

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3841

To provide for the imposition of sanctions against 24 senior officials of the Border Service and Federal Security Service of Russia until the release of certain seized Ukrainian ships and crewmembers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 18, 2019

Ms. KAPTUR (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Mr. HARRIS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide for the imposition of sanctions against 24 senior officials of the Border Service and Federal Security Service of Russia until the release of certain seized Ukrainian ships and crewmembers, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Stopping Aggressive
5 Incursions on Liberty by Ordering Russian Sanctions
6 Act” or the “SAILORS Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) On November 25, 2018, the Border Service
4 of the Federal Security Service of the Russian Fed-
5 eration fired on and seized three Ukrainian naval
6 ships sailing through the Kerch Strait.

7 (2) The Russian Federal Security Service also
8 seized 24 Ukrainian crew members of those ships,
9 and continue to illegally detain them in Russia.

10 (3) The Russian Government continues to
11 refuse to release and return these 24 sailors and 3
12 ships.

13 (4) The International Tribunal for the Law of
14 the Sea has ordered the release of the sailors and
15 the ships seized by the Border Service.

16 (5) The seizure of these ships and crewmembers
17 is yet another escalation of Russia's illegal and ag-
18 gressive assault on Ukrainian territorial and naval
19 sovereignty.

20 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

21 Congress—

22 (1) harshly condemns this attack on Ukraine,
23 its ships, and its citizens;

24 (2) demands the immediate release and return
25 of these three Ukrainian ships and crewmembers;

1 (3) welcomes the actions of the Secretary of the
2 Treasury to implement sanctions on senior border
3 officials of the Russian Federal Security Service in-
4 volved in the Kerch Strait attack on March 15,
5 2019;

6 (4) urges the President to continue to prioritize
7 the return of these ships and crewmembers, includ-
8 ing through the implementation of additional sanc-
9 tions on Russian financial institutions, responsible
10 parties in the Border Service and Federal Security
11 Service, and parties associated with the Nord
12 Stream 2 project, in order to increase the costs of
13 such aggression; and

14 (5) reaffirms its resolute support for the
15 Ukrainian people and their territorial and maritime
16 sovereignty.

17 **SEC. 4. SANCTIONS IMPOSED.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
19 date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall im-
20 pose the sanctions described in subsection (b) with respect
21 to 24 individuals who are senior officers of the Border
22 Service or the Federal Security Service of Russia, with
23 respect to the families of such senior officers, and with
24 respect to any person the President determines is a close
25 associate of any such senior officer.

1 (b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions de-
2 scribed in this subsection are the following:

3 (1) ASSET BLOCKING.—The exercise of all pow-
4 ers granted to the President by the International
5 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701
6 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit
7 all transactions in all property and interests in prop-
8 erty of a person subject to sanctions imposed pursu-
9 ant to subsection (a) if such property and interests
10 in property are in the United States, come within
11 the United States, or are or come within the posses-
12 sion or control of a United States person.

13 (2) EXCLUSION FROM THE UNITED STATES.—
14 In the case of an individual subject to sanctions im-
15 posed pursuant to subsection (a), denial of a visa to,
16 and exclusion from the United States of, such indi-
17 vidual, and revocation, in accordance with section
18 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
19 U.S.C. 1201(i)), of any visa or other documentation
20 of the individual.

21 (c) TERMINATION; PENALTIES.—

22 (1) TERMINATION.—The authority to impose or
23 maintain sanctions pursuant to this section shall ter-
24minate on the date on which the President certifies
25 to the appropriate congressional committees that the

1 Ukrainian ships and crewmembers described in sec-
2 tion 2 of this Act have been released back to
3 Ukraine.

4 (2) PENALTIES.—Any person that violates, at-
5 tempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a
6 violation of any sanction imposed pursuant to this
7 section or any regulation, license, or order issued to
8 carry out this section shall be subject to the pen-
9 alties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section
10 206 of the International Emergency Economic Pow-
11 ers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a
12 person that commits an unlawful act described in
13 subsection (a) of that section.

14 (d) EXCEPTION RELATING TO THE IMPORTATION OF
15 GOODS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The authority to impose
17 sanctions under this section shall not include the au-
18 thority to impose sanctions on the importation of
19 goods.

20 (2) GOOD DEFINED.—In this subsection, the
21 term “good” means any article, natural or manmade
22 substance, material, supply or manufactured prod-
23 uct, including inspection and test equipment, and ex-
24 cluding technical data.

1 (e) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NATIONS
2 HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.—Sanctions under this sec-
3 tion shall not apply to an individual if admitting the indi-
4 vidual into the United States is necessary to permit the
5 United States to comply with the Agreement regarding the
6 Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Suc-
7 cess June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21,
8 1947, between the United Nations and the United States,
9 or other applicable international obligations.

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