coordinate the implementation of the
 7 Strategy;

8 (2) to conduct regular monitoring and analysis
 9 of seam compound operations internationally;

10 (3) to track and evaluate progress toward the
 11 objectives, activities, and performance indicators of
 12 the Strategy described in section 4(b)(5); and

13 (4) to update the Strategy, in consultation with
 14 the appropriate congressional committees, as needed.

15 (b) ANNUAL REVIEWS AND REPORTS.—Not later
 16 than one year after the establishment of the Task Force,
 17 and not less frequently than annually thereafter, the Sec-
 18 retary of State and the Attorney General, in consultation
 19 with the Secretary of the Treasury and the heads of other
 20 Federal departments and agencies, shall—

21 (1) conduct a status review of the Strategy and
 22 the overall state of seam compounds operated by sig-
 23 nificant transnational criminal organizations;

24 (2) include a list of enabling countries and im-
 25 pacted countries; and

1 (3) submit the results of such review in a public
 2 report to the appropriate congressional committees;
 3 which may contain a classified annex.

4 (c) TASK FORCE TERMINATION.—The Task Force
 5 shall terminate on the date that is six years after the date
 6 on which it is established.

7 **SEC. 6. STRENGTHENING TOOLS TO DISMANTLE SCAM**
 8 **COMPOUNDS AND HOLD SIGNIFICANT**
 9 **TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS**
 10 **ACCOUNTABLE.**

11 (a) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO
 12 SIGNIFICANT ACTORS IN SCAM COMPOUND OPER-
 13 ATIONS.—Beginning on and after the date that is 180
 14 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Presi-
 15 dent may impose the sanctions described in subsection (b)
 16 with respect to any foreign person that the President de-
 17 termines—

18 (1) has materially assisted in, or provided sig-
 19 nificant financial or technological support to, or pro-
 20 vided significant goods or services in support of, the
 21 activities of international scam compounds or ena-
 22 bling services, including recruitment fraud, human
 23 trafficking (including forced criminality), cyber-en-
 24 abled fraud, or money laundering; or

1 ~~(2) owned, controlled, directed, or acted for, or~~
 2 ~~on behalf of, a significant scam compound operation~~
 3 ~~or enabling service, including recruitment fraud,~~
 4 ~~human trafficking (including forced criminality),~~
 5 ~~cyber-enabled fraud, or money laundering.~~

6 ~~(b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—~~The President may ex-
 7 ~~ercise of all powers granted to the President under the~~
 8 ~~International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50~~
 9 ~~U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and~~
 10 ~~prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in~~
 11 ~~property of a foreign person described in subsection (a),~~
 12 ~~including, to the extent appropriate, the vessel of which~~
 13 ~~the person is the beneficial owner, if such property or in-~~
 14 ~~terests in property are in the United States, come within~~
 15 ~~the United States, or are or come within the possession~~
 16 ~~or control of a United States person.~~

17 ~~(c) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—~~

18 ~~(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—~~The President may ex-
 19 ~~ercise all authorities provided under sections 203~~
 20 ~~and 205 of the International Emergency Economic~~
 21 ~~Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out~~
 22 ~~this section.~~

23 ~~(2) PENALTIES.—~~The penalties set forth in
 24 ~~subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the Inter-~~
 25 ~~national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50~~

1 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to any person who violates,
 2 attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a
 3 violation of any prohibition of this section, or an
 4 order or regulation prescribed under this section, to
 5 the same extent that such penalties apply to a per-
 6 son that commits an unlawful act described in sec-
 7 tion 206(a) of such Act (50 U.S.C. 1705(a)).

8 (d) INTELLIGENCE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVI-
 9 TIES.—Sanctions authorized under this section shall not
 10 apply with respect to—

11 (1) any activity subject to the reporting require-
 12 ments under title V of the National Security Act of
 13 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.); or

14 (2) any authorized intelligence or law enforce-
 15 ment activities of the United States.

16 (e) SEMIANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days
 17 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180
 18 days thereafter, the President shall submit a report to the
 19 appropriate congressional committees that—

20 (1) identifies all foreign persons the President
 21 has sanctioned pursuant to the authorities under
 22 this section; and

23 (2) the dates on which sanctions were imposed.

24 (f) EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF
 25 GOODS.—

1 ~~(1) IN GENERAL.~~—A requirement to block and
 2 prohibit all transactions in all property and interests
 3 in property pursuant to subsection (b) shall not in-
 4 clude the authority or a requirement to impose sanc-
 5 tions on the importation of goods.

6 ~~(2) DEFINED TERM.~~—In this subsection, the
 7 term “good” means any article, natural or manmade
 8 substance, material, supply, or manufactured prod-
 9 uct, including inspection and test equipment, and ex-
 10 cluding technical data.

11 ~~(g) WAIVER.~~—

12 ~~(1) IN GENERAL.~~—The President may waive
 13 the application of sanctions under this section with
 14 respect to a foreign person or a foreign financial in-
 15 stitution if the President determines that such waiv-
 16 er is in the national interest of the United States.

17 ~~(2) REPORT.~~—Not later than 15 days before
 18 granting a waiver pursuant to paragraph (1), the
 19 President shall submit a report to the appropriate
 20 congressional committees that includes—

21 ~~(A)~~ the name of the individual or institu-
 22 tion that is benefitting from such waiver; and

23 ~~(B)~~ if the beneficiary is an individual, a
 24 detailed justification explaining how the waiver

1 serves the national security interests of the
2 United States.

3 **SEC. 7. SUNSET.**

4 This Act shall cease to be effective beginning on the
5 date that is 7 years after the date of the enactment of
6 this Act.

7 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

8 *This Act may be cited as the “Scam Compound Ac-*
9 *countability and Mobilization Act”.*

10 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

11 *It is the sense of Congress that—*

12 *(1) transnational cyber-enabled fraud, particu-*
13 *larly perpetrated from scam compounds in Southeast*
14 *Asia, is a growing threat to citizens of the United*
15 *States, national security, and economic interests glob-*
16 *ally, with the Federal Bureau of Investigation report-*
17 *ing \$13,700,000,000 in losses in the United States*
18 *due to cyber-enabled fraud in 2024, including schemes*
19 *commonly perpetrated by significant transnational*
20 *criminal organizations operating scam compounds;*

21 *(2) significant transnational criminal organiza-*
22 *tions responsible for a large proportion of these scam*
23 *compounds are affiliated with the People’s Republic of*
24 *China (PRC), actively spread PRC propaganda, pro-*

1 *mote unification with Taiwan, and have brokered*
2 *projects for the Belt and Road Initiative;*

3 *(3) significant transnational criminal organiza-*
4 *tions have lured hundreds of thousands of human*
5 *trafficking victims from over 40 countries to scam*
6 *compounds, primarily in Burma, Cambodia, and*
7 *Laos, for purposes of forced criminality;*

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9 *tions are expanding scam compounds internationally*
10 *including in Africa, the Middle East, South Asia, and*
11 *the Pacific Islands, and related money laundering,*
12 *human trafficking and recruitment fraud have oc-*
13 *curred in Europe, North America, and South Amer-*
14 *ica;*

15 *(5) the United States should redouble efforts to*
16 *hold the perpetrators and enablers of scam compound*
17 *operations accountable, including those involved in*
18 *related money laundering, human trafficking, and re-*
19 *ruitment fraud, by employing tools, such as targeted*
20 *financial sanctions, visa restrictions, asset seizures,*
21 *and forfeiture;*

22 *(6) to effectively address cyber-enabled fraud*
23 *originating from scam compounds internationally,*
24 *the United States Government should work with part-*
25 *ner governments, multilateral institutions, civil soci-*

1 *ety experts, and private sector stakeholders to improve*
 2 *information sharing, strengthen preventative meas-*
 3 *ures, raise public awareness, and increase coordina-*
 4 *tion on law enforcement investigations and regulatory*
 5 *actions; and*

6 *(7) survivors of human trafficking, including*
 7 *forced criminality, require victim-centered support to*
 8 *ensure they are not punished for offenses committed*
 9 *under duress.*

10 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

11 *(a) IN GENERAL.—In this Act:*

12 *(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-*
 13 *TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional commit-*
 14 *tees” means—*

15 *(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of*
 16 *the Senate;*

17 *(B) the Committee on the Judiciary of the*
 18 *Senate;*

19 *(C) the Committee on Banking, Housing,*
 20 *and Urban Affairs of the Senate;*

21 *(D) the Select Committee on Intelligence of*
 22 *the Senate;*

23 *(E) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*
 24 *House of Representatives;*

1 (F) the Committee on the Judiciary of the
2 House of Representatives;

3 (G) the Committee on Financial Services of
4 the House of Representatives; and

5 (H) the Permanent Select Committee on In-
6 telligence of the House of Representatives.

7 (2) *CYBER-ENABLED FRAUD.*—The term “cyber-
8 enabled fraud” means the use of the internet or other
9 technology to commit fraudulent activity, including
10 illicitly obtaining money, property, data, identifica-
11 tion documents, or authentication features, or cre-
12 ating counterfeit goods or services.

13 (3) *ENABLING COUNTRY.*—The term “enabling
14 country” means a country where—

15 (A) government authorities actively or im-
16 plicitly permit, enable, or perpetuate scam com-
17 pound operations; or

18 (B) ineffective law enforcement or a failure
19 to enact legislation intended to prevent facili-
20 tating services from reaching scam compounds or
21 significant transnational criminal organizations
22 enables scam compound operators to obtain fa-
23 cilitating services.

24 (4) *FORCED CRIMINALITY.*—The term “forced
25 criminality” means a form of forced labor for the

1 *purpose of causing the victim to engage in criminal*
2 *activity, which may include cyber-enabled fraud.*

3 (5) *FORCED LABOR.*—*The term “forced labor”*
4 *has the meaning given the term severe form of traf-*
5 *ficking in persons in section 103(11)(B) of the Traf-*
6 *ficking Victims Protection Act of 2000(22 U.S.C.*
7 *7102(11)(B)).*

8 (6) *RELEVANT FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS*
9 *AND DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS.*—*The term “relevant for-*
10 *foreign assistance programs and diplomatic efforts”—*

11 (A) *means unclassified voluntary support*
12 *programs funded directly by the United States*
13 *Government that provide assistance to one or*
14 *more foreign countries for the purpose of com-*
15 *bating scam compound operations and related*
16 *significant transnational criminal organizations;*
17 *and*

18 (B) *excludes intelligence activities, includ-*
19 *ing activities authorized by the President and re-*
20 *ported to Congress in accordance with section*
21 *503 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50*
22 *U.S.C. 3093).*

23 (7) *HUMAN TRAFFICKING.*—*The term “human*
24 *trafficking” has the meaning given the term severe*
25 *form of trafficking in persons in section 103(11) of*

1 *the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000*(22
2 *U.S.C. 7102(11)).*

3 (8) *HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIM.*—*The terms*
4 *“human trafficking victim” and “victim of human*
5 *trafficking” mean a person subject to an act or prac-*
6 *tice described in section 103(11) of the Trafficking*
7 *Victims Protection Act of 2000*(22 *U.S.C. 7102(11)).*

8 (9) *IMPACTED COUNTRY.*—*The term “impacted*
9 *country” means a country that is a significant—*

10 (A) *transit location for victims of human*
11 *trafficking to scam compounds;*

12 (B) *source location for victims of human*
13 *trafficking for scam compounds; or*

14 (C) *target of cyber-enabled fraud origi-*
15 *nating from scam compounds internationally.*

16 (10) *SCAM COMPOUND.*—*The term “scam com-*
17 *pound” means a physical installation where a signifi-*
18 *cant transnational criminal organization carries out*
19 *cyber-enabled fraud operations, frequently using vic-*
20 *tims of human trafficking and forced criminality.*

21 (11) *SIGNIFICANT TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL OR-*
22 *GANIZATION.*—*The term “significant transnational*
23 *criminal organization” means a group of persons*
24 *that—*

25 (A) *includes one or more foreign person;*

1 (B) engages in or facilitates an ongoing
 2 pattern of serious criminal activity involving the
 3 jurisdictions of at least two foreign states or one
 4 foreign state and the United States; and

5 (C) threatens the national security, foreign
 6 policy, or economy of the United States.

7 (12) *STRATEGY*.—The term “Strategy” means
 8 the strategy to counter scam compounds and hold sig-
 9 nificant transnational criminal organizations ac-
 10 countable required under section 4.

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 12 this section are exclusive to this Act and may not be con-
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14 **SEC. 4. STRATEGY TO COUNTER SCAM COMPOUNDS AND**
 15 **HOLD SIGNIFICANT TRANSNATIONAL CRIMI-**
 16 **NAL ORGANIZATIONS ACCOUNTABLE.**

17 (a) *IN GENERAL*.—Not later than 180 days after the
 18 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in
 19 consultation with the Attorney General, the Secretary of the
 20 Treasury, and the heads of other Federal departments and
 21 agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congressional com-
 22 mittees a comprehensive strategy that—

23 (1) is designed to counter scam compounds and
 24 hold significant transnational criminal organizations
 25 accountable;

1 (2) *is global in scope; and*

2 (3) *may prioritize efforts focused on Southeast*
 3 *Asian countries where scam compound operations are*
 4 *most prevalent.*

5 (b) *CONTENTS.—The Strategy shall—*

6 (1) *articulate a comprehensive problem statement*
 7 *identifying the structural vulnerabilities exploited by*
 8 *significant transnational criminal organizations op-*
 9 *erating scam compounds;*

10 (2) *develop a comprehensive list of enabling*
 11 *countries and impacted countries;*

12 (3) *identify all active executive branch relevant*
 13 *foreign assistance programs and diplomatic efforts*
 14 *underway to address scam compounds, significant*
 15 *transnational criminal organizations connected to*
 16 *scam compounds, and related money laundering,*
 17 *human trafficking and forced criminality, including*
 18 *efforts with enabling countries and impacted coun-*
 19 *tries;*

20 (4) *identify relevant foreign assistance resources*
 21 *needed to fully implement the Strategy and any ob-*
 22 *stacles to the response of the Federal Government to*
 23 *scam compounds, including coordination with part-*
 24 *ner governments, to address the human trafficking,*
 25 *including forced criminality, and money laundering*

1 *that facilitates and sustains scam compound oper-*
2 *ations;*

3 *(5) include objectives, activities, and performance*
4 *indicators regarding the response of the Federal gov-*
5 *ernment to scam compounds, including—*

6 *(A) the prevention of recruitment fraud and*
7 *human trafficking, including by—*

8 *(i) engaging private sector entities op-*
9 *erating internet platforms or other services*
10 *that can be abused or exploited to per-*
11 *petrate recruitment fraud, human traf-*
12 *ficking or cyber-enabled fraud;*

13 *(ii) raising awareness among at-risk*
14 *populations to identify common recruitment*
15 *fraud strategies and improve due diligence*
16 *and self-protection measures;*

17 *(iii) urging governments to monitor*
18 *and enforce laws against fraudulent and*
19 *unlawful recruitment practices; and*

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21 *awareness among foreign counterparts, in-*
22 *cluding law enforcement and border offi-*
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1 (B) the support for survivors of human traf-
2 ficking and forced criminality under the direc-
3 tion of the Ambassador at Large to Monitor and
4 Combat Trafficking in Persons;

5 (C) the enhancement of coordination and
6 strengthening the capabilities of partner govern-
7 ments and law enforcement agencies;

8 (D) the use of sanctions, visa restrictions,
9 and other accountability measures against ena-
10 bling countries, significant transnational crimi-
11 nal organizations, and related third-party
12 facilitators of scam compound operations;

13 (E) the support of partner governments in
14 countering corruption and money laundering re-
15 lated to scam compound operations; and

16 (F) the investigation of PRC connections to
17 significant transnational criminal organizations
18 operating scam compounds.

19 (c) *LIMITATION.*—Nothing in the Strategy may affect,
20 apply to, or create obligations related to past, present, or
21 future criminal or civil law enforcement or intelligence ac-
22 tivities of the United States or the law enforcement activi-
23 ties of any State or subdivision of a State.

1 **SEC. 5. ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO IMPLEMENT THE**
2 **STRATEGY.**

3 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 90 days after sub-
4 mitting the Strategy pursuant to section 4(a), the Secretary
5 of State, in consultation with the Attorney General, the Sec-
6 retary of the Treasury, and the heads of other Federal de-
7 partments and agencies, shall establish an interagency task
8 force (referred to in this section as the “Task Force”)—

9 (1) to coordinate the implementation of the
10 Strategy;

11 (2) to conduct regular monitoring and analysis
12 of scam compound operations internationally;

13 (3) to track and evaluate progress toward the ob-
14 jectives, activities, and performance indicators of the
15 Strategy described in section 4(b)(5); and

16 (4) to update the Strategy, in consultation with
17 the appropriate congressional committees, as needed.

18 (b) *ANNUAL REVIEWS AND REPORTS.*—Not later than
19 one year after the establishment of the Task Force, and not
20 less frequently than annually thereafter, the Secretary of
21 State and the Attorney General, in consultation with the
22 Secretary of the Treasury and the heads of other Federal
23 departments and agencies, shall—

24 (1) conduct a status review of the Strategy and
25 the overall state of scam compounds operated by sig-
26 nificant transnational criminal organizations;

1 (2) *include a list of enabling countries and im-*
 2 *pacted countries; and*

3 (3) *submit the results of such review in a public*
 4 *report to the appropriate congressional committees,*
 5 *which may contain a classified annex.*

6 (c) *TASK FORCE TERMINATION.—The Task Force shall*
 7 *terminate on the date that is six years after the date on*
 8 *which it is established.*

9 **SEC. 6. STRENGTHENING TOOLS TO DISMANTLE SCAM COM-**
 10 **POUNDS AND HOLD SIGNIFICANT**
 11 **TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS**
 12 **ACCOUNTABLE.**

13 (a) *IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO*
 14 *SIGNIFICANT ACTORS IN SCAM COMPOUND OPERATIONS.—*
 15 *Beginning on and after the date that is 180 days after the*
 16 *date of the enactment of this Act, the President may impose*
 17 *the sanctions described in subsection (b) with respect to any*
 18 *foreign person that the President determines—*

19 (1) *has materially assisted in, or provided sig-*
 20 *nificant financial or technological support to, or pro-*
 21 *vided significant goods or services in support of, the*
 22 *activities of international scam compounds or ena-*
 23 *bling services, including recruitment fraud, human*
 24 *trafficking (including forced criminality), cyber-en-*
 25 *abled fraud, or money-laundering; or*

1 (2) *owned, controlled, directed, or acted for, or*
 2 *on behalf of, a significant scam compound operation*
 3 *or enabling service, including recruitment fraud,*
 4 *human trafficking (including forced criminality),*
 5 *cyber-enabled fraud, or money-laundering.*

6 (b) *SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The President may exer-*
 7 *cise of all powers granted to the President under the Inter-*
 8 *national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701*
 9 *et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all*
 10 *transactions in all property and interests in property of*
 11 *a foreign person described in subsection (a), including, to*
 12 *the extent appropriate, the vessel of which the person is the*
 13 *beneficial owner, if such property or interests in property*
 14 *are in the United States, come within the United States,*
 15 *or are or come within the possession or control of a United*
 16 *States person.*

17 (c) *IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—*

18 (1) *IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exer-*
 19 *cise all authorities provided under sections 203 and*
 20 *205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers*
 21 *Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this sec-*
 22 *tion.*

23 (2) *PENALTIES.—The penalties set forth in sub-*
 24 *sections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International*
 25 *Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705)*

1 *shall apply to any person who violates, attempts to*
 2 *violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of*
 3 *any prohibition of this section, or an order or regula-*
 4 *tion prescribed under this section, to the same extent*
 5 *that such penalties apply to a person that commits*
 6 *an unlawful act described in section 206(a) of such*
 7 *Act (50 U.S.C. 1705(a)).*

8 (d) *INTELLIGENCE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVI-*
 9 *TIES.*—*Sanctions authorized under this section shall not*
 10 *apply with respect to—*

11 (1) *any activity subject to the reporting require-*
 12 *ments under title V of the National Security Act of*
 13 *1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.); or*

14 (2) *any authorized intelligence or law enforce-*
 15 *ment activities of the United States.*

16 (e) *SEMIANNUAL REPORT.*—*Not later than 180 days*
 17 *after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180*
 18 *days thereafter, the President shall submit a report to the*
 19 *appropriate congressional committees that—*

20 (1) *identifies all foreign persons the President*
 21 *has sanctioned pursuant to the authorities under this*
 22 *section; and*

23 (2) *the dates on which sanctions were imposed.*

24 (f) *EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF*
 25 *GOODS.*—

1 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*A requirement to block and*
 2 *prohibit all transactions in all property and interests*
 3 *in property pursuant to subsection (b) shall not in-*
 4 *clude the authority or a requirement to impose sanc-*
 5 *tions on the importation of goods.*

6 (2) *DEFINED TERM.*—*In this subsection, the*
 7 *term “good” means any article, natural or manmade*
 8 *substance, material, supply, or manufactured product,*
 9 *including inspection and test equipment, and exclud-*
 10 *ing technical data.*

11 (g) *WAIVER.*—

12 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The President may waive the*
 13 *application of sanctions under this section with re-*
 14 *spect to a foreign person or a foreign financial insti-*
 15 *tution if the President determines that such waiver is*
 16 *in the national interest of the United States.*

17 (2) *REPORT.*—*Not later than 15 days before*
 18 *granting a waiver pursuant to paragraph (1), the*
 19 *President shall submit a report to the appropriate*
 20 *congressional committees that includes—*

21 (A) *the name of the individual or institu-*
 22 *tion that is benefitting from such waiver; and*

23 (B) *if the beneficiary is an individual, a*
 24 *detailed justification explaining how the waiver*

1 *serves the national security interests of the*
2 *United States.*

3 **SEC. 7. REDRESS TO VICTIMS OF INTERNATIONAL SCAM**
4 **COMPOUND OPERATIONS.**

5 *Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment*
6 *of this Act, the Attorney General, in consultation with the*
7 *Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the*
8 *heads of other appropriate Federal departments and agen-*
9 *cies, shall submit to the appropriate congressional commit-*
10 *tees a report containing an assessment of existing forfeiture*
11 *law that—*

12 *(1) outlines challenges or limitations to pro-*
13 *viding financial redress to victims of international*
14 *scam compound operations;*

15 *(2) offers recommendations to amend existing*
16 *forfeiture law to enable the Department of Justice to*
17 *use assets forfeited as a result of law enforcement ac-*
18 *tivities targeting international scam compound oper-*
19 *ations to provide financial redress to United States*
20 *citizen victims of scam operations; and*

21 *(3) offers recommendations for the administra-*
22 *tion of such a redress mechanism.*

1 **SEC. 8. SUNSET.**

2 *This Act shall cease to be effective beginning on the*
3 *date that is 7 years after the date of the enactment of this*
4 *Act.*

Calendar No. 244

119TH CONGRESS
1ST Session
S. 2950

A BILL

To require the Secretary of State and relevant executive branch agencies to address international scam compounds defrauding people in the United States, to hold significant transnational criminal organizations accountable, and for other purposes.

OCTOBER 30, 2025
Reported with an amendment