



II

Calendar No. \_\_\_\_\_

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S. 1025**

To provide humanitarian relief to the Venezuelan people and Venezuelan migrants, to advance a constitutional and democratic solution to Venezuela's political crisis, to address Venezuela's economic reconstruction, to combat public corruption, narcotics trafficking, and money laundering, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 3, 2019

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. SILAHEEN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. COONS, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. HAWLEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. GARDNER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

\_\_\_\_\_ (legislative day, \_\_\_\_\_), \_\_\_\_\_

Reported by Mr. RISCH, with an amendment

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

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**A BILL**

To provide humanitarian relief to the Venezuelan people and Venezuelan migrants, to advance a constitutional and democratic solution to Venezuela's political crisis, to address Venezuela's economic reconstruction, to combat public corruption, narcotics trafficking, and money laundering, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLES; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) **SHORT TITLES.**—This Act may be cited as the  
 5 “Venezuela Emergency Relief, Democracy Assistance, and  
 6 Development Act of 2019” or the “**VERDAD** Act of  
 7 2019”.

8 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for  
 9 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1: Short titles; table of contents.  
 Sec. 2: Defined term.

**TITLE I—SUPPORT FOR THE INTERIM PRESIDENT OF VEN-**  
**EZUELA AND RECOGNITION OF THE VENEZUELAN NATIONAL**  
**ASSEMBLY**

Sec. 101: Findings; sense of Congress in support of the Interim President of  
 Venezuela.  
 Sec. 102: Recognition of Venezuela’s democratically elected National Assembly.  
 Sec. 103: Advancing a negotiated solution to Venezuela’s crisis.

**TITLE II—HUMANITARIAN RELIEF FOR VENEZUELA**

Sec. 201: Humanitarian relief for the Venezuelan people.  
 Sec. 202: Humanitarian assistance to Venezuelans in neighboring countries.  
 Sec. 203: Requirement for strategy to coordinate international humanitarian  
 assistance.  
 Sec. 204: Support for efforts at the United Nations on the humanitarian crisis  
 in Venezuela.  
 Sec. 205: Sanctions exceptions for humanitarian assistance.

**TITLE III—ADDRESSING REGIME COHESION**

Sec. 301: Classified report on declining cohesion inside the Venezuelan military  
 and the Maduro regime.  
 Sec. 302: Additional restrictions on visas.  
 Sec. 303: Waiver for sanctioned officials that recognize the Interim President  
 of Venezuela.

**TITLE IV—RESTORING DEMOCRACY AND ADDRESSING THE**  
**POLITICAL CRISIS IN VENEZUELA**

Sec. 401: Special Envoy for Venezuela and Task Force on Venezuela.  
 Sec. 402: Support for the Lima Group.  
 Sec. 403: Accountability for crimes against humanity.

Sec. 404. Upholding the Organization of American States Inter-American Democratic Charter.

Sec. 405. Support for international election observation and democratic civil society.

#### TITLE V—SUPPORTING THE RECONSTRUCTION OF VENEZUELA

Sec. 501. Engaging international financial institutions to advance the reconstruction of Venezuela's economy and energy infrastructure.

Sec. 502. Recovering assets stolen from the Venezuelan people.

#### TITLE VI—RESTORING THE RULE OF LAW IN VENEZUELA

Sec. 601. Developing and implementing a coordinated sanctions strategy with partners in the Western Hemisphere and the European Union.

Sec. 602. Classified briefing on the involvement of Venezuelan officials in corruption and illicit narcotics trafficking.

Sec. 603. Sanctions on persons responsible for public corruption and undermining democratic governance.

Sec. 604. Public information about sanctioned officials.

Sec. 605. Financial sanctions on Maduro regime debt.

Sec. 606. Additional financial sanctions on Maduro regime debt.

Sec. 607. Expanding kingpin sanctions on narcotics trafficking and money laundering.

Sec. 608. Sanctions on the Maduro regime's trade in gold.

Sec. 609. Concerns over PDVSA transactions with Rosneft.

Sec. 610. Classified briefing on activities of certain foreign governments and actors in Venezuela.

#### TITLE VII—CRYPTOCURRENCY SANCTIONS AND ENSURING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF UNITED STATES SANCTIONS

Sec. 701. Sanctions on Venezuela's cryptocurrency and the provision of related technologies.

Sec. 702. Report on the impact of cryptocurrencies on United States sanctions.

#### TITLE VIII—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 801. Congressional briefings.

Sec. 802. Extension and termination of sanctions against Venezuela.

### 1 **SEC. 2. DEFINED TERM.**

2       In this Act, the term “Maduro regime” means any  
3 ministry, agency, political subdivision, or instrumentality  
4 of the Government of Venezuela, including the Central  
5 Bank of Venezuela and Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A., any  
6 branch of the Venezuelan armed forces, and any person  
7 owned or controlled by, or acting for or on behalf of, the  
8 Government of Venezuela that remain under the control

1 of Nicolás Maduro or the subsequent control of a person  
2 that comes to power through any means other than—

3           (1) a free, fair, and transparent democratic  
4 election that is monitored by credible international  
5 observers; or

6           (2) the appointment by Venezuela's democrat-  
7 ically elected National Assembly of an Interim Presi-  
8 dent with a mandate to convene elections described  
9 in paragraph (1); and

10           (3) a negotiation process described in section  
11 103.

12 **TITLE I—SUPPORT FOR THE IN-**  
13 **TERIM PRESIDENT OF VEN-**  
14 **EZUELA AND RECOGNITION**  
15 **OF THE VENEZUELAN NA-**  
16 **TIONAL ASSEMBLY**

17 **SEC. 101. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS IN SUPPORT OF**  
18 **THE INTERIM PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA.**

19 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
20 ings:

21           (1) Venezuela's electoral event on May 20,  
22 2018, was characterized by widespread fraud and  
23 did not comply with international standards for a  
24 free, fair, and transparent electoral process.

1           (2) Given the fraudulent nature of Venezuela's  
2           May 20, 2018, electoral event, Nicolás Maduro's ten-  
3           ure as President of Venezuela ended on January 10,  
4           2019.

5           (3) The National Assembly of Venezuela ap-  
6           proved a resolution on January 15, 2019, that ter-  
7           minated Nicolás Maduro's authority as the President  
8           of Venezuela.

9           (4) On January 23, 2019, the President of the  
10          National Assembly of Venezuela was sworn in as the  
11          Interim President of Venezuela.

12          (5) The United States Government, the Govern-  
13          ments of Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia,  
14          Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Can-  
15          ada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus,  
16          Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ee-  
17          cuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany,  
18          Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland,  
19          Israel, Japan, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxem-  
20          bourg, North Macedonia, Malta, Montenegro, Mo-  
21          rocco, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Po-  
22          land, Portugal, Romania, South Korea, Spain, Swe-  
23          den, Switzerland, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom,  
24          the Secretary General of the Organization of Amer-  
25          ican States, and the European Parliament have all

1 recognized National Assembly President Juan  
2 Guaidó as the Interim President of Venezuela.

3 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
4 gress—

5 (1) to support the decisions by the United  
6 States Government, more than 50 governments  
7 around the world, the Secretary General of the Or-  
8 ganization of American States, and the European  
9 Parliament to recognize National Assembly Presi-  
10 dent Juan Guaidó as the Interim President of Ven-  
11 ezuela;

12 (2) to encourage the Interim President of Ven-  
13 ezuela to advance efforts to hold democratic presi-  
14 dential elections in the shortest possible period; and

15 (3) that the Organization of American States,  
16 with support from the United States Government  
17 and partner governments, should provide diplomatic,  
18 technical, and financial support for a new presi-  
19 dential election in Venezuela that complies with  
20 international standards for a free, fair, and trans-  
21 parent electoral processes.

22 **SEC. 102. RECOGNITION OF VENEZUELA'S DEMOCRAT-**  
23 **ICALLY ELECTED NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.**

24 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that Venezuela's uni-  
25 cameral National Assembly convened on January 6, 2016,

1 following democratic elections that were held on December  
2 6, 2015.

3 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
4 gress that—

5 (1) Venezuela’s democratically elected National  
6 Assembly is the only national level democratic insti-  
7 tution remaining in the country; and

8 (2) actions taken by the Maduro regime that re-  
9 quire legislative approval, ratification, or concur-  
10 rence, including the provision or refinancing of  
11 debts, should only be recognized as legitimate by the  
12 United States and the international community if  
13 such legislative actions are authorized by the demo-  
14 cratically elected National Assembly of the  
15 Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

16 (c) POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States to  
17 recognize the democratically elected National Assembly of  
18 Venezuela as the only legitimate national legislative body  
19 in Venezuela.

20 (d) ASSISTANCE TO VENEZUELA’S NATIONAL ASSEM-  
21 BLY.—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the  
22 Administrator of the United States Agency for Inter-  
23 national Development, shall prioritize efforts to provide  
24 technical assistance to support the democratically elected

1 National Assembly of Venezuela in accordance with see-  
2 tion 406.

3 **SEC. 103. ADVANCING A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION TO VEN-**  
4 **EZUELA'S CRISIS.**

5 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
6 gress that—

7 (1) direct, credible negotiations led by the In-  
8 terim President of Venezuela and members of Ven-  
9 ezuela's democratically elected National Assembly—

10 (A) are supported by stakeholders in the  
11 international community that have recognized  
12 the Interim President of Venezuela;

13 (B) include the input and interests of Ven-  
14 ezuelan civil society; and

15 (C) represent the best opportunity to reach  
16 a solution to the Venezuelan crisis that in-  
17 eludes—

18 (i) holding a new presidential election  
19 that complies with international standards  
20 for a free, fair, and transparent electoral  
21 process;

22 (ii) ending Nicolás Maduro's usurpa-  
23 tion of presidential authorities;

24 (iii) restoring democracy and the rule  
25 of law;



1 (iv) freeing political prisoners; and

2 (v) facilitating the delivery of humani-  
3 tarian aid;

4 (2) dialogue between the Maduro regime and  
5 political opposition that commenced in October  
6 2017, and were supported by the Governments of  
7 Mexico, of Chile, of Bolivia, and of Nicaragua, did  
8 not result in an agreement because the Maduro re-  
9 gime failed to credibly participate in the process;  
10 and

11 (2) negotiations between the Maduro regime  
12 and political opposition that commenced in October  
13 2016, and were supported by the Vatican, did not  
14 result in an agreement because the Maduro regime  
15 failed to credibly participate in the process.

16 (b) POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States to  
17 support diplomatic engagement in order to advance a ne-  
18 gotiated and peaceful solution to Venezuela's political, eco-  
19 nomic, and humanitarian crisis that is described in sub-  
20 section (a)(1).

1           **TITLE II—HUMANITARIAN**  
2           **RELIEF FOR VENEZUELA**

3   **SEC. 201. HUMANITARIAN RELIEF FOR THE VENEZUELAN**  
4           **PEOPLE.**

5           (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
6 gress that—

7           (1) the United States Government should ex-  
8 pand efforts to peacefully address Venezuela’s hu-  
9 manitarian crisis; and

10          (2) humanitarian assistance—

11           (A) should be provided directly to the peo-  
12 ple of Venezuela; and

13           (B) should not be passed through the con-  
14 trol or distribution mechanisms of the Maduro  
15 regime.

16          (b) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, in coordi-  
17 nation with the Administrator of the United States Agen-  
18 cy for International Development, shall work through  
19 international and nongovernmental organizations to pro-  
20 vide humanitarian assistance to individuals and commu-  
21 nities in Venezuela, including—

22           (1) public health commodities to Venezuelan  
23 health facilities and services, including medicines on  
24 the World Health Organization’s Model List of Es-

1       sential Medicines and basic medical supplies and  
2       equipment;

3           (2) the basic food commodities and nutritional  
4       supplements needed to address growing malnutrition  
5       and improve food security for the people of Ven-  
6       ezuela, with a specific emphasis on the most vulner-  
7       able populations; and

8           (3) technical assistance to ensure that health  
9       and food commodities are appropriately selected,  
10      procured, and distributed.

11      (c) STRATEGY REQUIREMENT.—

12           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
13      after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
14      retary of State, in coordination with the Adminis-  
15      trator of the United States Agency for International  
16      Development shall submit a strategy for carrying out  
17      the activities described in subsection (b) to—

18           (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of  
19      the Senate;

20           (B) the Committee on Appropriations of  
21      the Senate;

22           (C) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of  
23      the House of Representatives; and

24           (D) the Committee on Appropriations of  
25      the House of Representatives.



1           pose a substantial risk to human health or  
2           welfare.

3                   (ii) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—If  
4           a waiver is invoked under clause (i), the  
5           President shall notify the committees listed  
6           in subsection (c)(1) of the intention to obli-  
7           gate funds under this section as early as  
8           practicable, but not later than 3 days after  
9           taking the action to which such notification  
10          requirement was applicable in the context  
11          of the circumstances necessitating such  
12          waiver.

13 **SEC. 202. HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO VENEZUELAN**  
14 **IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES.**

15          (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, in coordi-  
16 nation with the Administrator of the United States Agen-  
17 cy for International Development, shall work through  
18 international and nongovernmental organizations to pro-  
19 vide Venezuelans in neighboring countries with humani-  
20 tarian aid, such as—

21                   (1) urgently needed health and nutritional as-  
22 sistance, including logistical and technical assistance  
23 to hospitals and health centers in affected commu-  
24 nities;

1           ~~(2) food assistance for vulnerable individuals,~~  
2           ~~including assistance to improve food security for af-~~  
3           ~~ected communities; and~~

4           ~~(3) hygiene supplies and sanitation services.~~

5           ~~(b) ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS.—The assistance de-~~  
6           ~~scribed in subsection (a)—~~

7           ~~(1) may be provided—~~

8           ~~(A) directly to Venezuelans in neighboring~~  
9           ~~countries; or~~

10           ~~(B) indirectly through the communities in~~  
11           ~~which the Venezuelans reside; and~~

12           ~~(2) should focus on the most vulnerable Ven-~~  
13           ~~ezuelans in neighboring countries.~~

14           ~~(c) STRATEGY REQUIREMENT.—The strategy re-~~  
15           ~~quired under section 201(c) shall include a strategy for~~  
16           ~~carrying out the activities described in subsection (a).~~

17           ~~(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—~~

18           ~~(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be~~  
19           ~~appropriated to the Secretary of State \$200,000,000~~  
20           ~~for fiscal year 2019 to carry out the activities set~~  
21           ~~forth in subsection (a) in accordance with this sec-~~  
22           ~~tion.~~

23           ~~(2) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—~~

24           ~~(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided~~  
25           ~~under subparagraph (B), amounts appropriated~~

1 or otherwise made available pursuant to para-  
2 graph (1) may not be obligated until 15 days  
3 after the date on which the President provides  
4 notice to the committees listed in section  
5 201(e)(1) of the intent to obligate such funds.

6 ~~(B) WAIVER.—~~

7 (i) ~~IN GENERAL.—~~The Secretary of  
8 State may waive the requirement under  
9 subparagraph (A) if the Secretary deter-  
10 mines that such requirement would pose a  
11 substantial risk to human health or wel-  
12 fare.

13 (ii) ~~NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—~~If  
14 a waiver is invoked under clause (i), the  
15 President shall notify the committees listed  
16 in section 201(e)(1) of the intention to ob-  
17 ligate funds under this section as early as  
18 practicable, but not later than 3 days after  
19 taking the action to which such notification  
20 requirement was applicable in the context  
21 of the circumstances necessitating such  
22 waiver.

1 **SEC. 203. REQUIREMENT FOR STRATEGY TO COORDINATE**  
2 **INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ASSIST-**  
3 **ANCE.**

4 (a) **STRATEGY.**—The strategy required under section  
5 201(e) shall include a multiyear strategy that—

6 (1) describes United States diplomatic efforts to  
7 ensure support from international donors, including  
8 regional partners in Latin America and the Carib-  
9 bean, for the provision of humanitarian assistance to  
10 the people of Venezuela;

11 (2) identifies governments that are willing to  
12 provide financial and technical assistance for the  
13 provision of such humanitarian assistance to the  
14 people of Venezuela and a description of such assist-  
15 ance; and

16 (3) identifies the financial and technical assist-  
17 ance to be provided by multilateral institutions, in-  
18 cluding the United Nations humanitarian agencies  
19 listed in section 104(a), the Pan American Health  
20 Organization, the Inter-American Development  
21 Bank, and the World Bank, and a description of  
22 such assistance.

23 (b) **DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT.**—The Secretary of  
24 State, in consultation with the Administrator of the  
25 United States Agency for International Development, shall  
26 work with relevant foreign governments and multilateral



1 organizations to coordinate a donors summit and carry out  
2 diplomatic engagement to advance the strategy described  
3 in subsection (a).

4 **SEC. 204. SUPPORT FOR EFFORTS AT THE UNITED NATIONS**  
5 **ON THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN VENEZU-**  
6 **ELA.**

7 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
8 gress that the United Nations humanitarian agencies, in-  
9 cluding the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian  
10 Affairs, the World Health Organization, the Pan Amer-  
11 ican Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Orga-  
12 nization, UNICEF, and the United Nations High Com-  
13 missioner for Refugees, should conduct and publish inde-  
14 pendent assessments regarding—

15 (1) the extent and impact of the shortages of  
16 food, medicine, and medical supplies in Venezuela;

17 (2) basic health indicators in Venezuela, such  
18 as maternal and child mortality rates and the preva-  
19 lence and treatment of communicable diseases; and

20 (3) the efforts needed to resolve the shortages  
21 identified in paragraph (1) and to improve the  
22 health indicators referred to in paragraph (2).

23 (b) INITIAL EFFORTS.—The President shall instruct  
24 the Permanent Representative of the United States to the  
25 United Nations to use the voice and vote of the United

1 States in the United Nations Security Council to secure  
2 the necessary votes—

3           (1) to place the humanitarian and political cri-  
4 sis in Venezuela on the United Nations Security  
5 Council's Programme of Work; and

6           (2) to secure a Presidential Statement from the  
7 President of the United Nations Security Council  
8 urging the Maduro regime—

9           (A) to allow the delivery of humanitarian  
10 relief; and

11           (B) to lift bureaucratic impediments or  
12 any other obstacles preventing independent non-  
13 governmental organizations from providing the  
14 proper assistance to the people of Venezuela  
15 without any interference by the Maduro regime.

16       (e) UNITED NATIONS HUMANITARIAN COORDI-  
17 NATOR.—The President shall instruct the Permanent Rep-  
18 resentative to the United Nations to use the voice and in-  
19 fluence of the United States to advance the appointment  
20 of a United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator for Ven-  
21 ezuela to lead and coordinate the efforts of humanitarian  
22 organizations in a manner that contributes to Venezuela's  
23 long-term recovery.

24       (d) ADDITIONAL EFFORTS.—

1           ~~(1) IN GENERAL.—~~If the Maduro regime re-  
2           fuses to allow the delivery of humanitarian relief and  
3           to lift bureaucratic impediments and any other ob-  
4           stacles described in subsection (b)(2)(B), the Presi-  
5           dent, beginning not later than 30 days after the con-  
6           clusion of the efforts of the United Nations de-  
7           scribed in such subsection, shall instruct the Perma-  
8           nent Representative of the United States to the  
9           United Nations to use the voice and vote of the  
10          United States to secure the adoption of a resolution  
11          described in paragraph (2).

12          ~~(2) RESOLUTION DESCRIBED.—~~The resolution  
13          described in this paragraph is a Resolution of the  
14          United Nations Security Council that—

15                 ~~(A)~~ requires the Maduro regime to prompt-  
16                 ly allow safe and unhindered access for humani-  
17                 tarian agencies and their implementing part-  
18                 ners, including possible support from neigh-  
19                 boring countries; and

20                 ~~(B)~~ calls on the Maduro regime—

21                         ~~(i)~~ to allow the delivery of food and  
22                         medicine to the people of Venezuela;

23                         ~~(ii)~~ to end human rights violations  
24                         against the people of Venezuela;

1 (iii) to agree to free, fair, and trans-  
2 parent elections with credible international  
3 observers;

4 (iv) to cease violence against the peo-  
5 ple of Venezuela; and

6 (v) to release all political prisoners  
7 held by the Maduro regime.

8 **SEC. 205. SANCTIONS EXCEPTIONS FOR HUMANITARIAN AS-**  
9 **SISTANCE.**

10 (a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

11 (1) **AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.**—The term  
12 “agricultural commodity” has the meaning given  
13 that term in section 102 of the Agricultural Trade  
14 Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5602).

15 (2) **MEDICAL DEVICE.**—The term “medical de-  
16 vice” has the meaning given the term “device” in  
17 section 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cos-  
18 metic Act (21 U.S.C. 321).

19 (3) **MEDICINE.**—The term “medicine” has the  
20 meaning given the term “drug” in section 201 of the  
21 Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C.  
22 321).

23 (b) **IN GENERAL.**—Any transaction for the sale of ag-  
24 ricultural commodities, food, medicine, or medical devices  
25 to Venezuela or for the provision of humanitarian assist-

1 anee to the people of Venezuela, and any transaction that  
2 is incidental or necessary to any such transaction, regard-  
3 less of whether the transactions or provision of humani-  
4 tarian assistance originate in, or have a connection to, the  
5 United States, shall be exempt from United States sanc-  
6 tions, including sanctions described in—

7 (1) sections 603, 605, 606, 608, and 701;

8 (2) the Venezuela Defense of Human Rights  
9 and Civil Society Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-  
10 278); or

11 (3) Executive Orders 13692, 13808, 13827,  
12 13835, 13850, and 13857.

### 13 **TITLE III—ADDRESSING REGIME** 14 **COHESION**

#### 15 **SEC. 301. CLASSIFIED REPORT ON DECLINING COHESION** 16 **INSIDE THE VENEZUELAN MILITARY AND** 17 **THE MADURO REGIME.**

18 (a) **REPORTING REQUIREMENT.**—Not later than 30  
19 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
20 retary of State, acting through the Bureau of Intelligence  
21 and Research, and in coordination with the Director of  
22 National Intelligence, shall submit a classified report to  
23 the appropriate congressional committees that assesses  
24 the declining cohesion inside the Venezuelan military and  
25 security forces and the Maduro regime.

1       (b) ~~ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS.~~—The report submitted  
2 under subsection (a) shall—

3           (1) identify senior members of the Venezuelan  
4 military and the Maduro regime, including generals,  
5 admirals, cabinet ministers, deputy cabinet min-  
6 isters, and the heads of intelligence agencies, whose  
7 loyalty to Nicolás Maduro is declining;

8           (2) describe the factors that would accelerate  
9 the decision making of individuals identified in para-  
10 graph (1)—

11                   (A) to break with the Maduro regime; and

12                   (B) to recognize the Interim President of  
13 Venezuela and his government; and

14           (3) assess and detail the massive number of de-  
15 sertions and defections that have occurred at the of-  
16 ficer and enlisted levels inside the Venezuelan mili-  
17 tary and security forces.

18       (c) ~~APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.~~—

19 In this section, the term “appropriate congressional com-  
20 mittees” means—

21           (1) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the  
22 Senate;

23           (2) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the  
24 Senate;

1           ~~(3) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the~~  
2           ~~House of Representatives; and~~

3           ~~(4) the Permanent Select Committee on Intel-~~  
4           ~~ligence of the House of Representatives.~~

5 **SEC. 302. ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS ON VISAS.**

6           ~~(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall im-~~  
7           ~~pose the visa restrictions described in subsection (c) on~~  
8           ~~any current or former official of the Maduro regime, or~~  
9           ~~any foreign person acting on behalf of such regime, who~~  
10          ~~the Secretary determines—~~

11           ~~(1) is responsible for, is complicit in, is respon-~~  
12           ~~sible for ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing,~~  
13           ~~or is knowingly participating in (directly or indi-~~  
14           ~~rectly) any activity in or in relation to Venezuela, on~~  
15           ~~or after January 23, 2019, that undermines or~~  
16           ~~threatens the integrity of—~~

17           ~~(A) the democratically elected National As-~~  
18           ~~sembly of Venezuela; or~~

19           ~~(B) the President of such National Assem-~~  
20           ~~bly, while serving as Interim President of Ven-~~  
21           ~~euela, or the government officials under the~~  
22           ~~supervision of such President;~~

23           ~~(2) is the spouse or child of a foreign person~~  
24           ~~described in paragraph (1); or~~

1           ~~(3)~~ is the spouse or child of a foreign person  
2 described or identified under—

3           ~~(A)~~ section ~~5(a)~~ of the Venezuela Defense  
4 of Human Rights and Civil Society Act of 2014  
5 ~~(Public Law 113–278)~~, as amended by section  
6 ~~603~~ of this Act;

7           ~~(B)~~ section ~~804(b)~~ of the Foreign Nar-  
8 cotics Kingpin Designation Act (~~21 U.S.C.~~  
9 ~~1903(b)~~); or

10           ~~(C)~~ Executive Orders ~~13692~~ (~~50 U.S.C.~~  
11 ~~1701~~ note) and ~~13850~~.

12       ~~(b) REMOVAL FROM VISA REVOCATION LIST.—~~If a  
13 person described in subsection ~~(a)(1)~~ or in subparagraphs  
14 ~~(A)~~ through ~~(C)~~ of subsection ~~(a)(3)~~ publicly recognizes  
15 and pledges supports for the Interim President of Ven-  
16 ezuela and the government officials supervised by such In-  
17 terim President, any family members of such person who  
18 were subject to visa restrictions pursuant to paragraph ~~(2)~~  
19 or ~~(3)~~ of such subsection shall no longer be subject to such  
20 visa restrictions.

21       ~~(c) VISA RESTRICTIONS DESCRIBED.—~~

22           ~~(1) EXCLUSION FROM THE UNITED STATES~~  
23 ~~AND REVOCATION OF VISA OR OTHER DOCUMENTA-~~  
24 ~~TION.—~~Subject to paragraph ~~(2)~~ and subsection ~~(b)~~;  
25 an alien described in subsection ~~(a)~~—



1           (A) is inadmissible to the United States;

2           (B) is ineligible to receive a visa or other  
3 documentation authorizing entry into the  
4 United States;

5           (C) is otherwise ineligible to be admitted or  
6 paroled into the United States or to receive any  
7 benefit under the Immigration and Nationality  
8 Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.); and

9           (D) shall, in accordance with section 221(i)  
10 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8  
11 U.S.C. 1201(i)), have his or her visa or other  
12 documentation revoked, regardless of when the  
13 visa or other documentation was issued.

14           ~~(2) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NA-~~  
15 ~~TIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.—Sanctions~~  
16 ~~under paragraph (1) 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.~~



1           ~~(B)~~ Subparagraph ~~(D)(2)~~ of section 1(a)(ii) of  
2 such Executive Order, to the extent such subpara-  
3 graph relates to the provisions of law cited in sub-  
4 paragraph (A).

5           ~~(3)(A)~~ Section 1(a)(ii) of Executive Order  
6 13850.

7           ~~(B)~~ Paragraph (iii) of section 1(a) of such Ex-  
8 ecutive Order, to the extent such paragraph relates  
9 to the provision of law cited in subparagraph (A).

10       ~~(c)~~ RULEMAKING.—The President shall issue such  
11 regulations, licenses, and orders as may be necessary to  
12 carry out this section.

13 **TITLE IV—RESTORING DEMOC-**  
14 **RACY AND ADDRESSING THE**  
15 **POLITICAL CRISIS IN VEN-**  
16 **EZUELA**

17 **SEC. 401. SPECIAL ENVOY FOR VENEZUELA AND TASK**  
18 **FORCE ON VENEZUELA.**

19       ~~(a)~~ DESIGNATION.—Not later than 30 days after the  
20 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State  
21 shall designate a Special Envoy for Venezuela (referred  
22 to in this section as the “Special Envoy”), who shall—

23           ~~(1)~~ have the rank and status of ambassador;  
24 and

25           ~~(2)~~ report directly to the Secretary of State.

1       (b) DUTIES.—The Special Envoy shall—

2           (1) coordinate United States policy towards  
3       Venezuela between relevant departments and agen-  
4       cies, including the Department of State, the Depart-  
5       ment of the Treasury, the Department of Justice,  
6       the Department of Defense, the United States Agen-  
7       cy for International Development, and the intel-  
8       ligence community;

9           (2) develop and conduct oversight of United  
10       States programs and operations related to Ven-  
11       ezuela, including humanitarian assistance, support  
12       for regional migration systems, and assistance to  
13       democratic actors and independent civil society in  
14       Venezuela;

15          (3) advance efforts—

16           (A) to recover the assets described in sec-  
17       tion 502(a)(2) that were stolen from the Ven-  
18       ezuelan people; and

19           (B) to coordinate sanctions with the  
20       United States partners referred to in section  
21       601;

22          (4) engage and coordinate policy matters re-  
23       lated to Venezuela with the international community,  
24       including the Organization of American States, the  
25       United Nations and its agencies, the Lima Group,

1 the European Union, and other governments and or-  
2 ganizations with interest in Venezuela;

3 (5) engage and coordinate with actors sup-  
4 porting the restoration of democracy in Venezuela,  
5 including the Venezuelan diaspora and the demo-  
6 cratic political opposition in Venezuela; and

7 (6) communicate and coordinate engagement  
8 with the Maduro regime.

9 (e) AUTHORIZATION.—Notwithstanding any other  
10 provision of law, the Special Envoy is authorized to di-  
11 rectly engage with the Maduro regime and its officers.

12 (d) TASK FORCE ON VENEZUELA.—

13 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an  
14 interagency task force, to be known as the “Task  
15 Force on Venezuela” (referred to in this subsection  
16 as the “Task Force”).

17 (2) MISSION.—The primary mission of the  
18 Task Force is to support the Special Envoy in the  
19 exercise of the duties described in subsection (b).

20 (3) COMPOSITION.—The Task Force shall in-  
21 clude representatives of, or liaison officers from, the  
22 Department of State, the Department of the Treas-  
23 ury, the Department of Justice, the Department of  
24 Defense, the United States Agency for International  
25 Development, and the Central Intelligence Agency.

1 Members of the Task Force shall be selected from  
2 among existing employees of their respective depart-  
3 ments.

4 (c) MONTHLY CONSULTATION.—Not later than 30  
5 days after being designated under subsection (a), and  
6 every 30 days thereafter, the Special Envoy shall brief and  
7 consult with—

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

10 (2) the Committee on Appropriations of the  
11 Senate;

12 (3) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
13 House of Representatives; and

14 (4) the Committee on Appropriations of the  
15 House of Representatives.

16 **SEC. 402. SUPPORT FOR THE LIMA GROUP.**

17 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
18 ings:

19 (1) The Lima Group is a diplomatic bloc whose  
20 members include Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile,  
21 Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Guyana, Hon-  
22 duras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and Saint Lucia.

23 (2) The Lima Group—

1           (A) has recognized National Assembly  
2 President Juan Guaidó as the Interim Presi-  
3 dent of Venezuela;

4           (B) has reaffirmed the authority of the  
5 democratically elected National Assembly of  
6 Venezuela;

7           (C) has stated that it does not recognize  
8 the legitimacy of Nicolás Maduro's tenure in of-  
9 fice beyond January 10, 2019;

10           (D) has stated that it does not recognize  
11 the legitimacy of Venezuela's May 20, 2018,  
12 presidential election as it did not comply with  
13 international standards for a democratic, free,  
14 fair, and transparent process;

15           (E) has called on Nicolás Maduro to provi-  
16 sionally transfer executive powers to the Na-  
17 tional Assembly of Venezuela until new demo-  
18 cratic elections are held;

19           (F) has condemned the rupture of the  
20 democratic order in Venezuela;

21           (G) has called on the Maduro regime to ac-  
22 cept humanitarian assistance in order to ad-  
23 dress the country's growing economic crisis; and

24           (H) reiterated its "conviction that the  
25 transition to democracy must be conducted by





1 crimes against humanity against protesters and  
2 called for a credible international investigation.

3 (3) A November 29, 2017, report by Human  
4 Rights Watch documented that Venezuelan security  
5 forces had used extreme and, at times, lethal forces  
6 against protesters and, once detained, subjected  
7 them to abuses ranging from severe beatings to tor-  
8 ture involving electric shocks, asphyxiation, and  
9 other techniques.

10 (4) On February 8, 2018, the Prosecutor of the  
11 International Criminal Court opened a preliminary  
12 examination of the situation in Venezuela as it re-  
13 lates to Venezuelan security forces using excessive  
14 force against civilians and the political opposition.

15 (5) On May 29, 2018, a panel of independent  
16 international experts convened by the Secretary Gen-  
17 eral of the Organization of American States found  
18 that “there are reasonable grounds that satisfy the  
19 standard of proof required by Article 53 of the  
20 Rome Statute for considering that acts to which the  
21 civilian population of Venezuela was subjected : : :  
22 constitute crimes against humanity”.

23 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
24 gress that the Secretary of State should conduct robust  
25 diplomatic engagement in support of efforts in Venezuela,

1 and on the part of the international community, to ensure  
2 accountability for possible crimes against humanity and  
3 other violations of international humanitarian law and vio-  
4 lations and abuses of human rights.

5 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date  
6 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall  
7 submit a report to Congress that—

8 (1) evaluates the degree to which the Maduro  
9 regime and its officials, including members of the  
10 Venezuelan security force, have engaged in actions  
11 that constitute crimes against humanity and viola-  
12 tions of internationally recognized humanitarian  
13 rights; and

14 (2) provides options for holding accountable the  
15 perpetrators identified under paragraph (1).

16 **SEC. 404. UPHOLDING THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN**  
17 **STATES INTER-AMERICAN DEMOCRATIC**  
18 **CHARTER.**

19 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
20 ings:

21 (1) Article 1 of the Inter-American Democratic  
22 Charter, which was adopted by the Organization of  
23 American States in Lima on September 11, 2001,  
24 states: “The peoples of the Americas have a right to

1 democracy and their governments have an obligation  
2 to promote and defend it.”.

3 (2) Article 19 of the Inter-American Demo-  
4 cratic Charter states “an unconstitutional interrup-  
5 tion of the democratic order or an unconstitutional  
6 alteration of the constitutional regime that seriously  
7 impairs the democratic order in a member state,  
8 constitutes, while it persists, an insurmountable ob-  
9 stacle to its government’s participation in sessions of  
10 the General Assembly - - - and other bodies of the  
11 Organization.”.

12 (3) Article 20 of the Inter-American Demo-  
13 cratic Charter states the following:

14 (A) “In the event of an unconstitutional al-  
15 teration of the constitutional regime that seri-  
16 ously impairs the democratic order in a member  
17 state, any member state or the Secretary Gen-  
18 eral may request the immediate convocation of  
19 the Permanent Council to undertake a collective  
20 assessment of the situation and to take such de-  
21 cisions as it deems appropriate.”.

22 (B) “The Permanent Council, depending  
23 on the situation, may undertake the necessary  
24 diplomatic initiatives, including good offices, to  
25 foster the restoration of democracy.”.

1           (4) Article 21 of the Inter-American Demo-  
2           cratic Charter states “When the special session of  
3           the General Assembly determines that there has  
4           been an unconstitutional interruption of the demo-  
5           cratic order of a member state, and that diplomatic  
6           initiatives have failed, the special session shall take  
7           the decision to suspend said member state.”.

8           (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
9           gress that—

10           (1) Nicolás Maduro and the Supreme Tribunal  
11           of Justice of Venezuela have carried out systematic  
12           efforts to undermine, block, and circumvent the au-  
13           thorities and responsibilities of the Venezuelan Na-  
14           tional Assembly, as mandated in the Constitution of  
15           the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela;

16           (2) the electoral process convened by the Na-  
17           tional Electoral Council of Venezuela on May 20,  
18           2018 was not democratic, free, fair, or transparent;

19           (3) Nicolás Maduro’s attempt to inaugurate  
20           himself for a second term in office on January 10,  
21           2019, was not legitimate;

22           (4) such events constitute an unconstitutional  
23           alteration of the constitutional regime that seriously  
24           impairs the democratic order in Venezuela; and

1           (5) the Secretary of State, working through the  
2 United States Permanent Representative to the Or-  
3 ganization of American States, should take addi-  
4 tional steps to support ongoing efforts by the Sec-  
5 retary General—

6           (A) to invoke the Inter-American Demo-  
7 cratic Charter; and

8           (B) to promote diplomatic initiatives to  
9 foster the restoration of Venezuelan democracy.

10 **SEC. 405. SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL ELECTION OB-**  
11 **SERVATION AND DEMOCRATIC CIVIL SOCI-**  
12 **ETY.**

13       (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of State, in coordi-  
14 nation with the Administrator of the United States Agen-  
15 cy for International Development—

16           (1) shall work with the Organization of Amer-  
17 ican States to ensure credible international observa-  
18 tion of future elections in Venezuela that contributes  
19 to free, fair, and transparent democratic electoral  
20 processes; and

21           (2) shall work through nongovernmental organi-  
22 zations—

23           (A) to strengthen democratic governance  
24 and institutions, including the democratically  
25 elected National Assembly of Venezuela;

1           (B) to defend internationally recognized  
2 human rights for the people of Venezuela, in-  
3 cluding support for efforts to document crimes  
4 against humanity and violations of human  
5 rights;

6           (C) to support the efforts of independent  
7 media outlets to broadcast, distribute, and  
8 share information beyond the limited channels  
9 made available by the Maduro regime; and

10           (D) to combat corruption and improve the  
11 transparency and accountability of institutions  
12 that are part of the Maduro regime.

13       (b) VOICE AND VOTE AT THE ORGANIZATION OF  
14 AMERICAN STATES.—The Secretary of State, acting  
15 through the United States Permanent Representative to  
16 the Organization of American States, should advocate and  
17 build diplomatic support for sending an election observa-  
18 tion mission to Venezuela to ensure that democratic elec-  
19 toral processes are organized and carried out in a free,  
20 fair, and transparent manner.

21       (e) STRATEGY REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 180  
22 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
23 retary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of  
24 the United States Agency for International Development,

1 shall submit a strategy to carry out the activities described  
2 in subsection (a) to—

3           (1) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the  
4       Senate;

5           (2) the Committee on Appropriations of the  
6       Senate;

7           (3) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
8       House of Representatives; and

9           (4) the Committee on Appropriations of the  
10      House of Representatives.

11   ~~(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—~~

12           ~~(1) IN GENERAL.—~~There are authorized to be  
13   appropriated to the Secretary of State for fiscal year  
14   2019—

15           ~~(A) \$500,000 to carry out the activities de-~~  
16   scribed in subsection (a)(1); and

17           ~~(B) \$14,500,000 to carry out the activities~~  
18   described in subsection (a)(2).

19   ~~(2) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—~~

20           ~~(A) IN GENERAL.—~~Except as provided  
21   under subparagraph (B), amounts appropriated  
22   or otherwise made available pursuant to para-  
23   graph (1) may not be obligated until 15 days  
24   after the date on which the President provides

1 notice to the committees listed in subsection (c)  
2 of intent to obligate such funds.

3 (B) WAIVER.—

4 (i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of  
5 State may waive the notification require-  
6 ment under subparagraph (A) if the Sec-  
7 retary determines that such waiver is in  
8 the national security interest of the United  
9 States.

10 (ii) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—If  
11 a waiver is invoked under clause (i), the  
12 Secretary of State shall notify the commit-  
13 tees listed in subsection (c) of the intention  
14 to obligate funds under this section as  
15 early as practicable, but not later than 3  
16 days after taking the action to which such  
17 notification requirement was applicable in  
18 the context of the circumstances necessi-  
19 tating such waiver.



1 **TITLE V—SUPPORTING THE RE-**  
2 **CONSTRUCTION OF VENEZU-**  
3 **ELA**

4 **SEC. 501. ENGAGING INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITU-**  
5 **TIONS TO ADVANCE THE RECONSTRUCTION**  
6 **OF VENEZUELA'S ECONOMY AND ENERGY IN-**  
7 **FRASTRUCTURE.**

8 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President shall engage the  
9 International Monetary Fund and the Multilateral Devel-  
10 opment Banks to create a framework for the economic re-  
11 construction of Venezuela, contingent upon the restoration  
12 of democracy and the rule of law in the country.

13 (b) **ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS.**—The framework ere-  
14 ated under subsection (a) should include policy pro-  
15 posals—

16 (1) to provide Venezuelans with humanitarian  
17 assistance, poverty alleviation, and a social safety  
18 net;

19 (2) to advance debt restructuring and debt sus-  
20 tainability measures;

21 (3) to restore the production and efficient man-  
22 agement of Venezuela's oil industry, including re-  
23 building energy infrastructure;

24 (4) to eliminate price controls and market dis-  
25 torting subsidies in the Venezuelan economy; and

1           (5) to address hyperinflation in Venezuela.

2           (e) CONSULTATION.—In creating the framework  
3 under subsection (a), the President shall consult with rel-  
4 evant stakeholders in the humanitarian (including inter-  
5 national and nongovernmental organizations), financial,  
6 and energy sectors.

7           (d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
8 gress that any effort to conduct debt restructuring  
9 should—

10           (1) include discussions with China, which is  
11 Venezuela's biggest creditor; and

12           (2) appropriately account for China's and Rus-  
13 sia's high-risk lending to Venezuela.

14           (e) CERTIFICATION.—The President may not support  
15 lending or financing for Venezuela from the International  
16 Monetary Fund and the Multilateral Development Banks  
17 until the Secretary of State submits a report to the Com-  
18 mittee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and Committee  
19 on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives certi-  
20 fying that any such lending or financing—

21           (1) would be managed by the Interim President  
22 of Venezuela or a new, democratically elected Presi-  
23 dent;

24           (2) would not be used to repay external credi-  
25 tors who are not members of the Group of Seven un-

1 less such payments are essential to the restoration  
2 of economic stability and democracy in Venezuela;  
3 and

4 (3) would not benefit the Maduro regime.

5 **SEC. 502. RECOVERING ASSETS STOLEN FROM THE VEN-**  
6 **EZUELAN PEOPLE.**

7 (a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress makes the following find-  
8 ings:

9 (1) Venezuela ranked 169th out of 180 coun-  
10 tries in Transparency International's Corruption  
11 Perception Index 2017.

12 (2) In March 2015, the Department of the  
13 Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network  
14 determined that approximately \$2,000,000,000 had  
15 been siphoned from Venezuela's public oil company,  
16 *Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A.*, in conjunction with its  
17 designation of the *Banca Privada d'Andorra* as a  
18 Foreign Financial Institution of Primary Money  
19 Laundering Concern.

20 (b) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of State, in coordi-  
21 nation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attor-  
22 ney General, shall advance a coordinated international ef-  
23 fort—

24 (1) to carry out special financial investigations  
25 to identify and track assets taken from the people

1 and institutions of Venezuela through theft, corrup-  
2 tion, money laundering, or other illicit means; and

3 ~~(2) work with foreign governments—~~

4 ~~(A) to share financial investigations intel-~~  
5 ~~ligence, as appropriate;~~

6 ~~(B) to block the assets identified pursuant~~  
7 ~~to paragraph (1); and~~

8 ~~(C) to advance necessary civil forfeiture~~  
9 ~~litigation, including providing technical assist-~~  
10 ~~ance to help governments establish the nec-~~  
11 ~~essary legal framework to carry out asset for-~~  
12 ~~feitures.~~

13 ~~(e) ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS.—The coordinated inter-~~  
14 ~~national effort described in subsection (b) shall—~~

15 ~~(1) include input from—~~

16 ~~(A) the Office of Foreign Assets Control of~~  
17 ~~the Department of the Treasury;~~

18 ~~(B) the Financial Crimes Enforcement~~  
19 ~~Network of the Department of the Treasury;~~  
20 ~~and~~

21 ~~(C) the Money Laundering and Asset Re-~~  
22 ~~covery Section of the Department of Justice;~~

23 ~~(2) identify appropriate steps to advance nec-~~  
24 ~~essary civil forfeiture litigation in the United States;~~

1           ~~(3)~~ include an assessment of whether the  
2 United States or another member of the inter-  
3 national community should establish a managed  
4 fund to hold the assets identified pursuant to sub-  
5 section ~~(b)(1)~~ that could be returned to a future  
6 democratic government in Venezuela; and

7           ~~(4)~~ include recommendations for new legislative  
8 and regulatory measures in the United States that  
9 would be needed to establish and manage the fund  
10 described in paragraph ~~(3)~~.

11       ~~(d)~~ STRATEGY REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 180  
12 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
13 retary of State shall submit a strategy for carrying out  
14 the activities described in subsection ~~(b)~~ to—

15           ~~(1)~~ the Committee on Foreign Relations of the  
16 Senate;

17           ~~(2)~~ the Committee on Banking, Housing, and  
18 Urban Affairs of the Senate;

19           ~~(3)~~ the Committee on the Judiciary of the Sen-  
20 ate;

21           ~~(4)~~ the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
22 House of Representatives;

23           ~~(5)~~ the Committee on Financial Services of the  
24 House of Representatives; and

1           (6) the Committee on the Judiciary of the  
2           House of Representatives.

3           **TITLE VI—RESTORING THE**  
4           **RULE OF LAW IN VENEZUELA**

5           **SEC. 601. DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING A COORDI-**  
6                       **NATED SANCTIONS STRATEGY WITH PART-**  
7                       **NERS IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE AND**  
8                       **THE EUROPEAN UNION.**

9           (a) **STRENGTHENING SANCTIONS CAPACITY IN LATIN**  
10           **AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN.**—The Secretary of State,  
11           working through the Assistant Secretary of State for  
12           International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs and  
13           the Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Busi-  
14           ness Affairs, and in consultation with the Secretary of the  
15           Treasury, shall provide technical assistance to partner  
16           governments in Latin America and the Caribbean to assist  
17           such governments in establishing the legislative and regula-  
18           tory frameworks needed to impose targeted sanctions on  
19           officials of the Maduro regime who—

20                       (1) are responsible for human rights abuses;  
21                       (2) have engaged in public corruption; or  
22                       (3) are undermining democratic institutions and  
23           processes in Venezuela.

24           (b) **COORDINATING INTERNATIONAL SANCTIONS.**—  
25           The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary

1 of the Treasury, shall engage in diplomatic efforts with  
2 partner governments, including the Government of Can-  
3 ada, governments in the European Union, and govern-  
4 ments in Latin America and the Caribbean, to impose tar-  
5 geted sanctions on the officials described in subsection (a).

6 (c) STRATEGY REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 90  
7 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
8 retary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the  
9 Treasury, shall submit a strategy for carrying out the ac-  
10 tivities described in subsection (a) to—

11 (1) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the  
12 Senate;

13 (2) the Committee on Appropriations of the  
14 Senate;

15 (3) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
16 House of Representatives; and

17 (4) the Committee on Appropriations of the  
18 House of Representatives.

19 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be  
21 appropriated, to the Department of State,  
22 \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2019 to carry out the ac-  
23 tivities set forth in subsection (a) in accordance with  
24 this section.

25 (2) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—

1           (A) ~~IN GENERAL.~~—Except as provided  
2 under subparagraph (B), amounts appropriated  
3 or otherwise made available pursuant to para-  
4 graph (1) may not be obligated until 15 days  
5 after the date on which the President provides  
6 notice to the committees listed in subsection (c)  
7 of the intent to obligate such funds.

8           (B) ~~WAIVER.~~—

9           (i) ~~IN GENERAL.~~—The Secretary of  
10 State may waive the requirement under  
11 subparagraph (A) if the Secretary of State  
12 determines that such waiver is in the na-  
13 tional security interest of the United  
14 States.

15           (ii) ~~NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.~~—If  
16 a waiver is invoked under clause (i), the  
17 President shall notify the committees listed  
18 in subsection (c) of the intention to obli-  
19 gate funds under this section as early as  
20 practicable, but not later than 3 days after  
21 taking the action to which such notification  
22 requirement was applicable in the context  
23 of the circumstances necessitating such  
24 waiver.



1 **SEC. 602. CLASSIFIED BRIEFING ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF**  
2 **VENEZUELAN OFFICIALS IN CORRUPTION**  
3 **AND ILLICIT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING.**

4 (a) **BRIEFING REQUIREMENT.**—Not later than 90  
5 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
6 retary of State, acting through the Bureau of Intelligence  
7 and Research, and in coordination with the Director of  
8 National Intelligence, shall brief the appropriate congres-  
9 sional committees on the involvement of senior officials of  
10 the Maduro regime, including members of the National  
11 Electoral Council, the judicial system, and the Venezuelan  
12 security forces, in illicit narcotics trafficking and acts of  
13 corruption in Venezuela.

14 (b) **ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS.**—The briefing provided  
15 under subsection (a) shall—

16 (1) describe how the acts of corruption de-  
17 scribed in the report pose challenges for United  
18 States national security and impact the rule of law  
19 and democratic governance in countries of the West-  
20 ern Hemisphere;

21 (2) identify individuals that frustrate the ability  
22 of the United States to combat illicit narcotics traf-  
23 ficking;

24 (3) include an assessment of the relationship  
25 between individuals identified under subsection (a)  
26 and Nicolás Maduro or members of his cabinet, and

1           (4) include input from the Drug Enforcement  
2 Administration, the Office of Foreign Assets Con-  
3 trol, and the Financial Crimes Enforcement Net-  
4 work.

5           (e) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—

6 In this section, the term “appropriate congressional com-  
7 mittees” means—

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

10           (2) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the  
11 Senate;

12           (3) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
13 House of Representatives; and

14           (4) the Permanent Select Committee on Intel-  
15 ligence of the House of Representatives.

16 **SEC. 603. SANCTIONS ON PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR PUB-**  
17 **LIC CORRUPTION AND UNDERMINING DEMO-**  
18 **CRATIC GOVERNANCE.**

19           (a) FINDING.—Executive Order 13692 (50 U.S.C.  
20 1701 note), which was signed on March 8, 2015, estab-  
21 lished sanctions against individuals responsible for under-  
22 mining democratic processes and institutions and involved  
23 in acts of public corruption that were not included in the  
24 Venezuela Defense of Human Rights and Civil Society Act  
25 of 2014 (Public Law 113–278).

1           (b) ~~SANCTIONS.~~—Section 5(a) of the Venezuela De-  
2 fense of Human Rights and Civil Society Act of 2014  
3 (Public Law ~~113-278~~) is amended—

4           (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

5           (A) by striking “Government of Ven-  
6 ezucla” and inserting “Maduro regime (as de-  
7 fined in section 4 of the Venezuela Emergency  
8 Relief, Democracy Assistance, and Development  
9 Act of 2019)”; and

10           (B) by striking “that Government” and in-  
11 sserting “that regime”;

12           (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “or” at the  
13 end;

14           (3) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-  
15 graph (5);

16           (4) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
17 lowing:

18           “~~(3)~~ is responsible for, or complicit in, ordering,  
19 controlling, or otherwise directing, significant actions  
20 or policies that undermine democratic processes or  
21 institutions;

22           “~~(4)~~ is a government official, or a senior asso-  
23 ciate of such an official, that is responsible for, or  
24 complicit in, ordering, controlling, or otherwise di-  
25 recting, acts of significant corruption, including the

1       expropriation of private or public assets for personal  
2       gain; corruption related to government contracts or  
3       the extraction of natural resources; bribery; or the  
4       facilitation or transfer of the proceeds of corruption  
5       to foreign jurisdictions; or” and

6               (5) in paragraph (5), as redesignated, by strik-  
7       ing “paragraph (1) or (2)” and inserting “para-  
8       graph (1), (2), (3), or (4)”.

9       **SEC. 604. PUBLIC INFORMATION ABOUT SANCTIONED OFFI-**  
10                               **CIALS.**

11       (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the  
12       date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days  
13       thereafter, except as provided in subsection (e), the Sec-  
14       retary of Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of  
15       State, shall submit a report to Congress that describes the  
16       total assessed value of blocked assets of Venezuelans des-  
17       ignated under sanctions authorized under—

18               (1) the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation  
19       Act (title VIII of Public Law 106–120; 21 U.S.C.  
20       1901 et seq.);

21               (2) the Venezuela Defense of Human Rights  
22       and Civil Society Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–  
23       278), as amended by section 603 of this Act; or

24               (3) Executive Orders 13692 (50 U.S.C. 1701  
25       note) and 13850.

1           (b) **ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS.**—Reports submitted  
2 under subsection (a) should provide descriptions of specific  
3 cases that are most representative of the endemic corrup-  
4 tion and illicit financial activities occurring in Venezuela.

5           (c) **SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.**—The Secretary of  
6 Treasury is not required to submit an updated report to  
7 Congress under subsection (a) unless, since the submission  
8 of the preceding report—

9               (1) there has been meaningful change in the  
10 value of blocked assets; or

11               (2) additional individuals have been targeted for  
12 sanctions under the authorities listed in subsection  
13 (a).

14           (d) **BRIEFINGS.**—If the Secretary of Treasury exer-  
15 cises the exception described in subsection (c), the Sec-  
16 retary of the Treasury, or designee, shall immediately brief  
17 Congress regarding—

18               (1) the decision to exercise the exception; and

19               (2) information related to the value of blocked  
20 assets described in subsection (a).

21           (e) **FORM.**—Reports required under this section shall  
22 be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a clas-  
23 sified annex.

1 **SEC. 605. FINANCIAL SANCTIONS ON MADURO REGIME**  
2 **DEBT.**

3 (a) **FINDING.**—Executive Order 13808 (82 Fed. Reg.  
4 41155), which was signed on August 24, 2017, established  
5 sanctions against the Maduro regime’s ability to issue  
6 public debt.

7 (b) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section and in sections  
8 606 and 608:

9 (1) **ENTITY.**—The term “entity” means a part-  
10 nership, association, trust, joint venture, corpora-  
11 tion, group, subgroup, or other organization.

12 (2) **PERSON.**—The term “person” means an in-  
13 dividual or entity.

14 (3) **UNITED STATES PERSON.**—The term  
15 “United States person” means any—

16 (A) United States citizen;

17 (B) alien lawfully admitted for permanent  
18 residence to the United States;

19 (C) entity organized under the laws of the  
20 United States or any jurisdiction within the  
21 United States (including a foreign branch of  
22 any such entity); and

23 (D) any person physically located in the  
24 United States.

25 (e) **IN GENERAL.**—The President may prohibit, in  
26 the United States or by a United States person—

1           ~~(1)~~ any transaction related to, provision of fi-  
2           nancing for, or other dealing in—

3                   ~~(A)~~ debt instruments with a maturity of  
4                   greater than 90 days issued by ~~Petróleos de~~  
5                   ~~Venezuela, S.A.~~, on or after the date of the en-  
6                   actment of this Act;

7                   ~~(B)~~ debt instruments with a maturity of  
8                   greater than 30 days or equity issued by the  
9                   Maduro regime on or after the date of the en-  
10                  actment of this Act, excluding debt instruments  
11                  issued by ~~Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A.~~, that are  
12                  not covered under subparagraph ~~(A)~~;

13                  ~~(C)~~ bonds issued by the Maduro regime be-  
14                  fore the date of the enactment of this Act; or

15                  ~~(D)~~ dividend payments or other distribu-  
16                  tions of profits to the Maduro regime from any  
17                  entity owned or controlled, directly or indirectly,  
18                  by the Maduro regime;

19           ~~(2)~~ the direct or indirect purchase of securities  
20           from the Maduro regime, except for—

21                   ~~(A)~~ securities qualifying as debt instru-  
22                   ments issued by ~~Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A.~~,  
23                   on or after the date of the enactment of this  
24                   Act that are not described in paragraph ~~(1)(A)~~;  
25                   and

1           (B) securities qualifying as debt instru-  
2           ments issued by the Maduro regime on or after  
3           the date of the enactment of this Act that are  
4           not described in paragraph (1)(B);

5           (3) any transaction that evades or avoids, has  
6           the purpose of evading or avoiding, causes a viola-  
7           tion of, or attempts to violate a prohibition under  
8           paragraph (1) or (2); and

9           (4) any conspiracy to violate a prohibition  
10          under paragraph (1), (2), or (3).

11          (d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
12          gress that the President should waive the prohibitions de-  
13          scribed in subsection (c) and in Executive Order 13808  
14          if the related debt instruments, bonds, or securities have  
15          been approved or ratified by the democratically elected  
16          National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic of Ven-  
17          ezuela.

18          (c) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—

19                (1) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may ex-  
20                ercise all authorities described in sections 203 and  
21                205 of the International Emergency Economic Pow-  
22                ers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this  
23                section.

24                (2) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, at-  
25                tempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a



1 violation of this section or any regulation, license, or  
2 order issued to carry out this section shall be subject  
3 to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c)  
4 of section 206 of the International Emergency Eco-  
5 nomic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same ex-  
6 tent as a person that commits an unlawful act de-  
7 scribed in subsection (a) of that section.

8 **SEC. 606. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SANCTIONS ON MADURO**  
9 **REGIME DEBT.**

10 (a) **FINDING.**—Executive Order 13835 (83 Fed. Reg.  
11 24001), which was signed on May 21, 2018, established  
12 additional sanctions against transactions involving the  
13 Maduro regime’s existing public debt.

14 (b) **PROHIBITION.**—The President may prohibit a  
15 United States person or any person within the United  
16 States from—

17 (1) purchasing any debt owed to the Maduro  
18 regime, including accounts receivable;

19 (2) entering into any transaction related to any  
20 debt owed to the Maduro regime that is pledged as  
21 collateral after May 21, 2018, including accounts re-  
22 ceivable; or

23 (3) entering into any transaction involving the  
24 selling, transferring, assigning, or pledging as collat-  
25 eral by the Maduro regime of any equity interest in

1 any entity in which the Maduro regime has a 50  
2 percent or greater ownership interest.

3 (e) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
4 gress that the President should waive the prohibitions de-  
5 scribed in subsection (a) and in Executive Order 13825  
6 if transactions involving related debt instruments, bonds,  
7 or securities have been approved or ratified by the demo-  
8 cratically elected National Assembly of Venezuela.

9 (d) ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary of the Treasury,  
10 in consultation with the Secretary of State, may promul-  
11 gate such regulations as may be necessary to enforce the  
12 prohibition set forth in subsection (b).

13 **SEC. 607. EXPANDING KINGPIN SANCTIONS ON NARCOTICS**  
14 **TRAFFICKING AND MONEY LAUNDERING.**

15 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
16 ings:

17 (1) On February 13, 2017, the Department of  
18 the Treasury designated Venezuelan nationals  
19 Tareek El Aissami (the current Vice President of  
20 Venezuela) and Samark López Bello pursuant to the  
21 Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act (21  
22 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.).

23 (2) On May 7, 2018, the Department of the  
24 Treasury designated Venezuelan nationals Pedro

1 Luis Martin, Walter Alexander del Nogal, and Mario  
2 Antonio Rodríguez pursuant to such Act.

3 ~~(b) FINANCIAL SANCTIONS EXPANSION.—~~

4 ~~(1) IN GENERAL.—~~The Secretary of the Treas-  
5 ury, the Attorney General, the Secretary of State,  
6 the Secretary of Defense, and the Director of the  
7 Central Intelligence Agency shall expand investiga-  
8 tions, intelligence collection, and analysis pursuant  
9 to the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act  
10 ~~(21 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.)~~ to facilitate the identifica-  
11 tion and support the application of sanctions  
12 against—

13 ~~(A) significant foreign narcotics traf-~~  
14 ~~fickers, their organizations and networks; and~~

15 ~~(B) the foreign persons who provide mate-~~  
16 ~~rial, financial, or technological support to such~~  
17 ~~traffickers, organizations, and networks.~~

18 ~~(2) TARGETS.—~~The efforts described in para-  
19 graph ~~(1)~~ shall specifically target—

20 ~~(A) senior members of the Maduro regime,~~  
21 ~~including military officers, involved in narcotics~~  
22 ~~trafficking and money laundering;~~

23 ~~(B) foreign narcotics traffickers and their~~  
24 ~~organizations and networks that are operating~~  
25 ~~in Venezuela; and~~

1           (C) the foreign persons who provide mate-  
2           rial, financial, or technological support to such  
3           traffickers, organizations, and networks that  
4           are operating in Venezuela.

5 **SEC. 608. SANCTIONS ON THE MADURO REGIME'S TRADE IN**  
6           **GOLD.**

7           (a) **FINDING.**—Executive Order 13850, which was  
8           signed on November 1, 2018, established sanctions  
9           against the gold sector of the Venezuelan economy.

10          (b) **SANCTIONS AUTHORIZED.**—The President, in  
11          consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the  
12          Secretary of State, may block and prohibit the transfer,  
13          payment, exportation, withdrawal, or other disposition of  
14          all property and interests in property of any person that  
15          operates in the gold sector of the Venezuelan economy if  
16          such property is in the United States, comes into the  
17          United States, or is or comes within the possession or con-  
18          trol of any United States person.

19 **SEC. 609. CONCERNS OVER PDVSA TRANSACTIONS WITH**  
20           **ROSNEFT.**

21          (a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress makes the following find-  
22          ings:

23           (1) In late 2016, Venezuelan state-owned oil  
24           company *Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A.* (referred to in  
25           this section as “PDVSA”), through a no compete

1 transaction, secured a loan from Russian govern-  
2 ment-controlled oil company Rosneft, using 49.9 per-  
3 cent of PDVSA's American subsidiary, CITGO Pe-  
4 troleum Corporation, including its assets in the  
5 United States, as collateral. As a result of this  
6 transaction, 100 percent of CITGO is held as collat-  
7 eral by PDVSA's creditors.

8 (2) CITGO, a wholly owned subsidiary of  
9 PDVSA, is engaged in interstate commerce and  
10 owns and controls critical energy infrastructure in  
11 19 States of the United States, including an exten-  
12 sive network of pipelines, 48 terminals, and 3 refin-  
13 eries, with a combined oil refining capacity of  
14 749,000 barrels per day. CITGO's refinery in Lake  
15 Charles, Louisiana, is the sixth largest refinery in  
16 the United States.

17 (3) The Department of the Treasury imposed  
18 sanctions on Rosneft, which is controlled by the Gov-  
19 ernment of the Russian Federation, and its Execu-  
20 tive Chairman, Igor Sechin, following Russia's mili-  
21 tary invasion of Ukraine and its illegal annexation of  
22 Crimea in 2014.

23 (4) The Department of Homeland Security has  
24 designated the energy sector as critical to United  
25 States infrastructure.

1           (5) The growing economic crisis in Venezuela  
2 raises the probability that the Maduro regime and  
3 PDVSA will default on their international debt obli-  
4 gations, resulting in a scenario in which Rosneft  
5 could come into control of CITGO's United States  
6 energy infrastructure holdings.

7           (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
8 gress that—

9           (1) control of critical United States energy in-  
10 frastructure by Rosneft, a Russian government-con-  
11 trolled entity currently under United States sanc-  
12 tions that is led by Igor Sechin, who is also under  
13 United States sanctions and is a close associate of  
14 Vladimir Putin, would pose a significant risk to  
15 United States national security and energy security;  
16 and

17           (2) a default by PDVSA on its loan from  
18 Rosneft, resulting in Rosneft coming into possession  
19 of PDVSA's United States CITGO assets, would  
20 warrant careful consideration by the Committee on  
21 Foreign Investment in the United States.

22           (c) PREVENTING ROSNEFT FROM CONTROLLING  
23 UNITED STATES ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE.—The Presi-  
24 dent shall take all necessary steps to prevent Rosneft from

1 gaining control of critical United States energy infrastruc-  
2 ture.

3 (d) SECURITY RISK ASSESSMENT.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland  
5 Security, in consultation with the Secretary of State,  
6 shall conduct an assessment of the security risks  
7 posed by Russian control of CITGO's United States  
8 energy infrastructure holdings.

9 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the  
10 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of  
11 Homeland Security shall submit a report to the  
12 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the  
13 Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental  
14 Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Af-  
15 fairs of the House of Representatives, and the Com-  
16 mittee on Homeland Security of the House of Rep-  
17 resentatives that contains the results of the assess-  
18 ment conducted pursuant to paragraph (1).

19 (e) REVIEW OF CITGO TRANSACTIONS.—If PDVSA  
20 defaults on its debt obligations, the Secretary of the  
21 Treasury should review CITGO's transactions with United  
22 States persons to assess and ensure compliance with  
23 United States sanctions policies and regulations.

1 **SEC. 610. CLASSIFIED BRIEFING ON ACTIVITIES OF CER-**  
2 **TAIN FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AND ACTORS**  
3 **IN VENEZUELA.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the  
5 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State,  
6 acting through the Bureau of Intelligence and Research  
7 of the Department of State, and in coordination with the  
8 Director of National Intelligence, shall brief the appro-  
9 priate congressional committees on—

10 (1) the full extent of cooperation by the Govern-  
11 ment of the Russian Federation, the Government of  
12 the People's Republic of China, the Government of  
13 Cuba, and the Government of Iran with the Maduro  
14 regime; and

15 (2) the activities inside Venezuelan territory of  
16 foreign armed groups, including Colombian criminal  
17 organizations and defectors from the Colombian gue-  
18 rilla group known as the Revolutionary Armed  
19 Forces of Colombia, and foreign terrorist organiza-  
20 tions, including the Colombian guerilla group known  
21 as the National Liberation Army (ELN).

22 (b) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—

23 In this section, the term “appropriate congressional com-  
24 mittees” means—

25 (1) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the  
26 Senate;



1           (2) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the  
2       Senate;

3           (3) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
4       House of Representatives; and

5           (4) the Permanent Select Committee on Intel-  
6       ligence of the House of Representatives.

7       **TITLE VII—CRYPTOCURRENCY**  
8       **SANCTIONS AND ENSURING**  
9       **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF**  
10      **UNITED STATES SANCTIONS**

11      **SEC. 701. SANCTIONS ON VENEZUELA'S CRYPTOCURRENCY**  
12                                   **AND THE PROVISION OF RELATED TECH-**  
13                                   **NOLOGIES.**

14      (a) **FINDING.**—Executive Order 13827 (83 Fed. Reg.  
15      12469), which was signed on March 19, 2018, established  
16      sanctions against the Maduro regime's ability to issue a  
17      digital currency in an effort to circumvent United States  
18      sanctions.

19      (b) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

20           (1) **ENTITY.**—The term “entity” means a part-  
21      nership, association, trust, joint venture, corpora-  
22      tion, group, subgroup, or other organization.

23           (2) **PERSON.**—The term “person” means an in-  
24      dividual or entity.

1           ~~(3) UNITED STATES PERSON.—~~The term  
2           ~~“United States person”~~ means any—

3                     ~~(A) United States citizen;~~

4                     ~~(B) alien lawfully admitted for permanent~~  
5                     ~~residence to the United States;~~

6                     ~~(C) entity organized under the laws of the~~  
7                     ~~United States or any jurisdiction within the~~  
8                     ~~United States (including a foreign branch of~~  
9                     ~~any such entity); and~~

10                    ~~(D) any person physically located in the~~  
11                    ~~United States.~~

12           ~~(e) PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS.—~~

13                    ~~(1) IN GENERAL.—~~All transactions by a United  
14                    ~~States person or within the United States that relate~~  
15                    ~~to, provide financing for, provide software for, or~~  
16                    ~~otherwise deal in any digital currency, digital coin,~~  
17                    ~~or digital token, that was issued by, for, or on behalf~~  
18                    ~~of the Maduro regime are prohibited beginning on~~  
19                    ~~the date of the enactment of this Act.~~

20                    ~~(2) APPLICABILITY.—~~The prohibitions under  
21                    ~~paragraph (1) shall apply to the extent provided by~~  
22                    ~~statutes, or in regulations, orders, directives, or li-~~  
23                    ~~enses that may be issued pursuant to this Act, and~~  
24                    ~~notwithstanding any contract entered into or any li-~~

1       eense or permit granted before the date of the enact-  
2       ment of this Act.

3           (3) PROHIBITIONS.—Any transaction that  
4       evades or avoids, has the purpose of evading or  
5       avoiding, causes a violation of, or attempts to violate  
6       any of the prohibitions set forth in this subsection  
7       is prohibited. Any conspiracy formed to violate any  
8       of the prohibitions set forth in this subsection is pro-  
9       hibited.

10       (d) RULEMAKING.—

11           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treas-  
12       ury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, is  
13       authorized to take such actions, including promul-  
14       gating rules and regulations, to implement this sec-  
15       tion.

16           (2) DELEGATION.—The Secretary of the Treas-  
17       ury may redelegate any of the functions described in  
18       paragraph (1) to other officers and executive depart-  
19       ments and agencies of the United States Govern-  
20       ment. All agencies of the United States Government  
21       shall take all appropriate measures within their au-  
22       thority to carry out the provisions of this section.

1 **SEC. 702. REPORT ON THE IMPACT OF CRYPTOCURREN-**  
2 **CIES ON UNITED STATES SANCTIONS.**

3 (a) **DEFINED TERM.**—In this section, the term “ap-  
4 propriate congressional committees” means—

5 (1) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the  
6 Senate;

7 (2) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and  
8 Urban Affairs of the Senate;

9 (3) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
10 House of Representatives; and

11 (4) the Committee on Financial Services of the  
12 House of Representatives.

13 (b) **REPORTING REQUIREMENT.**—Not later than 180  
14 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
15 retary of State, after consultation with the Secretary of  
16 the Treasury, the Chairman of the Securities and Ex-  
17 change Commission, and the Chairman of the Commodity  
18 Futures Trading Commission, shall submit a report to the  
19 appropriate congressional committees that provides an as-  
20 sessment on how digital currencies affect the effectiveness  
21 of United States sanctions around the world.

22 (c) **ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS.**—The report submitted  
23 under subsection (b) shall—

24 (1) describe any global efforts, including efforts  
25 by states, state-sponsored actors, and non-state-  
26 sponsored actors, to utilize digital currencies to

1 evade or circumvent United States sanctions, includ-  
2 ing through the direct or indirect use of products or  
3 services of United States based technology, software,  
4 or financial services firms; and

5 (2) include recommendations for new legislative  
6 and regulatory measures needed to strengthen the  
7 United States Government's ability to prevent  
8 states, state-sponsored actors, and non-state-spon-  
9 sored actors from using digital currencies to evade  
10 or circumvent United States sanctions, including  
11 through the direct or indirect use of products or  
12 services of United States based technology, software,  
13 or financial services firms.

14 (d) FORM.—The report submitted under subsection  
15 (b) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may in-  
16 clude a classified annex.

## 17 **TITLE VIII—MISCELLANEOUS** 18 **PROVISIONS**

### 19 **SEC. 801. CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFINGS.**

20 (a) HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE; SANCTIONED CO-  
21 ORDINATION.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 15 days after  
23 any congressional committee listed under paragraph  
24 (2) requests a briefing regarding the implementation  
25 of section 201, 202, 203, or 601, the Secretary of

1 State and the Administrator of the United States  
2 Agency for International Development shall provide  
3 such briefing to such committee.

4 ~~(2) CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The com-~~  
5 ~~mittees listed under this paragraph are—~~

6 ~~(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of~~  
7 ~~the Senate;~~

8 ~~(B) the Committee on Appropriations of~~  
9 ~~the Senate;~~

10 ~~(C) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of~~  
11 ~~the House of Representatives; and~~

12 ~~(D) the Committee on Appropriations of~~  
13 ~~the House of Representatives.~~

14 ~~(b) UNITED NATIONS; NEGOTIATED SOLUTION;~~  
15 ~~CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY.—~~

16 ~~(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 15 days after~~  
17 ~~any congressional committee listed under paragraph~~  
18 ~~(2) requests a briefing regarding the implementation~~  
19 ~~of section 103, 204, or 403, the Secretary of State~~  
20 ~~shall provide such briefing to such committee.~~

21 ~~(2) CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The con-~~  
22 ~~gressional committees listed under this paragraph~~  
23 ~~are—~~

24 ~~(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of~~  
25 ~~the Senate; and~~

1                   (B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of  
2                   the House of Representatives.

3           (e) REGIME COHESION; CORRUPTION AND NAR-  
4 COTICS TRAFFICKING; FOREIGN GOVERNMENT ACTIVI-  
5 TIES.—

6           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 15 days after  
7           a congressional committee listed under paragraph  
8           (2) requests a briefing regarding the implementation  
9           of section 301, 602, or 610, the Secretary of State  
10          and the Director of National Intelligence shall pro-  
11          vide such briefing to such committee.

12          (2) CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The con-  
13          gressional committees listed under this paragraph  
14          are—

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

17                   (B) the Select Committee on Intelligence  
18                   of the Senate;

19                   (C) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of  
20                   the House of Representatives; and

21                   (D) the Permanent Select Committee on  
22                   Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

23          (d) INTERNATIONAL ELECTION OBSERVATION.—Not  
24          later than 15 days after a congressional committee listed  
25          under subsection (a)(2) requests a briefing regarding the

1 implementation of section 405, the Secretary of State, the  
2 Administrator of the United States Agency for Inter-  
3 national Development, and the United States Ambassador  
4 to the Organization of American States shall provide such  
5 briefing to such committee.

6       (e) ~~VISA RESTRICTIONS; SANCTIONS WAIVER.~~—Not  
7 later than 15 days after a congressional committee listed  
8 under subsection (b)(2) requests a briefing regarding the  
9 implementation of section 302 or 303, the Secretary of  
10 State shall provide such briefing to such committee.

11       (f) ~~RECONSTRUCTION OF VENEZUELA'S ENERGY IN-~~  
12 ~~FRASTRUCTURE.~~—

13             (1) ~~IN GENERAL.~~—Not later than 15 days after  
14 a congressional committee listed under paragraph  
15 (2) requests a briefing regarding the implementation  
16 of section 501, the Secretary of State, the Secretary  
17 of Energy, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall  
18 provide such briefing to such committee.

19             (2) ~~CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.~~—The con-  
20 gressional committees listed under this paragraph  
21 are—

22                 (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of  
23 the Senate;

24                 (B) the Committee on Energy and Natural  
25 Resources of the Senate;



1           ~~(C)~~ the Committee on Foreign Affairs of  
2           the House of Representatives; and

3           ~~(D)~~ the Committee on Energy and Com-  
4           merce of the House of Representatives.

5           ~~(g)~~ RECOVERY OF STOLEN ASSETS.—

6           ~~(1)~~ IN GENERAL.—Not later than 15 days after  
7           a congressional committee listed under paragraph  
8           ~~(2)~~ requests a briefing regarding the implementation  
9           of section 502, the Secretary of State, the Secretary  
10          of the Treasury, and the Attorney General shall pro-  
11          vide such briefing to such committee.

12          ~~(2)~~ CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The con-  
13          gressional committees listed under this paragraph  
14          are—

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

17                 ~~(B)~~ the Committee on Banking, Housing,  
18                 and Urban Affairs of the Senate;

19                 ~~(C)~~ the Committee on the Judiciary of the  
20                 Senate;

21                 ~~(D)~~ the Committee on Foreign Affairs of  
22                 the House of Representatives;

23                 ~~(E)~~ the Committee on Financial Services  
24                 of the House of Representatives; and

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

3           (h) FINANCIAL SANCTIONS.—

4           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 15 days after  
5           a congressional committee listed under paragraph  
6           (2) requests a briefing regarding the implementation  
7           of section 605, 606, or 608, the Secretary of the  
8           Treasury shall provide such briefing to such com-  
9           mittee.

10           (2) CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The con-  
11           gressional committees listed under this paragraph  
12           are—

13           (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of  
14           the Senate;

15           (B) the Committee on Banking, Housing,  
16           and Urban Affairs of the Senate;

17           (C) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of  
18           the House of Representatives; and

19           (D) the Committee on Financial Services  
20           of the House of Representatives.

21           (i) KINGPIN SANCTIONS.—Not later than 15 days  
22           after a congressional committee listed under subsection  
23           (h)(2) requests a briefing regarding the implementation  
24           of section 607, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Attorney  
25           General, the Secretary of State, and the Director of the

1 Central Intelligence Agency shall provide such briefing to  
2 such committee.

3 ~~(j) PDVSA TRANSACTIONS WITH ROSNEFT.—~~

4 ~~(1) IN GENERAL.—~~Not later than 15 days after  
5 a congressional committee listed under paragraph  
6 ~~(2)~~ requests a briefing regarding the implementation  
7 of section 609, the Secretary of State, the Secretary  
8 of the Treasury, and the Secretary of Homeland Se-  
9 curity shall provide such briefing to such committee.

10 ~~(2) CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—~~The con-  
11 gressional committees listed under this paragraph  
12 are—

13 ~~(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of~~  
14 ~~the Senate;~~

15 ~~(B) the Committee on Homeland Security~~  
16 ~~and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;~~

17 ~~(C) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of~~  
18 ~~the House of Representatives; and~~

19 ~~(D) the Committee on Homeland Security~~  
20 ~~of the House of Representatives.~~

21 ~~(k) CRYPTOCURRENCY SANCTIONS.—~~Not later than  
22 15 days after a congressional committee listed under sub-  
23 section ~~(h)(2)~~ requests a briefing regarding the implemen-  
24 tation of section 701 or 702, the Secretary of State, the  
25 Secretary of the Treasury, and the Chairman of the Com-

1 modify Futures Trading Commission shall provide such  
2 briefing to such committee.

3 **SEC. 802. EXTENSION AND TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS**  
4 **AGAINST VENEZUELA.**

5 (a) **AMENDMENT.**—Section 5(c) of the Venezuela De-  
6 fense of Human Rights and Civil Society Act of 2014  
7 (Public Law 113–278; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended  
8 by striking “December 31, 2019” and inserting “Decem-  
9 ber 31, 2025”.

10 (b) **TERMINATION.**—The requirement to impose sanc-  
11 tions under this Act shall terminate on December 31,  
12 2025.

13 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLES; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

14 (a) **SHORT TITLES.**—*This Act may be cited as the*  
15 *“Venezuela Emergency Relief, Democracy Assistance, and*  
16 *Development Act of 2019” or the “VERDAD Act of 2019”.*

17 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—*The table of contents for*  
18 *this Act is as follows:*

*Sec. 1. Short titles; table of contents.*

**TITLE I—SUPPORT FOR THE INTERIM PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA  
AND RECOGNITION OF THE VENEZUELAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

*Sec. 101. Findings; sense of Congress in support of the Interim President of Ven-  
ezuela.*

*Sec. 102. Recognition of Venezuela’s democratically elected National Assembly.*

*Sec. 103. Advancing a negotiated solution to Venezuela’s crisis.*

**TITLE II—HUMANITARIAN RELIEF FOR VENEZUELA**

*Sec. 201. Humanitarian relief for the Venezuelan people.*

*Sec. 202. Support for efforts at the United Nations on the humanitarian crisis  
in Venezuela.*

*Sec. 203. Sanctions exceptions for humanitarian assistance.*

*Sec. 204. Coordination and distribution of humanitarian assistance to the people of Venezuela.*

#### TITLE III—ADDRESSING REGIME COHESION

*Sec. 301. Classified report on declining cohesion inside the Venezuelan military and the Maduro regime.*

*Sec. 302. Additional restrictions on visas.*

*Sec. 303. Waiver for sanctioned officials that recognize the Interim President of Venezuela.*

#### TITLE IV—RESTORING DEMOCRACY AND ADDRESSING THE POLITICAL CRISIS IN VENEZUELA

*Sec. 401. Support for the Organization of American States and the Lima Group.*

*Sec. 402. Accountability for crimes against humanity.*

*Sec. 403. Support for international election observation and democratic civil society.*

#### TITLE V—SUPPORTING THE RECONSTRUCTION OF VENEZUELA

*Sec. 501. Engaging international financial institutions to advance the reconstruction of Venezuela's economy and energy infrastructure.*

*Sec. 502. Recovering assets stolen from the Venezuelan people.*

#### TITLE VI—RESTORING THE RULE OF LAW IN VENEZUELA

*Sec. 601. Developing and implementing a coordinated sanctions strategy with partners in the Western Hemisphere and the European Union.*

*Sec. 602. Classified briefing on the involvement of Venezuelan officials in corruption and illicit narcotics trafficking.*

*Sec. 603. Sanctions on persons responsible for public corruption and undermining democratic governance.*

*Sec. 604. Public information about sanctioned officials.*

*Sec. 605. Financial sanctions on Maduro regime debt.*

*Sec. 606. Additional financial sanctions on Maduro regime debt.*

*Sec. 607. Expanding kingpin sanctions on narcotics trafficking and money laundering.*

*Sec. 608. Sanctions on the Maduro regime's trade in gold.*

*Sec. 609. Concerns over PDVSA transactions with Rosneft.*

*Sec. 610. Classified briefing on activities of certain foreign governments and actors in Venezuela.*

*Sec. 611. Countering Russian influence in Venezuela.*

*Sec. 612. Restriction on export of covered articles and services to certain security forces of Venezuela.*

#### TITLE VII—CRYPTOCURRENCY SANCTIONS AND ENSURING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF UNITED STATES SANCTIONS

*Sec. 701. Sanctions on Venezuela's cryptocurrency and the provision of related technologies.*

*Sec. 702. Briefing on the impact of cryptocurrencies on United States sanctions.*

#### TITLE VIII—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

*Sec. 801. Congressional briefings.*

*Sec. 802. Sanctions implementation and penalties.*

*Sec. 803. Prohibition on construction of provisions of this Act as an authorization for the use of military force.*

*Sec. 804. Extension and termination of sanctions against Venezuela.*

1 **TITLE I—SUPPORT FOR THE IN-**  
2 **TERIM PRESIDENT OF VEN-**  
3 **EZUELA AND RECOGNITION**  
4 **OF THE VENEZUELAN NA-**  
5 **TIONAL ASSEMBLY**

6 **SEC. 101. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS IN SUPPORT OF**  
7 **THE INTERIM PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA.**

8 *(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:*

9 *(1) Venezuela’s electoral event on May 20, 2018*  
10 *was characterized by widespread fraud and did not*  
11 *comply with international standards for a free, fair,*  
12 *and transparent electoral process.*

13 *(2) Given the fraudulent nature of Venezuela’s*  
14 *May 20, 2018 electoral event, Nicolás Maduro’s tenure*  
15 *as President of Venezuela ended on January 10, 2019.*

16 *(3) The National Assembly of Venezuela ap-*  
17 *proved a resolution on January 15, 2019 that termi-*  
18 *nated Nicolás Maduro’s authority as the President of*  
19 *Venezuela.*

20 *(4) On January 23, 2019, the President of the*  
21 *National Assembly of Venezuela was sworn in as the*  
22 *Interim President of Venezuela.*

23 *(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-*  
24 *gress—*

1           (1) to support the decisions by the United States  
2           Government, more than 50 governments around the  
3           world, the Organization of American States, the  
4           Inter-American Development Bank, and the Euro-  
5           pean Parliament to recognize National Assembly  
6           President Juan Guaidó as the Interim President of  
7           Venezuela;

8           (2) to encourage the Interim President of Ven-  
9           ezuela to advance efforts to hold democratic presi-  
10          dential elections in the shortest possible period; and

11          (3) that the Organization of American States,  
12          with support from the United States Government and  
13          partner governments, should provide diplomatic, tech-  
14          nical, and financial support for a new presidential  
15          election in Venezuela that complies with international  
16          standards for a free, fair, and transparent electoral  
17          process.

18 **SEC. 102. RECOGNITION OF VENEZUELA'S DEMOCRAT-**  
19 **ICALLY ELECTED NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.**

20          (a) *FINDINGS.*—Congress finds that Venezuela's uni-  
21          cameral National Assembly convened on January 6, 2016,  
22          following democratic elections that were held on December  
23          6, 2015.

24          (b) *SENSE OF CONGRESS.*—It is the sense of Congress  
25          that Venezuela's democratically elected National Assembly

1 *is the only national level democratic institution remaining*  
2 *in the country.*

3 (c) *POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States to*  
4 *recognize the democratically elected National Assembly of*  
5 *Venezuela as the only legitimate national legislative body*  
6 *in Venezuela.*

7 (d) *ASSISTANCE TO VENEZUELA’S NATIONAL ASSEM-*  
8 *BLY.—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Ad-*  
9 *ministrator of the United States Agency for International*  
10 *Development, shall prioritize efforts to provide technical as-*  
11 *sistance to support the democratically elected National As-*  
12 *sembly of Venezuela in accordance with section 404.*

13 **SEC. 103. ADVANCING A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION TO VEN-**  
14 **EZUELA’S CRISIS.**

15 (a) *SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress*  
16 *that—*

17 (1) *direct, credible negotiations led by the In-*  
18 *terim President of Venezuela and members of Ven-*  
19 *ezuela’s democratically elected National Assembly—*

20 (A) *are supported by stakeholders in the*  
21 *international community that have recognized*  
22 *the Interim President of Venezuela;*

23 (B) *include the input and interests of Ven-*  
24 *ezuelan civil society; and*



1           (C) represent the best opportunity to reach  
2 a solution to the Venezuelan crisis that in-  
3 cludes—

4           (i) holding a new presidential election  
5 that complies with international standards  
6 for a free, fair, and transparent electoral  
7 process;

8           (ii) ending Nicolás Maduro's usurpa-  
9 tion of presidential authorities;

10           (iii) restoring democracy and the rule  
11 of law;

12           (iv) freeing political prisoners; and

13           (v) facilitating the delivery of humani-  
14 tarian aid;

15           (2) dialogue between the Maduro regime and rep-  
16 resentatives of the political opposition that com-  
17 menced in October 2017, and were supported by the  
18 Governments of Mexico, of Chile, of Bolivia, and of  
19 Nicaragua, did not result in an agreement because the  
20 Maduro regime failed to credibly participate in the  
21 process; and

22           (3) negotiations between the Maduro regime and  
23 representatives of the political opposition that com-  
24 menced in October 2016, and were supported by the  
25 Vatican, did not result in an agreement because the

1        *Maduro regime failed to credibly participate in the*  
2        *process.*

3        (b) *POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States to*  
4        *support diplomatic engagement in order to advance a nego-*  
5        *tiated and peaceful solution to Venezuela’s political, eco-*  
6        *nomie, and humanitarian crisis that is described in sub-*  
7        *section (a)(1).*

8                    **TITLE II—HUMANITARIAN**  
9                    **RELIEF FOR VENEZUELA**

10        **SEC. 201. HUMANITARIAN RELIEF FOR THE VENEZUELAN**  
11                    **PEOPLE.**

12        (a) *SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress*  
13        *that—*

14                    (1) *the United States Government should expand*  
15        *efforts to peacefully address Venezuela’s humanitarian*  
16        *crisis; and*

17                    (2) *humanitarian assistance—*

18                                (A) *should be targeted toward those most in*  
19        *need and delivered through partners that uphold*  
20        *internationally recognized humanitarian prin-*  
21        *ciples; and*

22                                (B) *should not be passed through the control*  
23        *or distribution mechanisms of the Maduro re-*  
24        *gime.*

25        (b) *HUMANITARIAN RELIEF.—*

1           (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary of State, in co-*  
2           *ordination with the Administrator of the United*  
3           *States Agency for International Development, shall*  
4           *provide—*

5                     (A) *humanitarian assistance to individuals*  
6                     *and communities in Venezuela, including—*

7                             (i) *public health commodities and serv-*  
8                             *ices, including medicines and basic medical*  
9                             *supplies and equipment;*

10                            (ii) *basic food commodities and nutri-*  
11                            *tional supplements needed to address grow-*  
12                            *ing malnutrition and improve food security*  
13                            *for the people of Venezuela, with a specific*  
14                            *emphasis on the most vulnerable popu-*  
15                            *lations; and*

16                            (iii) *technical assistance to ensure that*  
17                            *health and food commodities are appro-*  
18                            *priately selected, procured, targeted, and*  
19                            *distributed; and*

20                     (B) *Venezuelans and hosting communities,*  
21                     *as appropriate, in neighboring countries with*  
22                     *humanitarian aid, such as—*

23                            (i) *urgently needed health and nutri-*  
24                            *tional assistance, including logistical and*

1                   *technical assistance to hospitals and health*  
2                   *centers in affected communities;*

3                   *(ii) food assistance for vulnerable indi-*  
4                   *viduals, including assistance to improve*  
5                   *food security for affected communities; and*

6                   *(iii) hygiene supplies and sanitation*  
7                   *services.*

8                   (2) *AID TO VENEZUELAN IN NEIGHBORING*  
9                   *COUNTRIES.—The aid described in paragraph*  
10                  (1)(B)—

11                   (A) *may be provided—*

12                   (i) *directly to Venezuelans in neigh-*  
13                   *boring countries, including countries of the*  
14                   *Caribbean; or*

15                   (ii) *indirectly through the communities*  
16                   *in which the Venezuelans reside; and*

17                   (B) *should focus on the most vulnerable*  
18                   *Venezuelans in neighboring countries.*

19                  (c) *HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE STRATEGY UP-*  
20                  *DATE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-*  
21                  *ment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination*  
22                  *with the Administrator of the United States Agency for*  
23                  *International Development, shall submit, to the appropriate*  
24                  *congressional committees, an update to the Venezuela hu-*  
25                  *manitarian assistance strategy described in the conference*

1 *report accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act*  
2 *(Public Law 116–6), to cover a 2-year period and include—*

3           (1) *a description of the United States humani-*  
4 *tarian assistance provided under this section;*

5           (2) *a description of United States diplomatic ef-*  
6 *forts to ensure support from international donors, in-*  
7 *cluding regional partners in Latin America and the*  
8 *Caribbean, for the provision of humanitarian assist-*  
9 *ance to the people of Venezuela;*

10           (3) *the identification of governments that are*  
11 *willing to provide financial and technical assistance*  
12 *for the provision of such humanitarian assistance to*  
13 *the people of Venezuela and a description of such as-*  
14 *sistance; and*

15           (4) *the identification of the financial and tech-*  
16 *nical assistance to be provided by multilateral insti-*  
17 *tutions, including the United Nations humanitarian*  
18 *agencies, the Pan American Health Organization, the*  
19 *Inter-American Development Bank, and the World*  
20 *Bank, and a description of such assistance.*

21       (d) *DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT.—The Secretary of*  
22 *State, in consultation with the Administrator of the United*  
23 *States Agency for International Development, shall work*  
24 *with relevant foreign governments and multilateral organi-*  
25 *zations to coordinate a donors summit and carry out diplo-*

1 *matic engagement to advance the strategy required under*  
2 *subsection (c).*

3 (e) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is*  
4 *authorized to be appropriated \$400,000,000 for fiscal year*  
5 *2020 to carry out the activities set forth in subsection (b).*

6 (f) *DEFINED TERM.—In this section, the term “appro-*  
7 *priate congressional committees” means—*

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

10 (2) *the Committee on Appropriations of the Sen-*  
11 *ate;*

12 (3) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
13 *House of Representatives; and*

14 (4) *the Committee on Appropriations of the*  
15 *House of Representatives.*

16 **SEC. 202. SUPPORT FOR EFFORTS AT THE UNITED NATIONS**  
17 **ON THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN VEN-**  
18 **EZUELA.**

19 (a) *SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress*  
20 *that the United Nations humanitarian agencies should con-*  
21 *duct and publish independent assessments of the humani-*  
22 *tarian situation in Venezuela, including—*

23 (1) *the extent and impact of the shortages of*  
24 *food, medicine, and medical supplies in Venezuela;*

1           (2) *basic health indicators in Venezuela, such as*  
2           *maternal and child mortality rates and the preva-*  
3           *lence and treatment of communicable diseases; and*

4           (3) *the efforts needed to resolve the shortages*  
5           *identified in paragraph (1) and to improve the health*  
6           *indicators referred to in paragraph (2).*

7           (b) *UNITED NATIONS RESIDENT COORDINATOR.—The*  
8           *President should instruct the Permanent Representative to*  
9           *the United Nations to use the voice, vote, and influence of*  
10           *the United States at the United Nations to support the ef-*  
11           *forts of the Resident Coordinator for Venezuela in a manner*  
12           *that—*

13           (1) *contributes to Venezuela's long-term recovery;*  
14           *and*

15           (2) *advances humanitarian efforts in Venezuela*  
16           *and for Venezuelans residing in neighboring coun-*  
17           *tries.*

18           **SEC. 203. SANCTIONS EXCEPTIONS FOR HUMANITARIAN AS-**  
19           **SISTANCE.**

20           (a) *DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

21           (1) *AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.—The term “ag-*  
22           *ricultural commodity” has the meaning given that*  
23           *term in section 102 of the Agricultural Trade Act of*  
24           *1978 (7 U.S.C. 5602).*

1           (2) *MEDICAL DEVICE*.—The term “medical de-  
2           vice” has the meaning given the term “device” in sec-  
3           tion 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act  
4           (21 U.S.C. 321).

5           (3) *MEDICINE*.—The term “medicine” has the  
6           meaning given the term “drug” in section 201 of the  
7           Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C.  
8           321).

9           (b) *IN GENERAL*.—Any transaction, not otherwise pro-  
10          hibited by under part V of title 31, Code of Federal Regula-  
11          tions, or any Executive order relating to the national emer-  
12          gency declared in Executive Order 13692 (50 U.S.C. 1701  
13          note), for the sale of agricultural commodities, food, medi-  
14          cine, or medical devices to Venezuela, or for the provision  
15          of humanitarian assistance to the people of Venezuela, and  
16          any transaction that is ordinarily incidental or necessary  
17          to any such transaction, regardless of whether the trans-  
18          action or provision of humanitarian assistance originate  
19          in, or have a connection to, the United States, shall be ex-  
20          empt from United States sanctions, including sanctions de-  
21          scribed in—

22                 (1) sections 603, 605, 606, 608, and 701;

23                 (2) the Venezuela Defense of Human Rights and  
24          Civil Society Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–278); or

25                 (3) Executive Orders 13808 and 13850.



1 **SEC. 204. COORDINATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF HUMANI-**  
2 **TARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE OF VEN-**  
3 **EZUELA.**

4 (a) *SHORT TITLE.*—*This section may be cited as the*  
5 *“Humanitarian Assistance to the Venezuelan People Act of*  
6 *2019”.*

7 (b) *DEFINED TERM.*—*In this section, the term “appro-*  
8 *priate congressional committees” means—*

9 (1) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of the*  
10 *Senate;*

11 (2) *the Committee on Appropriations of the Sen-*  
12 *ate;*

13 (3) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
14 *House of Representatives; and*

15 (4) *the Committee on Appropriations of the*  
16 *House of Representatives.*

17 (c) *REPORT ON THE COORDINATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF*  
18 *HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE OF*  
19 *VENEZUELA INCLUDING STRATEGY ON FUTURE EF-*  
20 *FORTS.*—

21 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 1 year after*  
22 *the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of*  
23 *State, in coordination with the Administrator of the*  
24 *United States Agency for International Development,*  
25 *shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional*  
26 *committees that evaluates the delivery and coordina-*

1        *tion of humanitarian assistance to the people of Ven-*  
2        *ezuela, whether residing in Venezuela or elsewhere in*  
3        *the Western Hemisphere.*

4            (2) *MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.*—*The report re-*  
5        *quired under paragraph (1) shall—*

6            (A) *identify how United States Agency for*  
7        *International Development and Department of*  
8        *State best practices are being utilized in pro-*  
9        *viding humanitarian assistance to Venezuela*  
10       *and countries in the region;*

11          (B) *describe the current and anticipated*  
12       *challenges to distributing humanitarian assist-*  
13       *ance in Venezuela and countries hosting Ven-*  
14       *ezuelan migrants; and*

15          (C) *describe how the distribution of humani-*  
16       *itarian assistance is being monitored and evalu-*  
17       *ated, including—*

18            (i) *the number of beneficiaries receiv-*  
19        *ing such assistance;*

20            (ii) *an assessment of how humani-*  
21        *tarian and development assistance is bene-*  
22        *fitting Venezuelan migrants inside and out-*  
23        *side of the country; and*

24            (iii) *what additional staff may be nec-*  
25        *essary to manage such assistance.*

1 **TITLE III—ADDRESSING REGIME**  
2 **COHESION**

3 **SEC. 301. CLASSIFIED REPORT ON DECLINING COHESION**  
4 **INSIDE THE VENEZUELAN MILITARY AND THE**  
5 **MADURO REGIME.**

6 (a) *REPORTING REQUIREMENT.*—Not later than 90  
7 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
8 retary of State, acting through the Bureau of Intelligence  
9 and Research, and in coordination with the Director of Na-  
10 tional Intelligence, shall submit a classified report to the  
11 appropriate congressional committees that assesses the de-  
12 clining cohesion inside the Venezuelan military and secu-  
13 rity forces and the Maduro regime.

14 (b) *ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS.*—The report submitted  
15 under subsection (a) shall—

16 (1) *identify senior members of the Venezuelan*  
17 *military and the Maduro regime, including generals,*  
18 *admirals, cabinet ministers, deputy cabinet ministers,*  
19 *and the heads of intelligence agencies, whose loyalty*  
20 *to Nicolás Maduro is declining;*

21 (2) *describe the factors that would accelerate the*  
22 *decision making of individuals identified in para-*  
23 *graph (1)—*

24 (A) *to break with the Maduro regime; and*



1 **SEC. 302. ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS ON VISAS.**

2 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary of State shall impose*  
3 *the visa restrictions described in subsection (c) on any for-*  
4 *foreign person who the Secretary determines—*

5 (1) *is a current or former senior official of the*  
6 *Maduro regime, or any foreign person acting on be-*  
7 *half of such regime, who is knowingly responsible for,*  
8 *complicit in, responsible for ordering, controlling, or*  
9 *otherwise directing, or participating in (directly or*  
10 *indirectly) any activity in or in relation to Ven-*  
11 *ezuela, on or after January 23, 2019, that signifi-*  
12 *cantly undermines or threatens the integrity of—*

13 (A) *the democratically-elected National As-*  
14 *sembly of Venezuela; or*

15 (B) *the President of such National Assem-*  
16 *bly, while serving as Interim President of Ven-*  
17 *ezuela, or the senior government officials under*  
18 *the supervision of such President;*

19 (2) *is the spouse or child of a foreign person de-*  
20 *scribed in paragraph (1); or*

21 (3) *is the spouse or child of Venezuelan person*  
22 *sanctioned under—*

23 (A) *section 5(a) of the Venezuela Defense of*  
24 *Human Rights and Civil Society Act of 2014*  
25 *(Public Law 113–278), as amended by section*  
26 *603 of this Act;*

1                   (B) section 804(b) of the Foreign Narcotics  
2                   Kingpin Designation Act (21 U.S.C. 1903(b)); or  
3                   (C) Executive Orders 13692 (50 U.S.C.  
4                   1701 note) and 13850.

5                   (b) *REMOVAL FROM VISA REVOCATION LIST.*—Pursu-  
6                   ant to such procedures as the Secretary of State may estab-  
7                   lish to implement this section—

8                   (1) if any person described in subsection (a)(1)  
9                   recognizes and pledges support for the Interim Presi-  
10                  dent of Venezuela or a subsequent democratically  
11                  elected government of Venezuela, that person and any  
12                  family members of that person who were subject to  
13                  visa restrictions pursuant to subsection (a)(2) shall  
14                  no longer be subject to such visa restrictions; and

15                  (2) if any person described in subparagraphs (A)  
16                  through (C) of subsection (a)(3) recognizes and  
17                  pledges support for the Interim President of Venezuela  
18                  or a subsequent democratically elected government of  
19                  Venezuela, any family members of that person who  
20                  were subject to visa restrictions pursuant to sub-  
21                  section (a)(3) shall no longer be subject to such visa  
22                  restrictions.

23                  (c) *VISA RESTRICTIONS DESCRIBED.*—

24                  (1) *EXCLUSION FROM THE UNITED STATES AND*  
25                  *REVOCATION OF VISA OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION.*—

1        *Subject to paragraph (2) and subsection (b), an alien*  
2        *described in subsection (a)—*

3                *(A) is inadmissible to the United States;*

4                *(B) is ineligible to receive a visa or other*  
5        *documentation authorizing entry into the United*  
6        *States;*

7                *(C) is otherwise ineligible to be admitted*  
8        *into the United States or to receive any benefit*  
9        *under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8*  
10       *U.S.C. 1101 et seq.); and*

11               *(D) shall, in accordance with section 221(i)*  
12       *of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8*  
13       *U.S.C. 1201(i), have his or her visa or other doc-*  
14       *umentation revoked, regardless of when the visa*  
15       *or other documentation was issued.*

16        (2) *EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NA-*  
17        *TIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.—Sanctions*  
18        *under paragraph (1) shall not apply to an alien if*  
19        *admitting the alien into the United States is nec-*  
20        *essary to permit the United States to comply with the*  
21        *Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United*  
22        *Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and*  
23        *entered into force November 21, 1947, between the*  
24        *United Nations and the United States, or other appli-*  
25        *cable international obligations.*

1           (d) *RULEMAKING.*—*The President shall issue such reg-*  
2 *ulations, licenses, and orders as may be necessary to carry*  
3 *out this section.*

4 **SEC. 303. WAIVER FOR SANCTIONED OFFICIALS THAT REC-**  
5 **OGNIZE THE INTERIM PRESIDENT OF VEN-**  
6 **EZUELA.**

7           (a) *REMOVAL OF SANCTIONS.*—*If a person sanctioned*  
8 *under any of the provisions of law described in subsection*  
9 *(b) recognizes and pledges supports for the Interim Presi-*  
10 *dent of Venezuela or a subsequent democratically elected*  
11 *government, the person shall no longer be subject to such*  
12 *sanctions, pursuant to such procedures as the Secretary of*  
13 *State and the Secretary of the Treasury may establish to*  
14 *implement this section.*

15           (b) *SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.*—*The sanctions described*  
16 *in this subsection are set forth in the following provisions*  
17 *of law:*

18                   (1)(A) *Paragraphs (3) and (4) of section 5(a) of*  
19 *the Venezuela Defense of Human Rights and Civil So-*  
20 *cietty Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–278), as amended*  
21 *by section 603 of this Act.*

22                   (B) *Paragraph (5) of section 5(a) of such Act, to*  
23 *the extent such paragraph relates to the sanctions de-*  
24 *scribed in paragraph (3) or (4) of such subsection.*



1           (2)(A) *Clauses (1) and (4) of section 1(a)(ii)(A)*  
2           *of Executive Order 13692 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note).*

3           (B) *Subparagraph (D)(2) of section 1(a)(ii) of*  
4           *such Executive Order, to the extent such subpara-*  
5           *graph relates to the provisions of law cited in sub-*  
6           *paragraph (A).*

7           (3)(A) *Section 1(a)(ii) of Executive Order 13850.*

8           (B) *Paragraph (iii) of section 1(a) of such Exec-*  
9           *utive Order, to the extent such paragraph relates to*  
10          *the provision of law cited in subparagraph (A).*

11          (c) *RULEMAKING.—The President shall issue such reg-*  
12          *ulations, licenses, and orders as may be necessary to carry*  
13          *out this section.*

14          **TITLE IV—RESTORING DEMOC-**  
15          **RACY AND ADDRESSING THE**  
16          **POLITICAL CRISIS IN VEN-**  
17          **EZUELA**

18          **SEC. 401. SUPPORT FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN**  
19          **STATES AND THE LIMA GROUP.**

20          (a) *SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress*  
21          *that the Secretary of State should—*

22                  (1) *take additional steps to support ongoing ef-*  
23                  *forts by the Secretary General of the Organization of*  
24                  *American States to promote diplomatic initiatives to*

1        *foster the restoration of democracy and the rule of law*  
2        *in Venezuela;*

3            (2) *conduct diplomatic engagement in support of*  
4        *efforts by the Lima Group to restore democracy and*  
5        *the rule of law in Venezuela and facilitate the deliv-*  
6        *ery of humanitarian assistance for the Venezuelan*  
7        *people; and*

8            (3) *engage with the International Contact Group*  
9        *on Venezuela to advance a peaceful and democratic*  
10       *solution to the current crisis.*

11       (b) *DEFINED TERMS.—In this section:*

12            (1) *INTERNATIONAL CONTACT GROUP ON VEN-*  
13        *EZUELA.—The “International Contact Group on Ven-*  
14        *ezuela” refers to a diplomatic bloc—*

15            (A) *whose members include the European*  
16        *Union, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Por-*  
17        *tugal, Sweden, the Netherlands, the United King-*  
18        *dom, Ecuador, Costa Rica, and Uruguay; and*

19            (B) *which was established to advance a*  
20        *peaceful and democratic solution to the current*  
21        *crisis in Venezuela.*

22            (2) *LIMA GROUP.—The “Lima Group” refers to*  
23        *a diplomatic bloc—*

24            (A) *whose members include Argentina,*  
25        *Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica,*

1           *Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Panama, Para-*  
2           *guay, Peru, and Saint Lucia; and*

3                     *(B) which was established to address the po-*  
4           *litical, economic, and humanitarian crises in*  
5           *Venezuela.*

6   **SEC. 402. ACCOUNTABILITY FOR CRIMES AGAINST HUMAN-**  
7                     **ITY.**

8           *(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress*  
9           *that the Secretary of State should conduct robust diplomatic*  
10          *engagement in support of efforts in Venezuela, and on the*  
11          *part of the international community, to ensure account-*  
12          *ability for possible crimes against humanity and serious*  
13          *violations of human rights.*

14          *(b) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date*  
15          *of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall*  
16          *submit a report to Congress that—*

17                     *(1) evaluates the degree to which the Maduro re-*  
18          *gime and its officials, including members of the Ven-*  
19          *ezuelan security forces, have engaged in actions that*  
20          *constitute possible crimes against humanity and seri-*  
21          *ous violations of human rights; and*

22                     *(2) provides options for holding accountable the*  
23          *perpetrators identified under paragraph (1).*

1 **SEC. 403. SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL ELECTION OBSER-**  
2 **VATION AND DEMOCRATIC CIVIL SOCIETY.**

3 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary of State, in coordi-*  
4 *nation with the Administrator of the United States Agency*  
5 *for International Development—*

6 (1) *shall work with the Organization of Amer-*  
7 *ican States to ensure credible international observa-*  
8 *tion of future elections in Venezuela that contributes*  
9 *to free, fair, and transparent democratic electoral*  
10 *processes; and*

11 (2) *shall work with nongovernmental organiza-*  
12 *tions—*

13 (A) *to strengthen democratic governance*  
14 *and institutions, including the democratically*  
15 *elected National Assembly of Venezuela;*

16 (B) *to defend internationally recognized*  
17 *human rights for the people of Venezuela, includ-*  
18 *ing support for efforts to document crimes*  
19 *against humanity and violations of human*  
20 *rights;*

21 (C) *to support the efforts of independent*  
22 *media outlets to broadcast, distribute, and share*  
23 *information beyond the limited channels made*  
24 *available by the Maduro regime; and*

1                   (D) to combat corruption and improve the  
2                   transparency and accountability of institutions  
3                   that are part of the Maduro regime.

4           (b) *ENGAGEMENT AT THE ORGANIZATION OF AMER-*  
5 *ICAN STATES.*—*The Secretary of State, acting through the*  
6 *United States Permanent Representative to the Organiza-*  
7 *tion of American States, should advocate and build diplo-*  
8 *matic support for sending an election observation mission*  
9 *to Venezuela to ensure that democratic electoral processes*  
10 *are organized and carried out in a free, fair, and trans-*  
11 *parent manner.*

12           (c) *BRIEFING REQUIREMENT.*—*Not later than 180*  
13 *days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-*  
14 *retary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of*  
15 *the United States Agency for International Development,*  
16 *shall provide a briefing on the strategy to carry out the*  
17 *activities described in subsection (a) to—*

18                   (1) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of the*  
19                   *Senate;*

20                   (2) *the Committee on Appropriations of the Sen-*  
21                   *ate;*

22                   (3) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
23                   *House of Representatives; and*

24                   (4) *the Committee on Appropriations of the*  
25                   *House of Representatives.*

1       (d) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—

2           (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*There are authorized to be ap-*  
3 *propriated to the Secretary of State for fiscal year*  
4 *2020, \$17,500,000 to carry out the activities set forth*  
5 *in subsection (a).*

6           (2) *NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.*—*Amounts*  
7 *appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) are subject*  
8 *to the notification requirements applicable to expendi-*  
9 *tures from the Economic Support Fund under section*  
10 *531(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22*  
11 *U.S.C. 2346(c)) and from the Development Assistance*  
12 *Fund under section 653(a) of the Foreign Assistance*  
13 *Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2413(a)), to the extent that*  
14 *such funds are expended.*

15 **TITLE V—SUPPORTING THE RE-**  
16 **CONSTRUCTION OF VEN-**  
17 **EZUELA**

18 **SEC. 501. ENGAGING INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITU-**  
19 **TIONS TO ADVANCE THE RECONSTRUCTION**  
20 **OF VENEZUELA'S ECONOMY AND ENERGY IN-**  
21 **FRASTRUCTURE.**

22       (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The President shall engage the*  
23 *International Monetary Fund and the Multilateral Devel-*  
24 *opment Banks to support a framework for the economic re-*

1 *construction of Venezuela, contingent upon the restoration*  
2 *of democracy and the rule of law in the country.*

3 (b) *ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS.—The framework created*  
4 *under subsection (a) should include policy proposals—*

5 (1) *to provide Venezuelans with humanitarian*  
6 *assistance, poverty alleviation, and a social safety*  
7 *net;*

8 (2) *to advance debt restructuring and debt sus-*  
9 *tainability measures;*

10 (3) *to restore the production and efficient man-*  
11 *agement of Venezuela's oil industry, including re-*  
12 *building energy infrastructure;*

13 (4) *to eliminate price controls and market dis-*  
14 *torting subsidies in the Venezuelan economy; and*

15 (5) *to address hyperinflation in Venezuela.*

16 (c) *CONSULTATION.—In supporting the framework*  
17 *under subsection (a), the President shall consult with rel-*  
18 *evant stakeholders in the humanitarian (including inter-*  
19 *national and nongovernmental organizations), financial,*  
20 *and energy sectors.*

21 (d) *SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress*  
22 *that any effort to conduct debt restructuring should—*

23 (1) *include discussions with China, which is*  
24 *Venezuela's biggest creditor; and*

1           (2) *appropriately account for China's and Rus-*  
2           *sia's high-risk lending to Venezuela.*

3           (e) *CERTIFICATION.—The President may not support*  
4           *lending or financing for Venezuela from the International*  
5           *Monetary Fund and the Multilateral Development Banks*  
6           *until the Secretary of State submits a report to the Com-*  
7           *mittee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and Committee*  
8           *on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives certi-*  
9           *fying that any such lending or financing—*

10           (1) *would be managed by the Interim President*  
11           *of Venezuela or a new, democratically-elected Presi-*  
12           *dent;*

13           (2) *would not be used to repay external creditors*  
14           *who are not members of the Group of Seven unless*  
15           *such payments are essential to the restoration of eco-*  
16           *nomical stability and democracy in Venezuela; and*

17           (3) *would not benefit the Maduro regime.*

18           (f) *WAIVER.—The President may waive the certifi-*  
19           *cation requirement under subsection (e) if the President—*

20           (1) *determines that such waiver is in the na-*  
21           *tional interest of the United States; and*

22           (2) *not later than 30 days after making a deter-*  
23           *mination under paragraph (1), submits to the con-*  
24           *gressional committees referred to in subsection (e)—*



1           (A) an explanation for why such a waiver  
2           is in the United States national interest; and

3           (B) why the Secretary of State is unable to  
4           submit the certification described in subsection  
5           (e).

6 **SEC. 502. RECOVERING ASSETS STOLEN FROM THE VEN-**  
7 **EZUELAN PEOPLE.**

8           (a) *RECOVERING ASSETS.*—The Secretary of State, the  
9 Secretary of the Treasury, and the Attorney General shall  
10 advance a coordinated international effort—

11           (1) to carry out special financial investigations  
12 to identify and track assets taken from the people and  
13 institutions of Venezuela through theft, corruption,  
14 money laundering, or other illicit means; and

15           (2) to work with foreign governments—

16           (A) to share financial investigations intel-  
17 ligence, as appropriate;

18           (B) to block the assets identified pursuant  
19 to paragraph (1); and

20           (C) to provide technical assistance to help  
21 governments establish the necessary legal frame-  
22 work to carry out asset forfeitures.

23           (b) *ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS.*—The coordinated inter-  
24 national effort described in subsection (a) should include  
25 input from—

1           (1) *the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the*  
2           *Department of the Treasury;*

3           (2) *the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network*  
4           *of the Department of the Treasury; and*

5           (3) *the Money Laundering and Asset Recovery*  
6           *Section of the Department of Justice.*

7           (c) *STRATEGY REQUIREMENT.—*

8           (1) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after*  
9           *the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of*  
10           *State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Attorney*  
11           *General shall submit a strategy for carrying out the*  
12           *activities described in subsection (a) to—*

13                   (A) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of*  
14                   *the Senate;*

15                   (B) *the Committee on Banking, Housing,*  
16                   *and Urban Affairs of the Senate;*

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

19                   (D) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
20                   *House of Representatives;*

21                   (E) *the Committee on Financial Services of*  
22                   *the House of Representatives; and*

23                   (F) *the Committee on the Judiciary of the*  
24                   *House of Representatives.*

1           (2) *ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS.*—*The strategy re-*  
2 *quired by paragraph (1) shall include the following:*

3           (A) *An assessment whether the United*  
4 *States or another member of the international*  
5 *community should establish a managed fund to*  
6 *hold the assets identified pursuant to subsection*  
7 *(a)(1) that could be returned to a future demo-*  
8 *cratic government in Venezuela.*

9           (B) *Such recommendations as the Secre-*  
10 *taries and the Attorney General consider appro-*  
11 *priate for legislative or administrative action in*  
12 *the United States that would be needed to estab-*  
13 *lish and manage the fund described in subpara-*  
14 *graph (A).*

15 ***TITLE VI—RESTORING THE RULE***  
16 ***OF LAW IN VENEZUELA***

17 ***SEC. 601. DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING A COORDI-***  
18 ***NATED SANCTIONS STRATEGY WITH PART-***  
19 ***NERS IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE AND***  
20 ***THE EUROPEAN UNION.***

21           (a) *STRENGTHENING SANCTIONS CAPACITY IN LATIN*  
22 *AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN.*—*The Secretary of State,*  
23 *in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall*  
24 *offer to provide technical assistance to partner governments*  
25 *in Latin America and the Caribbean to assist such govern-*

1 *ments in establishing the legislative and regulatory frame-*  
2 *works needed to impose targeted sanctions on officials of*  
3 *the Maduro regime who—*

4 *(1) are responsible for human rights abuses;*

5 *(2) have engaged in public corruption; or*

6 *(3) are undermining democratic institutions and*  
7 *processes in Venezuela.*

8 *(b) COORDINATING INTERNATIONAL SANCTIONS.—The*  
9 *Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of*  
10 *the Treasury, shall engage in diplomatic efforts with part-*  
11 *ner governments, including the Government of Canada, gov-*  
12 *ernments in the European Union, and governments in*  
13 *Latin America and the Caribbean, to impose targeted sanc-*  
14 *tions on the Maduro regime officials described in subsection*  
15 *(a).*

16 *(c) STRATEGY REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 90 days*  
17 *after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary*  
18 *of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury,*  
19 *shall submit a strategy for carrying out the activities de-*  
20 *scribed in subsection (a) to—*

21 *(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the*  
22 *Senate;*

23 *(2) the Committee on Appropriations of the Sen-*  
24 *ate;*

1           (3) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
2           *House of Representatives; and*

3           (4) *the Committee on Appropriations of the*  
4           *House of Representatives.*

5           (d) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—*

6           (1) *IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be ap-*  
7           *propriated to the Secretary of State for fiscal year*  
8           *2020, \$3,000,000 to carry out the activities set forth*  
9           *in subsection (a).*

10          (2) *NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Amounts*  
11          *appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) are subject*  
12          *to the notification requirements applicable to expendi-*  
13          *tures from the Economic Support Fund under section*  
14          *531(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22*  
15          *U.S.C. 2346(c)) and the International Narcotics and*  
16          *Law Enforcement Fund under section 489 of the For-*  
17          *eign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2291h) to the*  
18          *extent that such funds are expended.*

19       **SEC. 602. CLASSIFIED BRIEFING ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF**  
20                               **VENEZUELAN OFFICIALS IN CORRUPTION**  
21                               **AND ILLICIT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING.**

22          (a) *BRIEFING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 90 days*  
23          *after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary*  
24          *of State, acting through the Bureau of Intelligence and Re-*  
25          *search, and in coordination with the Director of National*

1 *Intelligence, shall provide a classified briefing to the appro-*  
2 *priate congressional committees on the involvement of sen-*  
3 *ior officials of the Maduro regime, including members of*  
4 *the National Electoral Council, the judicial system, and the*  
5 *Venezuelan security forces, in illicit narcotics trafficking*  
6 *and significant acts of public corruption in Venezuela.*

7 (b) *ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS.—The briefing provided*  
8 *under subsection (a) shall—*

9 (1) *describe how the significant acts of public*  
10 *corruption pose challenges for United States national*  
11 *security and impact the rule of law and democratic*  
12 *governance in countries of the Western Hemisphere;*

13 (2) *identify individuals for whom there is cred-*  
14 *ible information that they frustrated the ability of the*  
15 *United States to combat illicit narcotics trafficking;*

16 (3) *include an assessment of the relationship be-*  
17 *tween individuals identified under subsection (a) and*  
18 *Nicolás Maduro or members of his cabinet; and*

19 (4) *include input from the Drug Enforcement*  
20 *Administration, the Office of Foreign Assets Control,*  
21 *and the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.*

22 (c) *APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—In*  
23 *this section, the term “appropriate congressional commit-*  
24 *tees” means—*

1           (1) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of the*  
2     *Senate;*

3           (2) *the Select Committee on Intelligence of the*  
4     *Senate;*

5           (3) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
6     *House of Representatives; and*

7           (4) *the Permanent Select Committee on Intel-*  
8     *ligence of the House of Representatives.*

9     **SEC. 603. SANCTIONS ON PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR PUB-**  
10                    **LIC CORRUPTION AND UNDERMINING DEMO-**  
11                    **CRATIC GOVERNANCE.**

12           (a) *FINDING.—Executive Order 13692 (50 U.S.C. 1701*  
13 *note), which was signed on March 8, 2015, provided for*  
14 *sanctions against any person determined to be responsible*  
15 *for actions that undermine democratic processes and insti-*  
16 *tutions or responsible for acts of public corruption by senior*  
17 *officials within the Government of Venezuela that were not*  
18 *included in the Venezuela Defense of Human Rights and*  
19 *Civil Society Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–278).*

20           (b) *SANCTIONS.—Section 5(a) of the Venezuela Defense*  
21 *of Human Rights and Civil Society Act of 2014 (Public*  
22 *Law 113–278) is amended—*

23           (1) *in paragraph (2), by striking “or” at the*  
24     *end;*

1           (2) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-  
2 graph (5);

3           (3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
4 lowing:

5           “(3) is responsible for, or complicit in, ordering,  
6 controlling, or otherwise directing, significant actions  
7 or policies that undermine democratic processes or in-  
8 stitutions;

9           “(4) is responsible for, complicit in, ordering,  
10 controlling, or otherwise directing, or to have partici-  
11 pated in, directly or indirectly, public corruption by  
12 senior officials within the Government of Venezuela;  
13 or”; and

14           (4) in paragraph (5), as redesignated, by strik-  
15 ing “paragraph (1) or (2)” and inserting “paragraph  
16 (1), (2), (3), or (4)”.

17 **SEC. 604. PUBLIC INFORMATION ABOUT SANCTIONED OFFI-**  
18 **CIALS.**

19           (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 90 days after the  
20 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Treasury,  
21 in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall provide  
22 a classified briefing to the appropriate congressional com-  
23 mittees on the total assessed value of blocked assets of Ven-  
24 ezuelans designated under sanctions authorized under—



1           (1) *the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation*  
2 *Act (title VIII of Public Law 106–120; 21 U.S.C.*  
3 *1901 et seq.);*

4           (2) *the Venezuela Defense of Human Rights and*  
5 *Civil Society Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–278), as*  
6 *amended by section 603 of this Act; or*

7           (3) *Executive Orders 13692 (50 U.S.C. 1701*  
8 *note) and 13850.*

9           (b) *ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS.—The briefing provided*  
10 *under subsection (a) should provide descriptions of specific*  
11 *cases that are most representative of the endemic corruption*  
12 *and illicit financial activities occurring in Venezuela.*

13           (c) *APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—In*  
14 *this section, the term “appropriate congressional commit-*  
15 *tees” means—*

16           (1) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of the*  
17 *Senate;*

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

20           (3) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
21 *House of Representatives; and*

22           (4) *the Committee on Financial Services of the*  
23 *House of Representatives.*

1 **SEC. 605. FINANCIAL SANCTIONS ON MADURO REGIME**  
2 **DEBT.**

3 (a) *FINDING.*—*Executive Order 13808 (82 Fed. Reg.*  
4 *41155), which was signed on August 24, 2017, provided for*  
5 *sanctions intended to limit the ability of the Maduro regime*  
6 *to issue public debt.*

7 (b) *DEFINITIONS.*—*In this section and in sections 606*  
8 *and 608:*

9 (1) *ENTITY.*—*The term “entity” means a part-*  
10 *nership, association, trust, joint venture, corporation,*  
11 *group, subgroup, or organization.*

12 (2) *PERSON.*—*The term “person” means an in-*  
13 *dividual or entity.*

14 (3) *UNITED STATES PERSON.*—*The term “United*  
15 *States person” means any—*

16 (A) *United States citizen;*

17 (B) *alien lawfully admitted for permanent*  
18 *residence to the United States;*

19 (C) *entity organized under the laws of the*  
20 *United States or any jurisdiction within the*  
21 *United States (including a foreign branch of any*  
22 *such entity); and*

23 (D) *any person physically located in the*  
24 *United States.*

25 (c) *IN GENERAL.*—*The President may prohibit, in the*  
26 *United States or by a United States person—*

1           (1) any transaction related to, provision of fi-  
2 nancing for, or other dealing in—

3           (A) debt instruments with a maturity of  
4 greater than 90 days issued by *Petróleos de Ven-*  
5 *ezuela, S.A.*, on or after the date of the enactment  
6 of this Act;

7           (B) debt instruments with a maturity of  
8 greater than 30 days or equity issued by the  
9 *Maduro regime* on or after the date of the enact-  
10 ment of this Act, excluding debt instruments  
11 issued by *Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A.*, that are  
12 not covered under subparagraph (A);

13           (C) bonds issued by the *Maduro regime* be-  
14 fore the date of the enactment of this Act; or

15           (D) dividend payments or other distribu-  
16 tions of profits to the *Maduro regime* from any  
17 entity owned or controlled, directly or indirectly,  
18 by the *Maduro regime*;

19           (2) the direct or indirect purchase of securities  
20 from the *Maduro regime*, except for—

21           (A) securities qualifying as debt instru-  
22 ments issued by *Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A.*, on  
23 or after the date of the enactment of this Act that  
24 are not described in paragraph (1)(A); and

1 (B) securities qualifying as debt instru-  
2 ments issued by the Maduro regime on or after  
3 the date of the enactment of this Act that are not  
4 described in paragraph (1)(B);

5 (3) any transaction that evades or avoids, has  
6 the purpose of evading or avoiding, causes a violation  
7 of, or attempts to violate a prohibition under para-  
8 graph (1) or (2); and

9 (4) any conspiracy to violate a prohibition  
10 under paragraph (1), (2), or (3).

11 (d) *SENSE OF CONGRESS*.—It is the sense of Congress  
12 that the President should waive the prohibitions described  
13 in subsection (c) and in Executive Order 13808 if the re-  
14 lated debt instruments, bonds, or securities have been ap-  
15 proved or ratified by the democratically elected National  
16 Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

17 **SEC. 606. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SANCTIONS ON MADURO**  
18 **REGIME DEBT.**

19 (a) *FINDING*.—Executive Order 13835 (83 Fed. Reg.  
20 24001), which was signed on May 21, 2018, provided for  
21 additional sanctions against transactions involving the ex-  
22 isting public debt of the Maduro regime.

23 (b) *PROHIBITION*.—The President may prohibit a  
24 United States person or any person within the United  
25 States from—

1           (1) *purchasing any debt owed to the Maduro re-*  
2 *gime, including accounts receivable;*

3           (2) *entering into any transaction related to any*  
4 *debt owed to the Maduro regime that is pledged as*  
5 *collateral after May 21, 2018, including accounts re-*  
6 *ceivable; or*

7           (3) *entering into any transaction involving the*  
8 *selling, transferring, assigning, or pledging as collat-*  
9 *eral by the Maduro regime of any equity interest in*  
10 *any entity in which the Maduro regime has a 50 per-*  
11 *cent or greater ownership interest.*

12       (c) *SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress*  
13 *that the President should waive the prohibitions described*  
14 *in subsection (a) and in Executive Order 13835 if trans-*  
15 *actions involving related debt instruments, bonds, or securi-*  
16 *ties have been approved or ratified by the democratically*  
17 *elected National Assembly of Venezuela.*

18 **SEC. 607. EXPANDING KINGPIN SANCTIONS ON NARCOTICS**  
19 **TRAFFICKING AND MONEY LAUNDERING.**

20       (a) *FINANCIAL SANCTIONS EXPANSION.—The Sec-*  
21 *retary of the Treasury, the Attorney General, the Secretary*  
22 *of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the Director of the*  
23 *Central Intelligence Agency should expand investigations,*  
24 *intelligence collection, and analysis pursuant to the Foreign*  
25 *Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act (21 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.)*

1 *to facilitate the identification and support the application*  
2 *of sanctions against—*

3 *(1) significant foreign narcotics traffickers, their*  
4 *organizations and networks; and*

5 *(2) the foreign persons who provide material, fi-*  
6 *nancial, or technological support to such traffickers,*  
7 *organizations, and networks.*

8 *(b) TARGETS.—The efforts described in subsection (a)*  
9 *should specifically target—*

10 *(1) senior members of the Maduro regime, in-*  
11 *cluding military officers, involved in narcotics traf-*  
12 *ficking and money laundering;*

13 *(2) foreign narcotics traffickers and their organi-*  
14 *zations and networks that are operating in Venezuela;*  
15 *and*

16 *(3) the foreign persons who provide material, fi-*  
17 *nancial, or technological support to such traffickers,*  
18 *organizations, and networks that are operating in*  
19 *Venezuela.*

20 **SEC. 608. SANCTIONS ON THE MADURO REGIME'S TRADE IN**

21 **GOLD.**

22 *(a) FINDING.—Executive Order 13850, which was*  
23 *signed on November 1, 2018, ordered sanctions against the*  
24 *gold sector of the Venezuelan economy.*

1           (b) *SANCTIONS AUTHORIZED.*—*The President, in con-*  
2 *sultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Sec-*  
3 *retary of State, may block and prohibit the transfer, pay-*  
4 *ment, exportation, withdrawal, or other disposition of all*  
5 *property and interests in property of any person that oper-*  
6 *ates in the gold sector of the Venezuelan economy if such*  
7 *property is in the United States, comes into the United*  
8 *States, or is or comes within the possession or control of*  
9 *any United States person.*

10          (c) *REPORT.*—*Not later than 30 days after enactment*  
11 *of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit a*  
12 *report to the appropriate congressional committees (as de-*  
13 *finied in section 612(b)) that—*

14           (1) *details whether section 5318A of title 31,*  
15 *United States Code, provides the Secretary of the*  
16 *Treasury with sufficient authority to fully address the*  
17 *extent to which transactions related to finished and*  
18 *unfinished precious metals are used to assist in*  
19 *money-laundering transactions, particularly with re-*  
20 *spect to high-risk jurisdictions, including Venezuela;*

21           (2) *includes recommendations the Secretary of*  
22 *the Treasury considers necessary and appropriate for*  
23 *United States legislative or administrative action*  
24 *that would be needed to address any findings referred*  
25 *to in paragraph (1); and*

1           (3) includes, in a classified annex, an expla-  
2 nation for how the Department of the Treasury is  
3 currently using its authorities under section 5318A of  
4 title 31, United States Code, to address transactions  
5 related to precious metals that are used to assist in  
6 money-laundering transactions.

7 **SEC. 609. CONCERNS OVER PDVSA TRANSACTIONS WITH**  
8 **ROSNEFT.**

9 (a) *FINDINGS.*—Congress makes the following findings:

10           (1) In late 2016, Venezuelan state-owned oil  
11 company *Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A.* (referred to in  
12 this section as “*PDVSA*”), through a no compete  
13 transaction, secured a loan from Russian government-  
14 controlled oil company *Rosneft*, using 49.9 percent of  
15 *PDVSA*’s American subsidiary, *CITGO Petroleum*  
16 *Corporation*, including its assets in the United States,  
17 as collateral. As a result of this transaction, 100 per-  
18 cent of *CITGO* is held as collateral by *PDVSA*’s  
19 creditors.

20           (2) *CITGO*, a wholly owned subsidiary of  
21 *PDVSA*, is engaged in interstate commerce and owns  
22 and controls critical energy infrastructure in 19  
23 States of the United States, including an extensive  
24 network of pipelines, 48 terminals, and 3 refineries,  
25 with a combined oil refining capacity of 749,000 bar-



1        *rels per day. CITGO's refinery in Lake Charles, Lou-*  
2        *isiana, is the sixth largest refinery in the United*  
3        *States.*

4            (3) *The Department of the Treasury imposed*  
5        *sanctions on Rosneft, which is controlled by the Gov-*  
6        *ernment of the Russian Federation, and its Executive*  
7        *Chairman, Igor Sechin, following Russia's military*  
8        *invasion of Ukraine and its illegal annexation of Cri-*  
9        *mea in 2014.*

10           (4) *The Department of Homeland Security has*  
11        *designated the energy sector as critical to United*  
12        *States infrastructure.*

13           (5) *The growing economic crisis in Venezuela*  
14        *raises the probability that the Maduro regime and*  
15        *PDVSA will default on their international debt obli-*  
16        *gations, resulting in a scenario in which Rosneft*  
17        *could come into control of CITGO's United States en-*  
18        *ergy infrastructure holdings.*

19        (b) *SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress*  
20        *that—*

21           (1) *control of critical United States energy infra-*  
22        *structure by Rosneft, a Russian government-controlled*  
23        *entity currently under United States sanctions that is*  
24        *led by Igor Sechin, who is also under United States*  
25        *sanctions and is a close associate of Vladimir Putin,*

1        *would pose a significant risk to United States na-*  
2        *tional security and energy security; and*

3            (2) *a default by PDVSA on its loan from*  
4        *Rosneft, resulting in Rosneft coming into possession*  
5        *of PDVSA's United States CITGO assets, would war-*  
6        *rant careful consideration by the Committee on For-*  
7        *ign Investment in the United States.*

8        (c) *PREVENTING ROSNEFT FROM CONTROLLING*  
9        *UNITED STATES ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE.—The Presi-*  
10       *dent shall take all necessary steps to prevent Rosneft from*  
11       *gaining control of critical United States energy infrastruc-*  
12       *ture.*

13       (d) *SECURITY RISK BRIEFING.—Not later than 90*  
14       *days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-*  
15       *retary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of the*  
16       *Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State and*  
17       *the Secretary of Energy, shall provide a briefing on the se-*  
18       *curity risks posed by Russian control of CITGO's United*  
19       *States energy infrastructure holdings to—*

20            (1) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of the*  
21        *Senate;*

22            (2) *the Committee on Homeland Security and*  
23        *Governmental Affairs of the Senate;*

24            (3) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
25        *House of Representatives; and*

1           (4) *the Committee on Homeland Security of the*  
2           *House of Representatives.*

3 **SEC. 610. CLASSIFIED BRIEFING ON ACTIVITIES OF CER-**  
4                           **TAIN FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AND ACTORS**  
5                           **IN VENEZUELA.**

6           (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 90 days after the*  
7 *date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State,*  
8 *acting through the Bureau of Intelligence and Research of*  
9 *the Department of State, and in coordination with the Di-*  
10 *rector of National Intelligence, shall provide a classified*  
11 *briefing to the appropriate congressional committees on—*

12                   (1) *the full extent of cooperation by the Govern-*  
13 *ment of the Russian Federation, the Government of*  
14 *the People's Republic of China, the Government of*  
15 *Cuba, and the Government of Iran with the Maduro*  
16 *regime; and*

17                   (2) *the activities inside Venezuelan territory of*  
18 *foreign armed groups, including Colombian criminal*  
19 *organizations and defectors from the Colombian gue-*  
20 *rilla group known as the Revolutionary Armed Forces*  
21 *of Colombia, and foreign terrorist organizations, in-*  
22 *cluding the Colombian guerilla group known as the*  
23 *National Liberation Army (ELN).*

1       (b) *APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.*—In  
2 *this section, the term “appropriate congressional commit-*  
3 *tees” means—*

4           (1) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of the*  
5 *Senate;*

6           (2) *the Select Committee on Intelligence of the*  
7 *Senate;*

8           (3) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
9 *House of Representatives; and*

10          (4) *the Permanent Select Committee on Intel-*  
11 *ligence of the House of Representatives.*

12 **SEC. 611. COUNTERING RUSSIAN INFLUENCE IN VEN-**  
13 **EZUELA.**

14       (a) *SHORT TITLE.*—*This section may be cited as the*  
15 *“Russian-Venezuelan Threat Mitigation Act”.*

16       (b) *THREAT ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGY TO*  
17 *COUNTER RUSSIAN INFLUENCE IN VENEZUELA.*—

18           (1) *DEFINED TERM.*—*In this subsection, the*  
19 *term “appropriate congressional committees”*  
20 *means—*

21           (A) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of*  
22 *the Senate; and*

23           (B) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
24 *House of Representatives.*

1           (2) *THREAT ASSESSMENT.*—Not later than 90  
2           days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
3           Secretary of State shall brief the appropriate congress-  
4           sional committees regarding—

5                     (A) *an assessment of Russian-Venezuelan se-*  
6                     *curity cooperation; and*

7                     (B) *the potential threat such cooperation*  
8                     *poses to the United States and countries in the*  
9                     *Western Hemisphere.*

10           (3) *STRATEGY.*—Not later than 30 days after the  
11           briefing required under paragraph (2), the Secretary  
12           of State shall brief the appropriate congressional com-  
13           mittees regarding a strategy to counter threats identi-  
14           fied in such assessment from Russian-Venezuelan co-  
15           operation.

16           (c) *ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR*  
17           *PAROLE.*—

18                     (1) *IN GENERAL.*—An alien who the Secretary of  
19                     State or the Secretary of Homeland Security (or a  
20                     designee of either Secretary) knows, or has reason to  
21                     believe, is an alien who is acting or has acted on be-  
22                     half of the Russian Government in direct support of  
23                     the security forces of the Maduro regime is—

24                             (A) *inadmissible to the United States;*

1           (B) *ineligible to receive a visa or other doc-*  
2           *umentation to enter the United States; and*

3           (C) *otherwise ineligible to be admitted into*  
4           *the United States or to receive any other benefit*  
5           *under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8*  
6           *U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).*

7           (2) *CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—*

8           (A) *IN GENERAL.—The issuing consular of-*  
9           *ficer, the Secretary of State, or the Secretary of*  
10           *Homeland Security (or a designee of one of such*  
11           *Secretaries) shall, in accordance with section*  
12           *221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act*  
13           *(8 U.S.C. 1201(i)), revoke any visa or other*  
14           *entry documentation issued to an alien described*  
15           *in paragraph (1) regardless of when the visa or*  
16           *other entry documentation is issued.*

17           (B) *EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—A revocation*  
18           *under subparagraph (A) shall—*

19                   (i) *take effect immediately; and*

20                   (ii) *automatically cancel any other*  
21                   *valid visa or entry documentation that is in*  
22                   *the alien's possession.*

23           (3) *EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NA-*  
24           *TIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT OR FOR NATIONAL*  
25           *SECURITY REASONS.—*

1           (A) *INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.*—*This*  
2           *section shall not apply to an alien if admitting*  
3           *or paroling the alien into the United States is*  
4           *necessary to permit the United States to comply*  
5           *with—*

6                   (i) *the Agreement regarding the Head-*  
7                   *quarters of the United Nations, signed at*  
8                   *Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered*  
9                   *into force November 21, 1947, between the*  
10                  *United Nations and the United States; or*

11                   (ii) *other applicable international obli-*  
12                   *gations of the United States.*

13           (B) *NATIONAL SECURITY.*—*The President*  
14           *may waive the application of this section to an*  
15           *alien if the President—*

16                   (i) *determines that such a waiver is in*  
17                   *the national interest of the United States;*  
18                   *and*

19                   (ii) *submits a notice of, and justifica-*  
20                   *tion for, such waiver to the appropriate*  
21                   *congressional committees.*

22           (4) *SUNSET.*—*This subsection shall terminate on*  
23           *the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment*  
24           *of this Act.*

1 **SEC. 612. RESTRICTION ON EXPORT OF COVERED ARTICLES**  
2 **AND SERVICES TO CERTAIN SECURITY**  
3 **FORCES OF VENEZUELA.**

4 (a) *SHORT TITLE.*—*This section may be cited as the*  
5 *“Venezuela Arms Restriction Act”.*

6 (b) *DEFINITIONS.*—*In this section:*

7 (1) *APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-*  
8 *TEES.*—*The term “appropriate congressional commit-*  
9 *tees” means—*

10 (A) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of*  
11 *the Senate;*

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

14 (C) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
15 *House of Representatives; and*

16 (D) *the Committee on Financial Services of*  
17 *the House of Representatives.*

18 (2) *COVERED ARTICLE OR SERVICE.*—*The term*  
19 *“covered article or service”—*

20 (A) *for purposes of subsection (c), means—*

21 (i) *a defense article or defense service*  
22 *(as such terms are defined in section 47 of*  
23 *the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C.*  
24 *2794)); and*

25 (ii) *any article included on the Com-*  
26 *merce Control List set forth in Supplement*



1                    *No. 1 to part 774 of the Export Administra-*  
2                    *tion Regulations under subchapter C of*  
3                    *chapter VII of title 15, Code of Federal Reg-*  
4                    *ulations, and controlled for crime control*  
5                    *purposes, if the end user is likely to use the*  
6                    *article to violate the human rights of the*  
7                    *citizens of Venezuela; and*

8                    *(B) for purposes of subsection (d), means—*

9                    *(i) any defense article or defense serv-*  
10                    *ice of the type described in section 47 of the*  
11                    *Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2794);*  
12                    *and*

13                    *(ii) any article of the type included on*  
14                    *the Commerce Control List set forth in Sup-*  
15                    *plement No. 1 to part 774 of the Export Ad-*  
16                    *ministration Regulations and controlled for*  
17                    *crime control purposes.*

18                    *(3) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign per-*  
19                    *son” means a person that is not a United States per-*  
20                    *son.*

21                    *(4) PERSON.—The term “person” means an in-*  
22                    *dividual or entity.*

23                    *(5) SECURITY FORCES OF VENEZUELA.—The*  
24                    *term “security forces of Venezuela” includes—*

1                   (A) *the Bolivarian National Armed Forces,*  
2                   *including the Bolivarian National Guard;*

3                   (B) *the Bolivarian National Intelligence*  
4                   *Service;*

5                   (C) *the Bolivarian National Police; and*

6                   (D) *the Bureau for Scientific, Criminal and*  
7                   *Forensic Investigations of the Ministry of Inte-*  
8                   *rior, Justice, and Peace.*

9                   (6) *UNITED STATES PERSON.*—*The term “United*  
10                   *States person” means—*

11                   (A) *a United States citizen or an alien law-*  
12                   *fully admitted for permanent residence to the*  
13                   *United States; or*

14                   (B) *an entity organized under the laws of*  
15                   *the United States or of any jurisdiction within*  
16                   *the United States, including a foreign branch of*  
17                   *such an entity.*

18                   (c) *RESTRICTION ON EXPORT OF COVERED ARTICLES*  
19                   *AND SERVICES TO CERTAIN SECURITY FORCES OF VEN-*  
20                   *EZUELA.*—

21                   (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Notwithstanding any other*  
22                   *provision of law, covered articles or services may not*  
23                   *be exported from the United States to any element of*  
24                   *the security forces of the Maduro regime.*

1           (2) *DETERMINATION.*—Not later than 180 days  
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
3 retary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of  
4 Commerce and the heads of other departments and  
5 agencies, as appropriate, shall—

6           (A) determine, using such information that  
7 is available to the Secretary of State, whether  
8 any covered article or service has been trans-  
9 ferred since July 2017 to the security forces of  
10 Venezuela without a license or other authoriza-  
11 tion as required by law; and

12           (B) submit such determination in writing  
13 to the appropriate congressional committees.

14 (d) *BRIEFING.*—

15           (1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 180 days after  
16 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of  
17 State, in consultation with the Secretary of Com-  
18 merce, as appropriate, shall brief the appropriate con-  
19 gressional committees regarding the transfer by for-  
20 eign persons of covered articles or services to elements  
21 of the security forces of Venezuela that are under the  
22 authority of the Maduro regime.

23           (2) *MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.*—The briefing  
24 required under paragraph (1) shall include—

1           (A) a list of all significant transfers by for-  
2           eign persons of covered articles or services to  
3           such elements of the security forces of Venezuela  
4           since July 2017;

5           (B) a list of all foreign persons who main-  
6           tain an existing defense relationship with such  
7           elements of the security forces of Venezuela; and

8           (C) any known use of covered articles or  
9           services by such elements of the security forces of  
10          Venezuela or associated forces, including para-  
11          military groups, that have coordinated with such  
12          security forces to assault, intimidate, or murder  
13          political activists, protesters, dissidents, and  
14          other civil society leaders, including Juan  
15          Guaidó.

16          (e) *SUNSET*.—This section shall terminate on the ear-  
17          lier of—

18               (1) the date that is 3 years after the date of the  
19               enactment of this Act; or

20               (2) the date on which the President certifies to  
21               the appropriate congressional committees that the  
22               Government of Venezuela has returned to a demo-  
23               cratic form of government with respect for the essen-  
24               tial elements of representative democracy as set forth  
25               in Article 3 of the Inter-American Democratic Char-



1           (C) entity organized under the laws of the  
2           United States or any jurisdiction within the  
3           United States (including a foreign branch of any  
4           such entity); and

5           (D) any person physically located in the  
6           United States.

7           (c) *PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS.*—

8           (1) *IN GENERAL.*—All transactions by a United  
9           States person or within the United States that relate  
10          to, provide financing for, or otherwise deal in any  
11          digital currency, digital coin, or digital token, that  
12          was issued by, for, or on behalf of the Maduro regime  
13          are prohibited beginning on the date of the enactment  
14          of this Act.

15          (2) *APPLICABILITY.*—The prohibitions under  
16          paragraph (1) shall apply to the extent provided by  
17          statutes, or in regulations, orders, directives, or li-  
18          censes that may be issued pursuant to this Act, and  
19          notwithstanding any contract entered into or any li-  
20          cense or permit granted before the date of the enact-  
21          ment of this Act.

22          (3) *PROHIBITIONS.*—Any transaction that evades  
23          or avoids, has the purpose of evading or avoiding,  
24          causes a violation of, or attempts to violate any of the  
25          prohibitions set forth in this subsection is prohibited.

1     *Any conspiracy formed to violate any of the prohibi-*  
2     *tions set forth in this subsection is prohibited.*

3     *(d) RULEMAKING.—*

4             *(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treas-*  
5     *ury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, is*  
6     *authorized to take such actions, including promul-*  
7     *gating rules and regulations, to implement this sec-*  
8     *tion.*

9             *(2) DELEGATION.—The Secretary of the Treas-*  
10    *ury may redelegate any of the functions described in*  
11    *paragraph (1) to other officers and executive depart-*  
12    *ments and agencies of the United States Government.*  
13    *All agencies of the United States Government shall*  
14    *take all appropriate measures within their authority*  
15    *to carry out the provisions of this section.*

16    *(e) WAIVER.—The President may waive the prohibi-*  
17    *tion under subsection (c)(1) if the President—*

18             *(1) determines that such waiver is in the na-*  
19    *tional interest of the United States; and*

20             *(2) not later than 30 days after making a deter-*  
21    *mination under paragraph (1), submits a written ex-*  
22    *planation for why such a waiver is in the United*  
23    *States national interest to—*

24             *(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of*  
25    *the Senate;*

1           (B) *the Committee on Banking, Housing,*  
2           *and Urban Affairs of the Senate;*

3           (C) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
4           *House of Representatives; and*

5           (D) *the Committee on Financial Services of*  
6           *the House of Representatives.*

7 **SEC. 702. BRIEFING ON THE IMPACT OF**  
8           **CRYPTOCURRENCIES ON UNITED STATES**  
9           **SANCTIONS.**

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

12           (1) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of the*  
13           *Senate;*

14           (2) *the Committee on Banking, Housing, and*  
15           *Urban Affairs of the Senate;*

16           (3) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
17           *House of Representatives; and*

18           (4) *the Committee on Financial Services of the*  
19           *House of Representatives.*

20       (b) *METHODOLOGY.*—*Not later than 180 days after the*  
21 *date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State*  
22 *and the Secretary of the Treasury, after consultation with*  
23 *the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission*  
24 *and the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading*  
25 *Commission, shall develop a methodology to assess how any*



1 *digital currency, digital coin, or digital token, that was*  
2 *issued by, for, or on behalf of the Maduro regime is being*  
3 *utilized to circumvent or undermine United States sanc-*  
4 *tions.*

5 *(c) BRIEFING.—Not later than 180 days after the date*  
6 *of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the*  
7 *Secretary of the Treasury shall brief the appropriate con-*  
8 *gressional committees on the methodology developed under*  
9 *subsection (b).*

10 **TITLE VIII—MISCELLANEOUS**  
11 **PROVISIONS**

12 **SEC. 801. CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFINGS.**

13 *(a) HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE; SANCTIONS COORDI-*  
14 *NATION.—*

15 *(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 15 days after*  
16 *any of the congressional committees listed in para-*  
17 *graph (2) requests a briefing regarding the implemen-*  
18 *tation—*

19 *(A) of section 201, the Secretary of State*  
20 *and the Administrator of the United States*  
21 *Agency for International Development shall pro-*  
22 *vide such briefing to such committee; and*

23 *(B) of section 601, the Secretary of State*  
24 *shall provide such briefing to such committee.*

1           (2) *CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The commit-*  
2           *tees listed in this paragraph are—*

3                   (A) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of*  
4           *the Senate;*

5                   (B) *the Committee on Appropriations of the*  
6           *Senate;*

7                   (C) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
8           *House of Representatives; and*

9                   (D) *the Committee on Appropriations of the*  
10          *House of Representatives.*

11          (b) *UNITED NATIONS; NEGOTIATED SOLUTION;*  
12          *CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY.—*

13                   (1) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 15 days after*  
14           *any congressional committee listed in paragraph (2)*  
15           *requests a briefing regarding the implementation of*  
16           *section 103, 202, or 403, the Secretary of State shall*  
17           *provide such briefing to such committee.*

18                   (2) *CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The congres-*  
19           *sional committees listed in this paragraph are—*

20                   (A) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of*  
21           *the Senate; and*

22                   (B) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
23           *House of Representatives.*

24          (c) *REGIME COHESION.—*

1           (1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 15 days after  
2           a congressional committee listed in paragraph (2) re-  
3           quests a briefing regarding the implementation of sec-  
4           tion 301, the Secretary of State and the Director of  
5           National Intelligence shall provide such briefing to  
6           such committee.

7           (2) *CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.*—The congress-  
8           sional committees listed in this paragraph are—

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

11                   (B) the Select Committee on Intelligence of  
12                  the Senate;

13                   (C) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
14                  House of Representatives; and

15                   (D) the Permanent Select Committee on In-  
16                  telligence of the House of Representatives.

17           (d) *INTERNATIONAL ELECTION OBSERVATION; DEMO-*  
18           *CRATIC CIVIL SOCIETY.*—Not later than 15 days after a  
19           congressional committee listed in subsection (a)(2) requests  
20           a briefing regarding the implementation of section 405, the  
21           Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United  
22           States Agency for International Development shall provide  
23           such briefing to such committee.

24           (e) *VISA RESTRICTIONS; SANCTIONS WAIVER.*—Not  
25           later than 15 days after a congressional committee listed

1 *in subsection (b)(2) requests a briefing regarding the imple-*  
2 *mentation of section 302 or 303, the Secretary of State shall*  
3 *provide such briefing to such committee.*

4 (f) *RECONSTRUCTION OF VENEZUELA'S ENERGY IN-*  
5 *FRASTRUCTURE.—*

6 (1) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 15 days after*  
7 *a congressional committee listed in paragraph (2) re-*  
8 *quests a briefing regarding the implementation of sec-*  
9 *tion 501, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of En-*  
10 *ergy, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall provide*  
11 *such briefing to such committee.*

12 (2) *CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The congress-*  
13 *sional committees listed in this paragraph are—*

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

16 (B) *the Committee on Energy and Natural*  
17 *Resources of the Senate;*

18 (C) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
19 *House of Representatives; and*

20 (D) *the Committee on Energy and Com-*  
21 *merce of the House of Representatives.*

22 (g) *RECOVERY OF STOLEN ASSETS.—*

23 (1) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 15 days after*  
24 *a congressional committee listed in paragraph (2) re-*  
25 *quests a briefing regarding the implementation of sec-*

1        *tion 502, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the*  
2        *Treasury, and the Attorney General shall provide*  
3        *such briefing to such committee.*

4            (2) *CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The congress-*  
5        *sional committees listed in this paragraph are—*

6            (A) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of*  
7        *the Senate;*

8            (B) *the Committee on Banking, Housing,*  
9        *and Urban Affairs of the Senate;*

10          (C) *the Committee on the Judiciary of the*  
11        *Senate;*

12          (D) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
13        *House of Representatives;*

14          (E) *the Committee on Financial Services of*  
15        *the House of Representatives; and*

16          (F) *the Committee on the Judiciary of the*  
17        *House of Representatives.*

18        (h) *FINANCIAL SANCTIONS.—*

19            (1) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 15 days after*  
20        *a congressional committee listed in paragraph (2) re-*  
21        *quests a briefing regarding the implementation of sec-*  
22        *tion 605, 606, or 608, the Secretary of the Treasury*  
23        *shall provide such briefing to such committee.*

24            (2) *CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The congress-*  
25        *sional committees listed in this paragraph are—*

1           (A) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of*  
2           *the Senate;*

3           (B) *the Committee on Banking, Housing,*  
4           *and Urban Affairs of the Senate;*

5           (C) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
6           *House of Representatives; and*

7           (D) *the Committee on Financial Services of*  
8           *the House of Representatives.*

9           (i) *KINGPIN SANCTIONS.*—*Not later than 15 days after*  
10 *a congressional committee listed in subsection (h)(2) re-*  
11 *quests a briefing regarding the implementation of section*  
12 *607, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Attorney General,*  
13 *the Secretary of State, and the Director of the Central Intel-*  
14 *ligence Agency shall provide such briefing to such com-*  
15 *mittee.*

16          (j) *PDVSA TRANSACTIONS WITH ROSNEFT.*—

17           (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 15 days after*  
18 *a congressional committee listed in paragraph (2) re-*  
19 *quests a briefing regarding the implementation of sec-*  
20 *tion 609, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the*  
21 *Treasury, and the Secretary of Homeland Security*  
22 *shall provide such briefing to such committee.*

23           (2) *CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.*—*The congress-*  
24 *sional committees listed in this paragraph are—*

1           (A) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of*  
2           *the Senate;*

3           (B) *the Committee on Homeland Security*  
4           *and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;*

5           (C) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the*  
6           *House of Representatives; and*

7           (D) *the Committee on Homeland Security*  
8           *of the House of Representatives.*

9           (k) *CRYPTOCURRENCY SANCTIONS.—Not later than 15*  
10 *days after a congressional committee listed in subsection*  
11 *(h)(2) requests a briefing regarding the implementation of*  
12 *section 701 or 702, the Secretary of State and the Secretary*  
13 *of the Treasury shall provide such briefing to such com-*  
14 *mittee.*

15 **SEC. 802. SANCTIONS IMPLEMENTATION AND PENALTIES.**

16           (a) *IMPLEMENTATION.—*

17           (1) *PRESIDENT.—The President may exercise all*  
18 *of the authorities described in sections 203 and 205*  
19 *of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act*  
20 *(50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out sections 603,*  
21 *605, 606, 607, 608, and 701 of this Act.*

22           (2) *SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.—The Sec-*  
23 *retary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Sec-*  
24 *retary of State, may promulgate such regulations as*  
25 *may be necessary to implement the provisions set*

1       forth in sections 603, 605, 606, 607, 608, and 701 of  
2       this Act.

3       (b) *PENALTIES.*—Any person that violates, attempts to  
4       violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of any  
5       of the sanctions described in sections 603, 605, 606, 607,  
6       608 and 701, or of any regulation, license, or order issued  
7       to carry out those sections, shall be subject to the penalties  
8       set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the  
9       International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C.  
10      1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an un-  
11      lawful act described in subsection (a) of that section.

12   **SEC. 803. PROHIBITION ON CONSTRUCTION OF PROVISIONS**  
13                           **OF THIS ACT AS AN AUTHORIZATION FOR**  
14                           **THE USE OF MILITARY FORCE.**

15       Nothing in this Act may be construed as an authoriza-  
16      tion for the use of military force.

17   **SEC. 804. EXTENSION AND TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS**  
18                           **AGAINST VENEZUELA.**

19       (a) *AMENDMENT.*—Section 5(e) of the Venezuela De-  
20      fense of Human Rights and Civil Society Act of 2014 (Pub-  
21      lic Law 113–278; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended by strik-  
22      ing “December 31, 2019” and inserting “December 31,  
23      2025”.

24       (b) *TERMINATION.*—The requirement to impose sanc-  
25      tions under this Act shall terminate on December 31, 2025.