

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1677

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 18, 2017

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## AN ACT

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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

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

4 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for  
5 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 mate-  
rials 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 re-  
sponsible 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 tech-  
nologies to Syria that are likely to be used to commit human  
rights abuses.

Sec. 203. Imposition of sanctions with respect to persons who hinder humani-  
tarian access.

Sec. 204. Report on certain persons who are responsible for or complicit in cer-  
tain human rights abuses in Syria.

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

Sec. 301. Briefing on monitoring and evaluating of ongoing assistance pro-  
grams in Syria and to the Syrian people.

Sec. 302. Assessment of potential methods to enhance the protection of civil-  
ians.

Sec. 303. Assistance to support entities taking actions relating to gathering evi-  
dence for investigations into war crimes or crimes against hu-  
manity 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. Implementation and regulatory authorities.  
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 million 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

1 Chemical Weapons Convention, to which Syria is a  
2 party;

3 (4) Assad's abhorrent use of chemical weapons,  
4 most recently on April 4, 2017, in an attack on the  
5 town of Khan Shakhyn in which more than 90 peo-  
6 ple died, including women and children, and more  
7 than 600 hundred people were injured, is condemned  
8 in the strongest terms;

9 (5) violent attacks resulting in death, injury,  
10 imprisonment or threat of prosecution against hu-  
11 manitarian aid workers and diplomatic personnel, as  
12 well as attacks on humanitarian supplies, facilities,  
13 transports, and assets, and acts to impede the access  
14 and secure movement of all humanitarian personnel  
15 are in violation of international humanitarian law  
16 and impede the lifesaving work of humanitarian or-  
17 ganizations and diplomatic institutions; and

18 (6) Assad's continued claim of leadership and  
19 war crimes in Syria have served as a rallying point  
20 for the extremist ideology of the Islamic State,  
21 Jabhat al-Nusra, and other terrorist organizations.

22 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

23 It is the policy of the United States that all diplo-  
24 matic and coercive economic means should be utilized to  
25 compel the government of Bashar al-Assad to immediately

1 halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people and to  
2 support an immediate transition to a democratic govern-  
3 ment in Syria that respects the rule of law, human rights,  
4 and peaceful co-existence with its neighbors.

5 **TITLE I—ADDITIONAL ACTIONS**  
6 **IN CONNECTION WITH THE**  
7 **NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH**  
8 **RESPECT TO SYRIA**

9 **SEC. 101. SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO CENTRAL BANK**  
10 **OF SYRIA AND FOREIGN PERSONS THAT EN-**  
11 **GAGE IN CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS.**

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

17 (b) BLOCKING PROPERTY OF FOREIGN PERSONS  
18 THAT ENGAGE IN CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on and after the  
20 date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment  
21 of this Act, the President shall impose on a foreign  
22 person the sanctions described in subsection (c) if  
23 the President determines that such foreign person,  
24 on or after such date of enactment, knowingly en-  
25 gages in an activity described in paragraph (2).

1           (2) ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.—A foreign person  
2 engages in an activity described in this paragraph if  
3 the foreign person—

4           (A) knowingly provides significant finan-  
5 cial, material or technological support to (in-  
6 cluding engaging in or facilitating a significant  
7 transaction or transactions with) or provides  
8 significant financial services for—

9           (i) the Government of Syria (including  
10 government entities operating as a busi-  
11 ness enterprise) and the Central Bank of  
12 Syria, or any of its agencies or instrumen-  
13 talities; or

14           (ii) a foreign person subject to sanc-  
15 tions pursuant to—

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

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

1 (B) knowingly—

2 (i) sells or provides significant goods,  
3 services, technology, information, or other  
4 support that directly and significantly fa-  
5 cilitates the maintenance or expansion of  
6 the Government of Syria's domestic pro-  
7 duction of natural gas or petroleum or pe-  
8 troleum products of Syrian origin in areas  
9 controlled by the Government of Syria or  
10 associated forces;

11 (ii) sells or provides to the Govern-  
12 ment of Syria crude oil or condensate, re-  
13 fined petroleum products, liquefied natural  
14 gas, or petrochemical products that have a  
15 fair market value of \$500,000 or more or  
16 that during a 12-month period have an ag-  
17 gregate fair market value of \$2,000,000 or  
18 more in areas controlled by the Govern-  
19 ment of Syria or associated forces;

20 (iii) sells or provides aircraft or spare  
21 parts, or provides significant goods, serv-  
22 ices, or technologies associated with the op-  
23 eration of such aircraft or air carriers to  
24 any foreign person operating in areas con-  
25 trolled by the Government of Syria or asso-

1           ciated forces that are used, in whole or in  
2           part, for military purposes; or

3                   (iv) sells or provides significant goods,  
4           services, or technology to a foreign person  
5           operating in the shipping (including ports  
6           and free trade zones), transportation, or  
7           telecommunications sectors in areas con-  
8           trolled by the Government of Syria or asso-  
9           ciated forces;

10           (C) knowingly facilitates efforts by a for-  
11           eign person to carry out an activity described in  
12           subparagraph (A) or (B); or

13                   (D) knowingly provides significant loans,  
14           credits, including export credits, or financing to  
15           carry out an activity described in subparagraph  
16           (A) or (B).

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

20                   (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The President shall exercise  
21           all of the powers granted to the President under the  
22           International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50  
23           U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block  
24           and prohibit all transactions in property and inter-  
25           ests in property of the foreign person if such prop-



1 erty and interests in property are in the United  
2 States, come within the United States, or are or  
3 come within the possession or control of a United  
4 States person.

5 (2) ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMISSION,  
6 OR PAROLE.—

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

13 (i) inadmissible to the United States;

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

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

22 (B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

23 (i) IN GENERAL.—The issuing con-  
24 sular officer, the Secretary of State, or the  
25 Secretary of Homeland Security (or a des-

1           ignee of one of such Secretaries) shall re-  
2           voke any visa or other entry documentation  
3           issued to an alien who meets any of the  
4           criteria described in subsection (a) regard-  
5           less of when issued.

6                   (ii) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—A rev-  
7           ocation under clause (i)—

8                           (I) shall take effect immediately;

9                           and

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

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

24                   (4) PENALTIES.—The penalties provided for in  
25           subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the Inter-

1 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50  
2 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a person that knowingly  
3 violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or  
4 causes a violation of regulations promulgated under  
5 section 501(a) to carry out paragraph (1) of this  
6 subsection to the same extent that such penalties  
7 apply to a person that knowingly commits an unlaw-  
8 ful act described in section 206(a) of that Act.

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

12 (a) SANCTIONS.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on and after the  
14 date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment  
15 of this Act, the President shall impose on a foreign  
16 person the sanctions described in subsection (b) if  
17 the President determines that such foreign person,  
18 on or after such date of enactment, knowingly ex-  
19 ports, transfers, or provides significant financial,  
20 material, or technological support to the Government  
21 of Syria to—

22 (A) acquire or develop chemical, biological,  
23 or nuclear weapons or related technologies;

24 (B) acquire or develop ballistic or cruise  
25 missile capabilities;

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

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.)), if the President deter-  
8           mines that a significant type or amount of such  
9           articles, services, or information has been so ac-  
10          quired.

11          (2) APPLICABILITY TO OTHER FOREIGN PER-  
12          SONS.—The sanctions described in subsection (b)  
13          shall also be imposed on any foreign person that is  
14          a successor entity to a foreign person described in  
15          paragraph (1).

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

19               (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall exercise  
20               all powers granted by the International Emergency  
21               Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to  
22               the extent necessary to freeze and prohibit all trans-  
23               actions in all property and interests in property of  
24               the foreign person if such property and interests in  
25               property are in the United States, come within the

1 United States, or are or come within the possession  
2 or control of a 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.—A person that violates, at-  
23 tempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a  
24 violation of any regulation, license, or order issued  
25 to carry out this section shall be subject to the pen-

1 alties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section  
2 206 of the International Emergency Economic Pow-  
3 ers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a  
4 person that commits an unlawful act described in  
5 subsection (a) of that section.

6 **SEC. 103. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

7 Nothing in this title shall be construed to limit the  
8 authority of the President pursuant to the International  
9 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et  
10 seq.).

11 **SEC. 104. DEFINITIONS.**

12 In this title:

13 (1) ADMITTED; ALIEN.—The terms “admitted”  
14 and “alien” have the meanings given such terms in  
15 section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act  
16 (8 U.S.C. 1101).

17 (2) FINANCIAL, MATERIAL, OR TECHNOLOGICAL  
18 SUPPORT.—The term “financial, material, or techno-  
19 logical support” has the meaning given such term in  
20 section 542.304 of title 31, Code of Federal Regula-  
21 tions, as such section was in effect on the date of  
22 the enactment of this Act.

23 (3) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign per-  
24 son” means any citizen or national of a foreign  
25 country, or any entity not organized solely under the

1 laws of the United States or existing solely in the  
2 United States.

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

8 (5) KNOWINGLY.—The term “knowingly” has  
9 the meaning given such term in section 566.312 of  
10 title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, as such sec-  
11 tion was in effect on the date of the enactment of  
12 this Act.

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

15 (7) PETROLEUM OR PETROLEUM PRODUCTS OF  
16 SYRIAN ORIGIN.—The term “petroleum or petroleum  
17 products of Syrian origin” has the meaning given  
18 such term in section 542.314 of title 31, Code of  
19 Federal Regulations, as such section was in effect on  
20 the date of the enactment of this Act.

21 (8) SIGNIFICANT TRANSACTION OR TRANS-  
22 ACTIONS; SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL SERVICES.—A  
23 transaction or transactions or financial services shall  
24 be determined to be a significant for purposes of this  
25 section in accordance with section 566.404 of title



1 31, Code of Federal Regulations, as such section  
2 was in effect on the date of the enactment of this  
3 Act.

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

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

13 **TITLE II—AMENDMENTS TO**  
14 **SYRIA HUMAN RIGHTS AC-**  
15 **COUNTABILITY ACT OF 2012**

16 **SEC. 201. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**  
17 **CERTAIN PERSONS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE**  
18 **FOR OR COMPLICIT IN HUMAN RIGHTS**  
19 **ABUSES COMMITTED AGAINST CITIZENS OF**  
20 **SYRIA OR THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 702(c) of the Syria  
22 Human Rights Accountability Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C.  
23 8791(c)) is amended to read as follows:

24 “(c) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall exer-  
2           cise all powers granted by the International Emer-  
3           gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et  
4           seq.) to the extent necessary to freeze and prohibit  
5           all transactions in all property and interests in prop-  
6           erty of a person on the list required by subsection  
7           (b) if such property and interests in property are in  
8           the United States, come within the United States, or  
9           are or come within the possession or control of a  
10          United States person.

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

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

19                   “(i) inadmissible to the United States;

20                   “(ii) ineligible to receive a visa or  
21                   other documentation to enter the United  
22                   States; and

23                   “(iii) otherwise ineligible to be admit-  
24                   ted or paroled into the United States or to  
25                   receive any other benefit under the Immi-

1                   gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
2                   1101 et seq.).

3                   “(B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

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

12                  “(ii) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—A  
13                  revocation under clause (i)—

14                         “(I) shall take effect imme-  
15                         diately; and

16                         “(II) shall automatically cancel  
17                         any other valid visa or entry docu-  
18                         mentation that is in the alien’s pos-  
19                         session.

20                  “(3) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, at-  
21                  tempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a  
22                  violation of this section or any regulation, license, or  
23                  order issued to carry out this section shall be subject  
24                  to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c)  
25                  of section 206 of the International Emergency Eco-

1        nomic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same ex-  
2        tent as a person that commits an unlawful act de-  
3        scribed in subsection (a) of that section.

4            “(4) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The President  
5        shall, not later than 180 days after the date of the  
6        enactment of this section, promulgate regulations as  
7        necessary for the implementation of this section.

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

18           “(6) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in  
19       this section shall be construed to limit the authority  
20       of the President pursuant to the International  
21       Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701  
22       et seq.), relevant Executive orders, regulations, or  
23       other provisions of law.”.

24        (b) SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES DESCRIBED.—  
25       Section 702 of the Syria Human Rights Accountability

1 Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8791) is amended by adding at  
2 the end the following:

3 “(d) **SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES DE-**  
4 **SCRIBED.**—In subsection (b), the term ‘serious human  
5 rights abuses’ includes—

6 “(1) the deliberate targeting of civilian infra-  
7 structure to include schools, hospitals, markets, and  
8 other infrastructure that is essential to human life,  
9 such as power and water systems; and

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

13 (c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by  
14 subsections (a) and (b) shall take effect on the date of  
15 the enactment of this Act and shall apply with respect to  
16 the imposition of sanctions under section 702(a) of the  
17 Syria Human Rights Accountability Act of 2012 on after  
18 such date of enactment.

19 **SEC. 202. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**  
20 **THE TRANSFER OF GOODS OR TECH-**  
21 **NOLOGIES TO SYRIA THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE**  
22 **USED TO COMMIT HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.**

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

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

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

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

5 “(iii) any article—

6 “(I) designated by the President  
7 for purposes of the United States Mu-  
8 nitions List under section 38(a)(1) of  
9 the Arms Export Control Act (22  
10 U.S.C. 2778(a)(1)); and

11 “(II) with respect to which the  
12 President determines is significant for  
13 purposes of the imposition of sanc-  
14 tions under subsection (a); or

15 “(iv) other goods or technologies that  
16 the President determines may be used by  
17 the Government of Syria to commit human  
18 rights abuses against the people of Syria.”.

19 **SEC. 203. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**  
20 **PERSONS WHO HINDER HUMANITARIAN AC-**  
21 **CESS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Syria Human Rights Ac-  
23 countability Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8791 et seq.) is  
24 amended—

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

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

4   **“SEC. 705. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**  
5                   **PERSONS WHO HINDER HUMANITARIAN AC-**  
6                   **CESS.**

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

10          “(b) LIST OF PERSONS WHO HINDER HUMANI-  
11          TARIAN ACCESS.—

12                  “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days  
13                  after the date of the enactment of the Caesar Syria  
14                  Civilian Protection Act of 2017, the President shall  
15                  submit to the appropriate congressional committees  
16                  a list of persons that the President determines have  
17                  engaged in deliberate diversion, hindering, or block-  
18                  ing of access for humanitarian purposes for the  
19                  United Nations, its specialized agencies and imple-  
20                  menting partners, national and international non-  
21                  governmental organizations, and all other actors en-  
22                  gaged in humanitarian relief activities in Syria, in-  
23                  cluding through the deliberate targeting of such hu-  
24                  manitarian actors and activities in Syria and across  
25                  conflict lines and borders.

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

4                   “(A) not later than 300 days after the date  
5                   of the enactment of the Caesar Syria Civilian  
6                   Protection Act of 2017 and every 180 days  
7                   thereafter; and

8                   “(B) as new information becomes avail-  
9                   able.

10           “(3) FORM.—The list required by paragraph  
11           (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may  
12           contain a classified annex.”; and

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

15           (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
16           for the Syria Human Rights Accountability Act of 2012  
17           is amended by inserting after the item relating to section  
18           704 the following new item:

          “Sec. 705. Imposition of sanctions with respect to persons who hinder humani-  
          tarian access.”.

19   **SEC. 204. REPORT ON CERTAIN PERSONS WHO ARE RE-**  
20                   **SPONSIBLE FOR OR COMPLICIT IN CERTAIN**  
21                   **HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN SYRIA.**

22           (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the  
23           date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall sub-  
24           mit to the appropriate congressional committees a detailed



1 report with respect to whether each person described in  
2 subsection (c) meets the requirements described in section  
3 702(b) of the Syria Human Rights Accountability Act of  
4 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8791(b)) for purposes of inclusion on the  
5 list of persons who are responsible for or complicit in cer-  
6 tain human rights abuses under such section.

7 (b) JUSTIFICATION.—The President shall include in  
8 the report required by subsection (a) a description of the  
9 reasons why any of the persons described in subsection  
10 (c) do not meet the requirements described in section  
11 702(b) of the Syria Human Rights Accountability Act of  
12 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8791(b)), including information on  
13 whether sufficient credible evidence of responsibility for  
14 such abuses was found or whether any of the persons de-  
15 scribed in subsection (c) have been designated pursuant  
16 to—

17 (1) Executive Order No. 13572 of April 29,  
18 2011 (76 Fed. Reg. 24787; relating to blocking  
19 property of certain persons with respect to human  
20 rights abuses in Syria);

21 (2) Executive Order No. 13573 of May 18,  
22 2011 (76 Fed. Reg. 29143; relating to blocking  
23 property of senior officials of the Government of  
24 Syria);

1           (3) Executive Order No. 13582 of August 17,  
2           2011 (76 Fed. Reg. 52209; relating to blocking  
3           property of the Government of Syria and prohibiting  
4           certain transactions with respect to Syria); or

5           (4) Executive Order No. 13606 of April 22,  
6           2012 (77 Fed. Reg. 24571; relating to blocking the  
7           property and suspending entry into the United  
8           States of certain persons with respect to grave  
9           human rights abuses by the Governments of Iran  
10          and Syria via information technology).

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

13               (1) Bashar Al-Assad.

14               (2) Asma Al-Assad.

15               (3) Rami Makhlouf.

16               (4) Bouthayna Shaaban.

17               (5) Walid Moallem.

18               (6) Ali Al-Salim.

19               (7) Wael Nader Al-Halqi.

20               (8) Jamil Hassan.

21               (9) Suhail Hassan.

22               (10) Ali Mamluk.

23               (11) Muhammed Khadour, Deir Ez Zor Mili-  
24          tary and Security.

25               (12) Jamal Razzouq, Security Branch 243.

- 1 (13) Munzer Ghanam, Air Force Intelligence.
- 2 (14) Daas Hasan Ali, Branch 327.
- 3 (15) Jassem Ali Jassem Hamad, Political Secu-
- 4 rity.
- 5 (16) Samir Muhammad Youssef, Military Intel-
- 6 ligence.
- 7 (17) Ali Ahmad Dayoub, Air Force Intelligence.
- 8 (18) Khaled Muhsen Al-Halabi, Security
- 9 Branch 335.
- 10 (19) Mahmoud Kahila, Political Security.
- 11 (20) Zuhair Ahmad Hamad, Provincial Secu-
- 12 rity.
- 13 (21) Wafiq Nasser, Security Branch 245.
- 14 (22) Qussay Mayoub, Air Force Intelligence.
- 15 (23) Muhammad Ammar Sardini, Political Se-
- 16 curity.
- 17 (24) Fouad Hammouda, Military Security.
- 18 (25) Hasan Daaboul, Branch 261.
- 19 (26) Yahia Wahbi, Air Force Intelligence.
- 20 (27) Okab Saqer, Security Branch 318.
- 21 (28) Husam Luqa, Political Security.
- 22 (29) Sami Al-Hasan, Security Branch 219.
- 23 (30) Yassir Deeb, Political Security.
- 24 (31) Ibrahim Darwish, Security Branch 220.
- 25 (32) Nasser Deeb, Political Security.

1 (33) Abdullatif Al-Fahed, Security Branch 290.

2 (34) Adeeb Namer Salamah, Air Force Intel-  
3 ligence.

4 (35) Akram Muhammed, State Security.

5 (36) Reyad Abbas, Political Security.

6 (37) Ali Abdullah Ayoub, Syrian Armed Forces.

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

8 (39) Issam Halaq, Air Force.

9 (40) Ghassan Al-Abdullah, General Intelligence  
10 Directorate.

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

12 (42) Fahad Al-Farouch.

13 (43) Rafiq Shahada, Military Intelligence.

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

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

16 (46) Muhammad Zamrini, Military Intelligence.

17 (47) Muhammad Mahallah, Military Intel-  
18 ligence.

19 (d) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a)  
20 shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain  
21 a classified annex if necessary.

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, the Committee on Finance, and the Committee  
6 on the Judiciary of the Senate.

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

11 **SEC. 301. BRIEFING 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 brief the Committee on  
18 Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the  
19 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate on the  
20 monitoring and evaluation of ongoing assistance programs  
21 in Syria and for the Syrian people, including assistance  
22 provided through multilateral organizations.

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

1           (1) the specific project monitoring and evalua-  
2           tion efforts, including measurable goals and per-  
3           formance metrics for assistance in Syria;

4           (2) a description of the memoranda of under-  
5           standing entered into by the Department of State,  
6           the United States Agency for International Develop-  
7           ment, and their respective Inspectors General and  
8           the multilateral organizations through which United  
9           States assistance will be delivered that formalize re-  
10          quirements for the sharing of information between  
11          such entities for the conduct of audits, investiga-  
12          tions, 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 committees 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;

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; and

8           (4) describes the Administration’s plan for re-  
9           cruitment, training, and retention of partner forces,  
10          including—

11                 (A) identification of the United States  
12                 partner forces operating on the ground;

13                 (B) the primary source of strength for  
14                 each armed actor engaged in hostilities;

15                 (C) the capabilities, requirements, and  
16                 vulnerabilities of each armed actor;

17                 (D) the United States role in mitigating  
18                 vulnerabilities of partner forces; and

19                 (E) the Administration’s measures of suc-  
20                 cess for partner forces, including—

21                         (i) increasing Syrian civilian security;

22                         and

23                         (ii) working toward an end to the con-  
24                         flict in Syria.



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

4 (c) CONSULTATION.—The report required by sub-  
5 section (a) shall be informed by consultations with the De-  
6 partment of State, the United States Agency for Inter-  
7 national Development, the Department of Defense, and  
8 international and local organizations operating in Syria or  
9 in neighboring countries to alleviate the suffering of the  
10 Syrian people.

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

13 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the  
14 Committee on Armed Services of the House of Rep-  
15 resentatives; and

16 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and  
17 the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.

18 **SEC. 303. ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT ENTITIES TAKING AC-**  
19 **TIONS RELATING TO GATHERING EVIDENCE**  
20 **FOR INVESTIGATIONS INTO WAR CRIMES OR**  
21 **CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY IN SYRIA SINCE**  
22 **MARCH 2011.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
24 sion of law, the Secretary of State, acting through the As-  
25 sistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights and

1 Labor and the Assistant Secretary for International Nar-  
2 cotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, is authorized to pro-  
3 vide assistance to support entities that are conducting  
4 criminal investigations, building Syrian investigative ca-  
5 pacity, supporting prosecutions in national courts, col-  
6 lecting evidence and preserving the chain of evidence for  
7 eventual prosecution against those who have committed  
8 war crimes or crimes against humanity in Syria, including  
9 the aiding and abetting of such crimes by foreign govern-  
10 ments and organizations supporting the Government of  
11 Syria, since March 2011.

12 (b) BRIEFING.—Not later than 1 year after the date  
13 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall  
14 brief the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of  
15 Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations  
16 of the Senate on assistance provided under subsection (a).

17 **TITLE IV—SUSPENSION OF**  
18 **SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT**  
19 **TO SYRIA**

20 **SEC. 401. SUSPENSION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**  
21 **SYRIA.**

22 (a) SUSPENSION OF SANCTIONS.—

23 (1) NEGOTIATIONS NOT CONCLUDING IN  
24 AGREEMENT.—If the President determines that  
25 internationally recognized negotiations to resolve the

1 violence in Syria have not concluded in an agree-  
2 ment or are likely not to conclude in an agreement,  
3 the President may suspend, as appropriate, in whole  
4 or in part, the imposition of sanctions otherwise re-  
5 quired under this Act or any amendment made by  
6 this Act for a period not to exceed 120 days, and re-  
7 newable for additional periods not to exceed 120  
8 days, if the President submits to the appropriate  
9 congressional committees in writing a determination  
10 and certification that the Government of Syria has  
11 ended military attacks against and gross violations  
12 of the human rights of the Syrian people, specifi-  
13 cally—

14 (A) the air space over Syria is no longer  
15 being utilized by the Government of Syria and  
16 associated forces to target civilian populations  
17 through the use of incendiary devices, including  
18 barrel bombs, chemical weapons, and conven-  
19 tional arms, including air-delivered missiles and  
20 explosives;

21 (B) areas besieged by the Assad regime  
22 and associated forces, including Hezbollah and  
23 irregular Iranian forces, are no longer cut off  
24 from international aid and have regular access

1 to humanitarian assistance, freedom of travel,  
2 and medical care;

3 (C) the Government of Syria is releasing  
4 all political prisoners forcibly held within the  
5 Assad regime prison system, including the fa-  
6 cilities maintained by various security, intel-  
7 ligence, and military elements associated with  
8 the Government of Syria and allowed full access  
9 to the same facilities for investigations by ap-  
10 propriate international human rights organiza-  
11 tions; and

12 (D) the forces of the Government of Syria  
13 and associated forces, including Hezbollah, ir-  
14 regular Iranian forces, and Russian government  
15 air assets, are no longer engaged in deliberate  
16 targeting of medical facilities, schools, residen-  
17 tial areas, and community gathering places, in-  
18 cluding markets, in flagrant violation of inter-  
19 national norms.

20 (2) NEGOTIATIONS CONCLUDING IN AGREE-  
21 MENT.—

22 (A) INITIAL SUSPENSION OF SANCTIONS.—  
23 If the President determines that internationally  
24 recognized negotiations to resolve the violence  
25 in Syria have concluded in an agreement or are

1 likely to conclude in an agreement, the Presi-  
2 dent may suspend, as appropriate, in whole or  
3 in part, the imposition of sanctions otherwise  
4 required under this Act or any amendment  
5 made by this Act for a period not to exceed 120  
6 days if the President submits to the appropriate  
7 congressional committees in writing a deter-  
8 mination and certification that—

9 (i) in the case in which the negotia-  
10 tions are likely to conclude in an agree-  
11 ment—

12 (I) the Government of Syria, the  
13 Syrian High Negotiations Committee  
14 or its internationally-recognized suc-  
15 cessor, and appropriate international  
16 parties are participating in direct,  
17 face-to-face negotiations; and

18 (II) the suspension of sanctions  
19 under this Act or any amendment  
20 made by this Act is essential to the  
21 advancement of such negotiations; and

22 (ii) the Government of Syria has dem-  
23 onstrated a commitment to a significant  
24 and substantial reduction in attacks on  
25 and violence against the Syrian people by

1           the Government of Syria and associated  
2           forces.

3           (B) RENEWAL OF SUSPENSION OF SANC-  
4           TIONS.—The President may renew a suspension  
5           of sanctions under subparagraph (A) for addi-  
6           tional periods not to exceed 120 days if, for  
7           each such additional period, the President sub-  
8           mits to the appropriate congressional commit-  
9           tees in writing a determination and certification  
10          that—

11                   (i) the conditions described in clauses  
12                   (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A) are con-  
13                   tinuing to be met;

14                   (ii) the renewal of the suspension of  
15                   sanctions is essential to implementing an  
16                   agreement described in subparagraph (A)  
17                   or making progress toward concluding an  
18                   agreement described in subparagraph (A);

19                   (iii) the Government of Syria and as-  
20                   sociated forces have ceased attacks against  
21                   Syrian civilians; and

22                   (iv) the Government of Syria has pub-  
23                   licly committed to negotiations for a tran-  
24                   sitional government in Syria and continues  
25                   to demonstrate that commitment through

1           sustained engagement in talks and sub-  
2           stantive and verifiable progress towards  
3           the implementation of such an agreement.

4           (3) BRIEFING AND REIMPOSITION OF SANC-  
5 TIONS.—

6           (A) BRIEFING.—Not later than 30 days  
7           after the President submits to the appropriate  
8           congressional committees a determination and  
9           certification in the case of a renewal of suspen-  
10          sion of sanctions under paragraph (2)(B), and  
11          every 30 days thereafter, the President shall  
12          provide a briefing to the appropriate congres-  
13          sional committees on the status and frequency  
14          of negotiations described in paragraph (2).

15          (B) RE-IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—If  
16          the President provides a briefing to the appro-  
17          priate congressional committees under subpara-  
18          graph (A) with respect to which the President  
19          indicates a lapse in negotiations described in  
20          paragraph (2) for a period that equals or ex-  
21          ceeds 90 days, the sanctions that were sus-  
22          pended under paragraph (2)(B) shall be re-im-  
23          posed and any further suspension of such sanc-  
24          tions is prohibited.

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

3                   (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the  
4                   Committee on Financial Services, the Com-  
5                   mittee on Ways and Means, and the Committee  
6                   on the Judiciary of the House of Representa-  
7                   tives; and

8                   (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations,  
9                   the Committee on Banking, Housing, and  
10                  Urban Affairs, the Committee on Finance, and  
11                  the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate.

12          (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR  
13          DETERMINING A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT IN  
14          SYRIA.—It is the sense of Congress that a transitional  
15          government in Syria is a government that—

16                  (1) is taking verifiable steps to release all polit-  
17                  ical prisoners and is providing full access to Syrian  
18                  prisons for investigations by appropriate inter-  
19                  national human rights organizations;

20                  (2) is taking verifiable steps to remove former  
21                  senior Syrian Government officials who are complicit  
22                  in the conception, implementation, or cover up of  
23                  war crimes, crimes against humanity, or human  
24                  rights abuses and any person subject to sanctions



1 under any provision of law from government posi-  
2 tions;

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

5 (A) to be held in a timely manner and  
6 scheduled while the suspension of sanctions or  
7 the renewal of the suspension of sanctions  
8 under this section is in effect; and

9 (B) to be conducted under the supervision  
10 of internationally recognized observers;

11 (4) is making tangible progress toward estab-  
12 lishing an independent judiciary;

13 (5) is demonstrating respect for and compliance  
14 with internationally recognized human rights and  
15 basic freedoms as specified in the Universal Declara-  
16 tion of Human Rights;

17 (6) is taking steps to verifiably fulfill its com-  
18 mitments under the Chemical Weapons Convention  
19 and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear  
20 Weapons and is making tangible progress toward be-  
21 coming a signatory to Convention on the Prohibition  
22 of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of  
23 Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and  
24 on their Destruction, entered into force March 26,

1 1975, and adhering to the Missile Technology Con-  
2 trol Regime and other control lists, as necessary;

3 (7) has halted the development and deployment  
4 of ballistic and cruise missiles; and

5 (8) is taking verifiable steps to remove from po-  
6 sitions of authority within the intelligence and secu-  
7 rity services as well as the military those who were  
8 in a position of authority or responsibility during the  
9 conflict and who under the authority of their posi-  
10 tion were implicated in or implicit in the torture,  
11 extrajudicial killing, or execution of civilians, to in-  
12 clude those who were involved in decisionmaking or  
13 execution of plans to use chemical weapons.

14 **SEC. 402. WAIVERS AND EXEMPTIONS.**

15 (a) EXEMPTIONS.—The following activities and  
16 transactions shall be exempt from sanctions authorized  
17 under this Act or any amendment made by this Act:

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

22 (2) Any transaction necessary to comply with  
23 United States obligations under—

24 (A) the Agreement between the United Na-  
25 tions and the United States of America regard-

1           ing the Headquarters of the United Nations,  
2           signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and en-  
3           tered into force November 21, 1947;

4           (B) the Convention on Consular Relations,  
5           done at Vienna April 24, 1963, and entered  
6           into force March 19, 1967; or

7           (C) any other international agreement to  
8           which the United States is a party.

9           (b) HUMANITARIAN, STABILIZATION, AND DEMOC-  
10 RACY ASSISTANCE WAIVER.—

11           (1) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the  
12           policy of the United States to fully utilize the waiver  
13           authority under this subsection to ensure that ade-  
14           quate humanitarian relief or support for stabilization  
15           and democracy promotion is provided to the Syrian  
16           people.

17           (2) WAIVER.—Except as provided in paragraph  
18           (5) and subsection (d), the President may waive, on  
19           a case-by-case basis, for a period not to exceed 1  
20           year, and renewable for additional periods not to ex-  
21           ceed 1 year, the application of sanctions authorized  
22           under this Act with respect to a person if the Presi-  
23           dent submits to the appropriate congressional com-  
24           mittees a written determination that the waiver is  
25           necessary for purposes of providing humanitarian or

1 stabilization assistance or support for democracy  
2 promotion to the people of Syria.

3 (3) CONTENT OF WRITTEN DETERMINATION.—

4 A written determination submitted under paragraph  
5 (2) with respect to a waiver shall include a descrip-  
6 tion of all notification and accountability controls  
7 that have been employed in order to ensure that the  
8 activities covered by the waiver are humanitarian or  
9 stabilization assistance or support for democracy  
10 promotion and do not entail any activities in Syria  
11 or dealings with the Government of Syria not rea-  
12 sonably related to humanitarian or stabilization as-  
13 sistance or support for democracy promotion.

14 (4) CLARIFICATION OF PERMITTED ACTIVITIES  
15 UNDER WAIVER.—The President may not impose  
16 sanctions authorized under this Act against a hu-  
17 manitarian organization for—

18 (A) engaging in a financial transaction re-  
19 lating to humanitarian assistance or for human-  
20 itarian purposes pursuant to a waiver issued  
21 under paragraph (2);

22 (B) transporting goods or services that are  
23 necessary to carry out operations relating to  
24 humanitarian assistance or humanitarian pur-  
25 poses pursuant to such a waiver; or

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

15           (5) EXCEPTION TO WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The  
16 President may not exercise the waiver authority  
17 under paragraph (2) with respect to a foreign person  
18 who has (or whose officers, members, representatives  
19 or employees have) engaged in (or the President  
20 knows or has reasonable ground to believe is en-  
21 gaged in or is likely to engage in) conduct described  
22 in section 212(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI) of the Immigration  
23 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
24 1182(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI)).

25           (c) WAIVER.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—The President may, for peri-  
2           ods not to exceed 120 days, waive the application of  
3           sanctions under this Act with respect to a foreign  
4           person if the President certifies to the appropriate  
5           congressional committees that such waiver is vital to  
6           the national security interests of the United States.

7           (2) CONSULTATION.—

8           (A) BEFORE WAIVER ISSUED.—Not later  
9           than 5 days before the issuance of a waiver  
10          under paragraph (1) is to take effect, the Presi-  
11          dent shall notify and brief the appropriate con-  
12          gressional committees on the status of the for-  
13          eign person’s involvement in activities described  
14          in this Act.

15          (B) AFTER WAIVER ISSUED.—Not later  
16          than 90 days after the issuance of a waiver  
17          under paragraph (1), and every 120 days there-  
18          after if the waiver remains in effect, the Presi-  
19          dent shall brief the appropriate congressional  
20          committees on the status of the foreign person’s  
21          involvement in activities described in this Act.

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

24                  (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the  
25                  Committee on Financial Services, the Com-

1           committee on Ways and Means, and the Committee  
2           on the Judiciary of the House of Representa-  
3           tives; and

4                   (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations,  
5           the Committee on Banking, Housing, and  
6           Urban Affairs, the Committee on Finance, and  
7           the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate.

8           (d) CODIFICATION OF CERTAIN SERVICES IN SUP-  
9           PORT OF NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS' ACTIVI-  
10          TIES AUTHORIZED.—

11                   (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
12          graph (2), section 542.516 of title 31, Code of Fed-  
13          eral Regulations (relating to certain services in sup-  
14          port of nongovernmental organizations' activities au-  
15          thorized), as in effect on the day before the date of  
16          the enactment of this Act, shall—

17                           (A) remain in effect on and after such date  
18                           of enactment; and

19                           (B) in the case of a nongovernmental orga-  
20                           nization that is authorized to export or reexport  
21                           services to Syria under such section on the day  
22                           before such date of enactment, shall apply to  
23                           such organization on and after such date of en-  
24                           actment to the same extent and in the same  
25                           manner as such section applied to such organi-

1           zation on the day before such date of enact-  
2           ment.

3           (2) EXCEPTION.—Section 542.516 of title 31,  
4           Code of Federal Regulations, as codified under para-  
5           graph (1), shall not apply with respect to a foreign  
6           person who has (or whose officers, members, rep-  
7           resentatives or employees have) engaged in (or the  
8           President knows or has reasonable ground to believe  
9           is engaged in or is likely to engage in) conduct de-  
10          scribed in section 212(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI) of the Immi-  
11          gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
12          1182(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI)).

13          (e) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—

14           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
15          after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
16          President shall submit to the appropriate congress-  
17          sional committees a report containing a strategy to  
18          ensure that humanitarian organizations can access  
19          financial services to ensure the safe and timely deliv-  
20          ery of assistance to communities in need in Syria.

21           (2) CONSIDERATION OF DATA FROM OTHER  
22          COUNTRIES AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZA-  
23          TIONS.—In preparing the strategy required by para-  
24          graph (1), the President shall consider credible data  
25          already obtained by other countries and nongovern-



1 mental organizations, including organizations oper-  
2 ating in Syria.

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

6 **TITLE V—REGULATORY AU-**  
7 **THORITY, COST LIMITATION,**  
8 **AND SUNSET**

9 **SEC. 501. IMPLEMENTATION AND REGULATORY AUTHORI-**  
10 **TIES.**

11 (a) IMPLEMENTATION AUTHORITY.—The President  
12 may exercise all authorities provided to the President  
13 under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emer-  
14 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704)  
15 for purposes of carrying out this Act and the amendments  
16 made by this Act.

17 (b) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The President shall,  
18 not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment  
19 of this Act, promulgate regulations as necessary for the  
20 implementation of this Act and the amendments made by  
21 this Act.

22 (c) BRIEFING TO CONGRESS.—Not less than 10 days  
23 before the promulgation of regulations under subsection  
24 (a), the President shall brief the appropriate congressional  
25 committees on the proposed regulations and the provisions

1 of this Act and the amendments made by this Act that  
2 the regulations are implementing.

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

5 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the  
6 Committee on Financial Services of the House of  
7 Representatives; and

8 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and  
9 the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-  
10 fairs of the Senate.

11 **SEC. 502. COST LIMITATION.**

12 No additional funds are authorized to carry out the  
13 requirements of this Act and the amendments made by  
14 this Act. Such requirements shall be carried out using  
15 amounts otherwise authorized.

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

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Any reports required to be sub-  
18 mitted to the appropriate congressional committees under  
19 this Act or any amendment made by this Act that are sub-  
20 ject to a deadline for submission consisting of the same  
21 unit of time may be consolidated into a single report that  
22 is submitted to appropriate congressional committees pur-  
23 suant to such deadline. The consolidated reports shall con-  
24 tain all information required under this Act or any amend-

1 ment made by this Act, in addition to all other elements  
2 mandated by previous law.

3 (b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “appro-  
4 priate congressional committees” means—

5 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the  
6 Committee on Financial Services of the House of  
7 Representatives; and

8 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and  
9 the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-  
10 fairs of the Senate.

11 **SEC. 504. SUNSET.**

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

Passed the House of Representatives May 17, 2017.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,

*Clerk.*