

## Union Calendar No. 68

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1677

[Report No. 115–115, Part I]

To halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, encourage a negotiated political settlement, and hold Syrian human rights abusers accountable for their crimes.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 22, 2017

Mr. ENGEL (for himself, Mr. ROYCE of California, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MESSER, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, and Mr. BEYER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and 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

MAY 11, 2017

Additional sponsors: Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. KEATING, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. RUSH, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. HILL, Ms. MENG, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mrs. TORRES, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. SIRES, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Ms. BASS, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. STEWART, Mrs. WAGNER, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. YOHO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. HURD, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Mr. POLIS, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. BARR, Mr. ISSA, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. McCAUL, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. RUSSELL, Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Ms. TITUS, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. KNIGHT, Mr.

ROSS, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. NEAL, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. MAST, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. OLSON, Mr. REICHERT, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, and Mr. BYRNE

MAY 11, 2017

Reported from the Committee on Foreign Affairs with an amendment

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

MAY 11, 2017

The Committees on Financial Services and the Judiciary discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on March 22, 2017]

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## A BILL

To halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, encourage a negotiated political settlement, and hold Syrian human rights abusers accountable for their crimes.

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

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

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

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

*Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.*

*Sec. 2. Sense of Congress.*

*Sec. 3. Statement of policy.*

*TITLE I—ADDITIONAL ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE  
 NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SYRIA*

*Sec. 101. Sanctions with respect to Central Bank of Syria and foreign persons  
 that engage in certain transactions.*

*Sec. 102. Prohibitions with respect to the transfer of arms and related materials  
 to Syria.*

*Sec. 103. Rule of construction.*

*Sec. 104. Definitions.*

*TITLE II—AMENDMENTS TO SYRIA HUMAN RIGHTS  
 ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2012*

*Sec. 201. Imposition of sanctions with respect to certain persons who are respon-*  
*sible for or complicit in human rights abuses committed against*  
*citizens of Syria or their family members.*

*Sec. 202. Imposition of sanctions with respect to the transfer of goods or tech-*  
*nologies to Syria that are likely to be used to commit human*  
*rights abuses.*

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

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

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

*Sec. 301. Briefing on monitoring and evaluating of ongoing assistance programs  
 in Syria and to the Syrian people.*

*Sec. 302. Assessment of potential methods to enhance the protection of civilians.*

*Sec. 303. Assistance to support entities taking actions relating to gathering evi-*  
*dence for investigations into war crimes or crimes against hu-*  
*manity in Syria since March 2011.*

*TITLE IV—SUSPENSION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO SYRIA*

*Sec. 401. Suspension of sanctions with respect to Syria.*

*Sec. 402. Waivers and exemptions.*

TITLE V—REGULATORY AUTHORITY, COST LIMITATION, AND  
SUNSET

Sec. 501. Implementation and regulatory authorities.

Sec. 502. Cost limitation.

Sec. 503. Authority to consolidate reports.

Sec. 504. Sunset.

1 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

2 *It is the sense of Congress that—*

3 *(1) Bashar al-Assad's murderous actions against*  
4 *the people of Syria have directly contributed to the*  
5 *deaths of more than 480,000 civilians, led to the de-*  
6 *struction of more than 50 percent of Syria's critical*  
7 *infrastructure, and forced the displacement of more*  
8 *than 14,000,000 people, precipitating one of the worst*  
9 *humanitarian crises in more than 60 years;*

10 *(2) international actions to protect vulnerable*  
11 *populations from attack by uniformed and irregular*  
12 *forces associated with the Assad regime, including*  
13 *Hezbollah, on land and by air, including through the*  
14 *use of barrel bombs, chemical weapons, mass starva-*  
15 *tion, industrial-scale torture and execution of polit-*  
16 *ical dissidents, sniper attacks against pregnant*  
17 *women, and the deliberate targeting of medical facili-*  
18 *ties, schools, residential areas, and community gath-*  
19 *ering places, including markets, have been insufficient*  
20 *to date;*

1           (3) *Assad's use of chemical weapons, including*  
2 *chlorine, against the Syrian people violates the Chem-*  
3 *ical Weapons Convention, to which Syria is a party;*

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

10          (5) *violent attacks resulting in death, injury, im-*  
11 *prisonment or threat of prosecution against humani-*  
12 *tarian aid workers and diplomatic personnel, as well*  
13 *as attacks on humanitarian supplies, facilities, trans-*  
14 *ports, and assets, and acts to impede the access and*  
15 *secure movement of all humanitarian personnel are*  
16 *in violation of international humanitarian law and*  
17 *impede the lifesaving work of humanitarian organiza-*  
18 *tions and diplomatic institutions; and*

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

23 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

24          *It is the policy of the United States that all diplomatic*  
25 *and coercive economic means should be utilized to compel*

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

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

10 ***SEC. 101. SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO CENTRAL BANK OF***  
11 ***SYRIA AND FOREIGN PERSONS THAT ENGAGE***  
12 ***IN CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS.***

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

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

20 *(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on and after the*  
21 *date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment*  
22 *of this Act, the President shall impose on a foreign*  
23 *person the sanctions described in subsection (c) if the*  
24 *President determines that such foreign person, on or*

1        *after such date of enactment, knowingly engages in an*  
2        *activity described in paragraph (2).*

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

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

11            (i) *the Government of Syria (including*  
12        *government entities operating as a business*  
13        *enterprise) and the Central Bank of Syria,*  
14        *or any of its agencies or instrumentalities;*  
15        *or*

16            (ii) *a foreign person subject to sanc-*  
17        *tions pursuant to—*

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

23            (II) *a resolution that is agreed to*  
24        *by the United Nations Security Coun-*

1                    *cil that imposes sanctions with respect*  
2                    *to Syria;*

3                    *(B) knowingly—*

4                    *(i) sells or provides significant goods,*  
5                    *services, technology, information, or other*  
6                    *support that directly and significantly fa-*  
7                    *cilitates the maintenance or expansion of*  
8                    *the Government of Syria’s domestic produc-*  
9                    *tion of natural gas or petroleum or petro-*  
10                    *leum products of Syrian origin in areas*  
11                    *controlled by the Government of Syria or*  
12                    *associated forces;*

13                    *(ii) sells or provides to the Government*  
14                    *of Syria crude oil or condensate, refined pe-*  
15                    *troleum products, liquefied natural gas, or*  
16                    *petrochemical products that have a fair*  
17                    *market value of \$500,000 or more or that*  
18                    *during a 12-month period have an aggre-*  
19                    *gate fair market value of \$2,000,000 or*  
20                    *more in areas controlled by the Government*  
21                    *of Syria or associated forces;*

22                    *(iii) sells or provides aircraft or spare*  
23                    *parts, or provides significant goods, serv-*  
24                    *ices, or technologies associated with the op-*  
25                    *eration of such aircraft or air carriers to*



1           any foreign person operating in areas con-  
2           trolled by the Government of Syria or asso-  
3           ciated forces that are used, in whole or in  
4           part, for military purposes; or

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

12          (C) knowingly facilitates efforts by a foreign  
13          person to carry out an activity described in sub-  
14          paragraph (A) or (B); or

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

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

22                  (1) *IN GENERAL.*—The President shall exercise  
23                  all of the powers granted to the President under the  
24                  International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50  
25                  U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block

1       *and prohibit all transactions in property and inter-*  
2       *ests in property of the foreign person if such property*  
3       *and interests in property are in the United States,*  
4       *come within the United States, or are or come within*  
5       *the possession or control of a United States person.*

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

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

14               (i) *inadmissible to the United States;*

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

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

23               (B) *CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—*

24               (i) *IN GENERAL.—The issuing consular*  
25       *officer, the Secretary of State, or the Sec-*

1            *retary of Homeland Security (or a designee*  
2            *of one of such Secretaries) shall revoke any*  
3            *visa or other entry documentation issued to*  
4            *an alien who meets any of the criteria de-*  
5            *scribed in subsection (a) regardless of when*  
6            *issued.*

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

9                    *(I) shall take effect immediately;*

10                   *and*

11                   *(II) shall automatically cancel*  
12                   *any other valid visa or entry docu-*  
13                   *mentation that is in the alien's posses-*  
14                   *sion.*

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

1           (4) *PENALTIES.*—*The penalties provided for in*  
2           *subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the Inter-*  
3           *national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C.*  
4           *1705) shall apply to a person that knowingly violates,*  
5           *attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a*  
6           *violation of regulations promulgated under section*  
7           *501(a) to carry out paragraph (1) of this subsection*  
8           *to the same extent that such penalties apply to a per-*  
9           *son that knowingly commits an unlawful act de-*  
10          *scribed in section 206(a) of that Act.*

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

14           (a) *SANCTIONS.*—

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

24                           (A) *acquire or develop chemical, biological,*  
25                           *or nuclear weapons or related technologies;*

1           (B) acquire or develop ballistic or cruise  
2 missile capabilities;

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

6           (D) acquire defense articles, defense services,  
7 or defense information (as such terms are defined  
8 under the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C.  
9 2751 et seq.)), if the President determines that a  
10 significant type or amount of such articles, serv-  
11 ices, or information has been so acquired.

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

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

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

1 *property are in the United States, come within the*  
2 *United States, or are or come within the possession*  
3 *or control of a United States person.*

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

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

12 (i) *inadmissible to the United States;*

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

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

21 (B) *CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—*

22 (i) *IN GENERAL.—The issuing consular*  
23 *officer, the Secretary of State, or the Sec-*  
24 *retary of Homeland Security (or a designee*  
25 *of one of such Secretaries) shall revoke any*

1           *visa or other entry documentation issued to*  
2           *an alien who meets any of the criteria de-*  
3           *scribed in subsection (a) regardless of when*  
4           *issued.*

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

7                           *(I) shall take effect immediately;*

8                           *and*

9                           *(II) shall automatically cancel*  
10           *any other valid visa or entry docu-*  
11           *mentation that is in the alien's posses-*  
12           *sion.*

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

23                   *(4) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, at-*  
24           *tempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a vio-*  
25           *lation of any regulation, license, or order issued to*

1       *carry out this section shall be subject to the penalties*  
2       *set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of*  
3       *the International Emergency Economic Powers Act*  
4       *(50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that*  
5       *commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a)*  
6       *of that section.*

7       **SEC. 103. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

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

11      **SEC. 104. DEFINITIONS.**

12      *In this title:*

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

20              (8) *SIGNIFICANT TRANSACTION OR TRANS-*  
21       *ACTIONS; SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL SERVICES.—A*  
22       *transaction or transactions or financial services shall*  
23       *be determined to be a significant for purposes of this*  
24       *section in accordance with section 566.404 of title 31,*

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

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

7 (10) *UNITED STATES PERSON.*—*The term*  
8 *“United States person” means any United States cit-*  
9 *izen, permanent resident alien, entity organized*  
10 *under the laws of the United States (including foreign*  
11 *branches), or any person in the United States.*

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

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

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

23 “(c) *SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.*—

24 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The President shall exercise*  
25 *all powers granted by the International Emergency*

1     *Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the*  
2     *extent necessary to freeze and prohibit all trans-*  
3     *actions in all property and interests in property of*  
4     *a person on the list required by subsection (b) if such*  
5     *property and interests in property are in the United*  
6     *States, come within the United States, or are or come*  
7     *within the possession or control of a United States*  
8     *person.*

9             “(2) *ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMISSION,*  
10     *OR PAROLE.—*

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

17             “(i) *inadmissible to the United States;*

18             “(ii) *ineligible to receive a visa or*  
19     *other documentation to enter the United*  
20     *States; and*

21             “(iii) *otherwise ineligible to be admit-*  
22     *ted or paroled into the United States or to*  
23     *receive any other benefit under the Immig-*  
24     *ration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101*  
25     *et seq.).*

1                   “(B) *CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.*—

2                   “(i) *IN GENERAL.*—*The issuing con-*  
3                   *sular officer, the Secretary of State, or the*  
4                   *Secretary of Homeland Security (or a des-*  
5                   *ignee of one of such Secretaries) shall revoke*  
6                   *any visa or other entry documentation*  
7                   *issued to an alien who meets any of the cri-*  
8                   *teria described in subsection (b) regardless*  
9                   *of when issued.*

10                   “(ii) *EFFECT OF REVOCATION.*—*A rev-*  
11                   *ocation under clause (i)—*

12                   “(I) *shall take effect immediately;*  
13                   *and*

14                   “(II) *shall automatically cancel*  
15                   *any other valid visa or entry docu-*  
16                   *mentation that is in the alien’s posses-*  
17                   *sion.*

18                   “(3) *PENALTIES.*—*A person that violates, at-*  
19                   *tempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a vio-*  
20                   *lation of this section or any regulation, license, or*  
21                   *order issued to carry out this section shall be subject*  
22                   *to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of*  
23                   *section 206 of the International Emergency Economic*  
24                   *Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a*

1        *person that commits an unlawful act described in*  
2        *subsection (a) of that section.*

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

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

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

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

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

3 “(d) *SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES DESCRIBED.*—

4 *In subsection (b), the term ‘serious human rights abuses’*  
5 *includes—*

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

10 “(2) *the deliberate diversion, hindering, or block-*  
11 *ing of access for humanitarian purposes, including*  
12 *access across conflict lines and borders.”.*

13 (c) *EFFECTIVE DATE.*—*The amendments made by sub-*  
14 *sections (a) and (b) shall take effect on the date of the enact-*  
15 *ment of this Act and shall apply with respect to the imposi-*  
16 *tion of sanctions under section 702(a) of the Syria Human*  
17 *Rights Accountability Act of 2012 on after such date of en-*  
18 *actment.*

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

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

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

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

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

5                   “(iii) *any article—*

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

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

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

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

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

24                   (1) *by redesignating sections 705 and 706 as sec-*  
25 *tions 706 and 707, respectively;*

1           (2) *by inserting after section 704 the following:*

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

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

8           “(b) *LIST OF PERSONS WHO HINDER HUMANITARIAN*  
9   *ACCESS.—*

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



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

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

8                     “(B) *as new information becomes available.*

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

12                     (3) *in section 706 (as so redesignated), by strik-*  
13                     *ing “or 704” and inserting “704, or 705”.*

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

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

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

21           (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 120 days after the*  
22           *date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit*  
23           *to the appropriate congressional committees a detailed re-*  
24           *port with respect to whether each person described in sub-*

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

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

15 *(1) Executive Order 13572 of April 29, 2011 (76*  
16 *Fed. Reg. 24787; relating to blocking property of cer-*  
17 *tain persons with respect to human rights abuses in*  
18 *Syria);*

19 *(2) Executive Order 13573 of May 18, 2011 (76*  
20 *Fed. Reg. 29143; relating to blocking property of sen-*  
21 *ior officials of the Government of Syria);*

22 *(3) Executive Order 13582 of August 17, 2011*  
23 *(76 Fed. Reg. 52209; relating to blocking property of*  
24 *the Government of Syria and prohibiting certain*  
25 *transactions with respect to Syria); or*

1           (4) *Executive Order 13606 of April 22, 2012 (77*  
2           *Fed. Reg. 24571; relating to blocking the property*  
3           *and suspending entry into the United States of cer-*  
4           *tain persons with respect to grave human rights*  
5           *abuses by the Governments of Iran and Syria via in-*  
6           *formation technology).*

7           (c) *PERSONS DESCRIBED.—The persons described in*  
8           *this subsection are the following:*

9           (1) *Bashar Al-Assad.*

10          (2) *Asma Al-Assad.*

11          (3) *Rami Makhlouf.*

12          (4) *Bouthayna Shaaban.*

13          (5) *Walid Moallem.*

14          (6) *Ali Al-Salim.*

15          (7) *Wael Nader Al-Halqi.*

16          (8) *Jamil Hassan.*

17          (9) *Suhail Hassan.*

18          (10) *Ali Mamluk.*

19          (11) *Muhammed Khadour, Deir Ez Zor Military*  
20          *and Security.*

21          (12) *Jamal Razzouq, Security Branch 243.*

22          (13) *Munzer Ghanam, Air Force Intelligence.*

23          (14) *Daas Hasan Ali, Branch 327.*

24          (15) *Jassem Ali Jassem Hamad, Political Secu-*  
25          *rity.*

- 1           (16) *Samir Muhammad Youssef, Military Intel-*  
2           *ligence.*
- 3           (17) *Ali Ahmad Dayoub, Air Force Intelligence.*
- 4           (18) *Khaled Muhsen Al-Halabi, Security Branch*  
5           *335.*
- 6           (19) *Mahmoud Kahila, Political Security.*
- 7           (20) *Zuhair Ahmad Hamad, Provincial Secu-*  
8           *urity.*
- 9           (21) *Wafiq Nasser, Security Branch 245.*
- 10          (22) *Qussay Mayoub, Air Force Intelligence.*
- 11          (23) *Muhammad Ammar Sardini, Political Se-*  
12          *curity.*
- 13          (24) *Fouad Hammouda, Military Security.*
- 14          (25) *Hasan Daaboul, Branch 261.*
- 15          (26) *Yahia Wahbi, Air Force Intelligence.*
- 16          (27) *Okab Saqer, Security Branch 318.*
- 17          (28) *Husam Luqa, Political Security.*
- 18          (29) *Sami Al-Hasan, Security Branch 219.*
- 19          (30) *Yassir Deeb, Political Security.*
- 20          (31) *Ibrahim Darwish, Security Branch 220.*
- 21          (32) *Nasser Deeb, Political Security.*
- 22          (33) *Abdullatif Al-Fahed, Security Branch 290.*
- 23          (34) *Adeeb Namer Salamah, Air Force Intel-*  
24          *ligence.*
- 25          (35) *Akram Muhammed, State Security.*

1           (36) *Reyad Abbas, Political Security.*

2           (37) *Ali Abdullah Ayoub, Syrian Armed Forces.*

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

4           (39) *Issam Halaq, Air Force.*

5           (40) *Ghassan Al-Abdullah, General Intelligence*  
6           *Directorate.*

7           (41) *Maher Al-Assad, Republican Guard.*

8           (42) *Fahad Al-Farouch.*

9           (43) *Rafiq Shahada, Military Intelligence.*

10          (44) *Loay Al-Ali, Military Intelligence.*

11          (45) *Naufal Al-Husayn, Military Intelligence.*

12          (46) *Muhammad Zamrini, Military Intelligence.*

13          (47) *Muhammad Mahallah, Military Intel-*  
14          *ligence.*

15          (d) *FORM.*—*The report required by subsection (a) shall*  
16          *be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain a classi-*  
17          *fied annex if necessary.*

18          (e) *DEFINITION.*—*In this section, the term “appro-*  
19          *priate congressional committees” means—*

20                 (1) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Com-*  
21                 *mittee on Financial Services, the Committee on Ways*  
22                 *and Means, and the Committee on the Judiciary of*  
23                 *the House of Representatives; and*

24                 (2) *the Committee on Foreign Relations, the*  
25                 *Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs,*

1       *the Committee on Finance, and the Committee on the*  
2       *Judiciary of the Senate.*

3       ***TITLE III—REPORTS AND WAIV-***  
4       ***ER FOR HUMANITARIAN-RE-***  
5       ***LATED ACTIVITIES WITH RE-***  
6       ***SPECT TO SYRIA***

7       ***SEC. 301. BRIEFING ON MONITORING AND EVALUATING OF***  
8                   ***ONGOING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN SYRIA***  
9                   ***AND TO THE SYRIAN PEOPLE.***

10       *(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the*  
11       *date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State*  
12       *and the Administrator of the United States Agency for*  
13       *International Development shall brief the Committee on*  
14       *Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the*  
15       *Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate on the moni-*  
16       *toring and evaluation of ongoing assistance programs in*  
17       *Syria and for the Syrian people, including assistance pro-*  
18       *vided through multilateral organizations.*

19       *(b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The briefing re-*  
20       *quired by subsection (a) shall include—*

21               *(1) the specific project monitoring and evalua-*  
22               *tion efforts, including measurable goals and perform-*  
23               *ance metrics for assistance in Syria;*

24               *(2) a description of the memoranda of under-*  
25               *standing entered into by the Department of State, the*

1 *United States Agency for International Development,*  
2 *and their respective Inspectors General and the multi-*  
3 *lateral organizations through which United States as-*  
4 *sistance will be delivered that formalize requirements*  
5 *for the sharing of information between such entities*  
6 *for the conduct of audits, investigations, and evalua-*  
7 *tions; and*

8 *(3) the major challenges to monitoring and eval-*  
9 *uating such programs.*

10 **SEC. 302. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL METHODS TO EN-**  
11 **HANCE THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS.**

12 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the*  
13 *date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit*  
14 *to the appropriate congressional committees a report that—*

15 *(1) assesses the potential effectiveness, risks, and*  
16 *operational requirements of the establishment and*  
17 *maintenance of a no-fly zone over part or all of*  
18 *Syria, including—*

19 *(A) the operational and legal requirements*  
20 *for United States and coalition air power to es-*  
21 *tablish a no-fly zone in Syria;*

22 *(B) the impact a no-fly zone in Syria*  
23 *would have on humanitarian and counterter-*  
24 *rорism efforts in Syria and the surrounding re-*  
25 *gion; and*

1           (C) the potential for force contributions  
2           from other countries to establish a no-fly zone in  
3           Syria;

4           (2) assesses the potential effectiveness, risks, and  
5           operational requirements for the establishment of one  
6           or more safe zones in Syria for internally displaced  
7           persons or for the facilitation of humanitarian assist-  
8           ance, including—

9           (A) the operational and legal requirements  
10          for United States and coalition forces to establish  
11          one or more safe zones in Syria;

12          (B) the impact one or more safe zones in  
13          Syria would have on humanitarian and counter-  
14          terrorism efforts in Syria and the surrounding  
15          region; and

16          (C) the potential for contributions from  
17          other countries and vetted non-state actor part-  
18          ners to establish and maintain one or more safe  
19          zones in Syria;

20          (3) assesses the potential effectiveness, risks, and  
21          operational requirements of other non-military means  
22          to enhance the protection of civilians, especially civil-  
23          ians who are in besieged areas, trapped at borders, or  
24          internally displaced; and



1           (4) describes the Administration’s plan for re-  
2           recruitment, training, and retention of partner forces,  
3           including—

4                   (A) identification of the United States part-  
5                   ner forces operating on the ground;

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

8                   (C) the capabilities, requirements, and  
9                   vulnerabilities of each armed actor;

10                  (D) the United States role in mitigating  
11                  vulnerabilities of partner forces; and

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

14                           (i) increasing Syrian civilian security;

15                           and

16                           (ii) working toward an end to the con-  
17                           flict in Syria.

18           (b) *FORM.*—The report required by subsection (a) shall  
19           be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain a classi-  
20           fied annex if necessary.

21           (c) *CONSULTATION.*—The report required by subsection  
22           (a) shall be informed by consultations with the Department  
23           of State, the United States Agency for International Devel-  
24           opment, the Department of Defense, and international and

1 *local organizations operating in Syria or in neighboring*  
2 *countries to alleviate the suffering of the Syrian people.*

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

5 (1) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the*  
6 *Committee on Armed Services of the House of Rep-*  
7 *resentatives; and*

8 (2) *the Committee on Foreign Relations and the*  
9 *Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.*

10 **SEC. 303. ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT ENTITIES TAKING AC-**  
11 **TIONS RELATING TO GATHERING EVIDENCE**  
12 **FOR INVESTIGATIONS INTO WAR CRIMES OR**  
13 **CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY IN SYRIA SINCE**  
14 **MARCH 2011.**

15 (a) *IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-*  
16 *sion of law, the Secretary of State, acting through the As-*  
17 *stant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor*  
18 *and the Assistant Secretary for International Narcotics and*  
19 *Law Enforcement Affairs, is authorized to provide assist-*  
20 *ance to support entities that are conducting criminal inves-*  
21 *tigations, building Syrian investigative capacity, sup-*  
22 *porting prosecutions in national courts, collecting evidence*  
23 *and preserving the chain of evidence for eventual prosecu-*  
24 *tion against those who have committed war crimes or*  
25 *crimes against humanity in Syria, including the aiding*

1 *and abetting of such crimes by foreign governments and or-*  
2 *ganizations supporting the Government of Syria, since*  
3 *March 2011.*

4 *(b) BRIEFING.—Not later than one year after the date*  
5 *of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall*  
6 *brief the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-*  
7 *resentatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the*  
8 *Senate on assistance provided under subsection (a).*

9 **TITLE IV—SUSPENSION OF**  
10 **SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT**  
11 **TO SYRIA**

12 **SEC. 401. SUSPENSION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**  
13 **SYRIA.**

14 *(a) SUSPENSION OF SANCTIONS.—*

15 *(1) NEGOTIATIONS NOT CONCLUDING IN AGREE-*  
16 *MENT.—If the President determines that internation-*  
17 *ally recognized negotiations to resolve the violence in*  
18 *Syria have not concluded in an agreement or are like-*  
19 *ly not to conclude in an agreement, the President*  
20 *may suspend, as appropriate, in whole or in part, the*  
21 *imposition of sanctions otherwise required under this*  
22 *Act or any amendment made by this Act for a period*  
23 *not to exceed 120 days, and renewable for additional*  
24 *periods not to exceed 120 days, if the President sub-*  
25 *mits to the appropriate congressional committees in*

1 *writing a determination and certification that the*  
2 *Government of Syria has ended military attacks*  
3 *against and gross violations of the human rights of*  
4 *the Syrian people, specifically—*

5 *(A) the air space over Syria is no longer*  
6 *being utilized by the Government of Syria and*  
7 *associated forces to target civilian populations*  
8 *through the use of incendiary devices, including*  
9 *barrel bombs, chemical weapons, and conven-*  
10 *tional arms, including air-delivered missiles and*  
11 *explosives;*

12 *(B) areas besieged by the Assad regime and*  
13 *associated forces, including Hezbollah and irreg-*  
14 *ular Iranian forces, are no longer cut off from*  
15 *international aid and have regular access to hu-*  
16 *manitarian assistance, freedom of travel, and*  
17 *medical care;*

18 *(C) the Government of Syria is releasing all*  
19 *political prisoners forcibly held within the Assad*  
20 *regime prison system, including the facilities*  
21 *maintained by various security, intelligence, and*  
22 *military elements associated with the Govern-*  
23 *ment of Syria and allowed full access to the*  
24 *same facilities for investigations by appropriate*  
25 *international human rights organizations; and*

1           (D) the forces of the Government of Syria  
2 and associated forces, including Hezbollah, irreg-  
3 ular Iranian forces, and Russian government air  
4 assets, are no longer engaged in deliberate tar-  
5 geting of medical facilities, schools, residential  
6 areas, and community gathering places, includ-  
7 ing markets, in flagrant violation of inter-  
8 national norms.

9           (2) NEGOTIATIONS CONCLUDING IN AGREE-  
10       MENT.—

11           (A) INITIAL SUSPENSION OF SANCTIONS.—If  
12 the President determines that internationally  
13 recognized negotiations to resolve the violence in  
14 Syria have concluded in an agreement or are  
15 likely to conclude in an agreement, the President  
16 may suspend, as appropriate, in whole or in  
17 part, the imposition of sanctions otherwise re-  
18 quired under this Act or any amendment made  
19 by this Act for a period not to exceed 120 days  
20 if the President submits to the appropriate con-  
21 gressional committees in writing a determina-  
22 tion and certification that—

23           (i) in the case in which the negotia-  
24 tions are likely to conclude in an agree-  
25 ment—

1                   (I) *the Government of Syria, the*  
2                   *Syrian High Negotiations Committee*  
3                   *or its internationally-recognized suc-*  
4                   *cessor, and appropriate international*  
5                   *parties are participating in direct,*  
6                   *face-to-face negotiations; and*

7                   (II) *the suspension of sanctions*  
8                   *under this Act or any amendment*  
9                   *made by this Act is essential to the ad-*  
10                  *vancement of such negotiations; and*

11                  (i) *the Government of Syria has dem-*  
12                  *onstrated a commitment to a significant*  
13                  *and substantial reduction in attacks on and*  
14                  *violence against the Syrian people by the*  
15                  *Government of Syria and associated forces.*

16                  (B) *RENEWAL OF SUSPENSION OF SANC-*  
17                  *TIONS.—The President may renew a suspension*  
18                  *of sanctions under subparagraph (A) for addi-*  
19                  *tional periods not to exceed 120 days if, for each*  
20                  *such additional period, the President submits to*  
21                  *the appropriate congressional committees in*  
22                  *writing a determination and certification that—*

23                  (i) *the conditions described in clauses*  
24                  *(i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A) are con-*  
25                  *tinuing to be met;*

1           (ii) the renewal of the suspension of  
2           sanctions is essential to implementing an  
3           agreement described in subparagraph (A) or  
4           making progress toward concluding an  
5           agreement described in subparagraph (A);

6           (iii) the Government of Syria and as-  
7           sociated forces have ceased attacks against  
8           Syrian civilians; and

9           (iv) the Government of Syria has pub-  
10          licly committed to negotiations for a transi-  
11          tional government in Syria and continues  
12          to demonstrate that commitment through  
13          sustained engagement in talks and sub-  
14          stantive and verifiable progress towards the  
15          implementation of such an agreement.

16           (3) *BRIEFING AND REIMPOSITION OF SANC-*  
17          *TIONS.—*

18           (A) *BRIEFING.—*Not later than 30 days  
19          after the President submits to the appropriate  
20          congressional committees a determination and  
21          certification in the case of a renewal of suspen-  
22          sion of sanctions under paragraph (2)(B), and  
23          every 30 days thereafter, the President shall pro-  
24          vide a briefing to the appropriate congressional

1            *committees on the status and frequency of nego-*  
2            *tiations described in paragraph (2).*

3            (B) *RE-IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—If the*  
4            *President provides a briefing to the appropriate*  
5            *congressional committees under subparagraph*  
6            *(A) with respect to which the President indicates*  
7            *a lapse in negotiations described in paragraph*  
8            *(2) for a period that equals or exceeds 90 days,*  
9            *the sanctions that were suspended under para-*  
10           *graph (2)(B) shall be re-imposed and any fur-*  
11           *ther suspension of such sanctions is prohibited.*

12           (4) *DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term*  
13           *“appropriate congressional committees” means—*

14           (A) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the*  
15           *Committee on Financial Services, the Committee*  
16           *on Ways and Means, and the Committee on the*  
17           *Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and*

18           (B) *the Committee on Foreign Relations,*  
19           *the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban*  
20           *Affairs, the Committee on Finance, and the*  
21           *Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate.*

22           (b) *SENSE OF CONGRESS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR*  
23           *DETERMINING A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT IN SYRIA.—*  
24           *It is the sense of Congress that a transitional government*  
25           *in Syria is a government that—*



1           (1) *is taking verifiable steps to release all political*  
2 *prisoners and is providing full access to Syrian*  
3 *prisons for investigations by appropriate international*  
4 *human rights organizations;*

5           (2) *is taking verifiable steps to remove former*  
6 *senior Syrian Government officials who are complicit*  
7 *in the conception, implementation, or cover up of war*  
8 *crimes, crimes against humanity, or human rights*  
9 *abuses and any person subject to sanctions under any*  
10 *provision of law from government positions;*

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

13                 (A) *to be held in a timely manner and*  
14 *scheduled while the suspension of sanctions or*  
15 *the renewal of the suspension of sanctions under*  
16 *this section is in effect; and*

17                 (B) *to be conducted under the supervision of*  
18 *internationally recognized observers;*

19           (4) *is making tangible progress toward estab-*  
20 *lishing an independent judiciary;*

21           (5) *is demonstrating respect for and compliance*  
22 *with internationally recognized human rights and*  
23 *basic freedoms as specified in the Universal Declara-*  
24 *tion of Human Rights;*

1           (6) is taking steps to verifiably fulfill its com-  
2           mitments under the Chemical Weapons Convention  
3           and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear  
4           Weapons and is making tangible progress toward be-  
5           coming a signatory to Convention on the Prohibition  
6           of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of  
7           Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and  
8           on their Destruction, entered into force March 26,  
9           1975, and adhering to the Missile Technology Control  
10          Regime and other control lists, as necessary;

11          (7) has halted the development and deployment  
12          of ballistic and cruise missiles; and

13          (8) is taking verifiable steps to remove from posi-  
14          tions of authority within the intelligence and security  
15          services as well as the military those who were in a  
16          position of authority or responsibility during the con-  
17          flict and who under the authority of their position  
18          were implicated in or implicit in the torture,  
19          extrajudicial killing, or execution of civilians, to in-  
20          clude those who were involved in decisionmaking or  
21          execution of plans to use chemical weapons.

22 **SEC. 402. WAIVERS AND EXEMPTIONS.**

23          (a) *EXEMPTIONS.*—The following activities and trans-  
24          actions shall be exempt from sanctions authorized under  
25          this Act or any amendment made by this Act:

1           (1) *Any activity subject to the reporting require-*  
2           *ments under title V of the National Security Act of*  
3           *1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.), or to any authorized*  
4           *intelligence activities of the United States.*

5           (2) *Any transaction necessary to comply with*  
6           *United States obligations under—*

7                   (A) *the Agreement between the United Na-*  
8                   *tions and the United States of America regard-*  
9                   *ing the Headquarters of the United Nations,*  
10                  *signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and en-*  
11                  *tered into force November 21, 1947;*

12                   (B) *the Convention on Consular Relations,*  
13                   *done at Vienna April 24, 1963, and entered into*  
14                   *force March 19, 1967; or*

15                   (C) *any other international agreement to*  
16                   *which the United States is a party.*

17           (b) *HUMANITARIAN, STABILIZATION, AND DEMOCRACY*  
18           *ASSISTANCE WAIVER.—*

19                   (1) *STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the pol-*  
20                   *icy of the United States to fully utilize the waiver au-*  
21                   *thority under this subsection to ensure that adequate*  
22                   *humanitarian relief or support for stabilization and*  
23                   *democracy promotion is provided to the Syrian peo-*  
24                   *ple.*

1           (2) *WAIVER.*—*Except as provided in paragraph*  
2 *(5) and subsection (d), the President may waive, on*  
3 *a case-by-case basis, for a period not to exceed one*  
4 *year, and renewable for additional periods not to ex-*  
5 *ceed one year, the application of sanctions authorized*  
6 *under this Act with respect to a person if the Presi-*  
7 *dent submits to the appropriate congressional com-*  
8 *mittees a written determination that the waiver is*  
9 *necessary for purposes of providing humanitarian or*  
10 *stabilization assistance or support for democracy pro-*  
11 *motion to the people of Syria.*

12           (3) *CONTENT OF WRITTEN DETERMINATION.*—*A*  
13 *written determination submitted under paragraph (2)*  
14 *with respect to a waiver shall include a description*  
15 *of all notification and accountability controls that*  
16 *have been employed in order to ensure that the activi-*  
17 *ties covered by the waiver are humanitarian or sta-*  
18 *bilization assistance or support for democracy pro-*  
19 *motion and do not entail any activities in Syria or*  
20 *dealings with the Government of Syria not reasonably*  
21 *related to humanitarian or stabilization assistance or*  
22 *support for democracy promotion.*

23           (4) *CLARIFICATION OF PERMITTED ACTIVITIES*  
24 *UNDER WAIVER.*—*The President may not impose*

1        *sanctions authorized under this Act against a human-*  
2        *itarian organization for—*

3                *(A) engaging in a financial transaction re-*  
4                *lating to humanitarian assistance or for human-*  
5                *itarian purposes pursuant to a waiver issued*  
6                *under paragraph (2);*

7                *(B) transporting goods or services that are*  
8                *necessary to carry out operations relating to hu-*  
9                *manitarian assistance or humanitarian purposes*  
10               *pursuant to such a waiver; or*

11               *(C) having incidental contact, in the course*  
12               *of providing humanitarian assistance or aid for*  
13               *humanitarian purposes pursuant to such a*  
14               *waiver, with individuals who are under the con-*  
15               *trol of a foreign person subject to sanctions*  
16               *under this Act or any amendment made by this*  
17               *Act unless the organization or its officers, mem-*  
18               *bers, representatives or employees have engaged*  
19               *in (or the President knows or has reasonable*  
20               *ground to believe is engaged in or is likely to en-*  
21               *gage in) conduct described in section*  
22               *212(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI) of the Immigration and*  
23               *Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.*  
24               *1182(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI)).*

1           (5) *EXCEPTION TO WAIVER AUTHORITY.*—*The*  
2 *President may not exercise the waiver authority*  
3 *under paragraph (2) with respect to a foreign person*  
4 *who has (or whose officers, members, representatives*  
5 *or employees have) engaged in (or the President*  
6 *knows or has reasonable ground to believe is engaged*  
7 *in or is likely to engage in) conduct described in sec-*  
8 *tion 212(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI) of the Immigration and Na-*  
9 *tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI)).*

10 *(c) WAIVER.*—

11           (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The President may, for peri-*  
12 *ods not to exceed 120 days, waive the application of*  
13 *sanctions under this Act with respect to a foreign per-*  
14 *son if the President certifies to the appropriate con-*  
15 *gressional committees that such waiver is vital to the*  
16 *national security interests of the United States.*

17           (2) *CONSULTATION.*—

18           (A) *BEFORE WAIVER ISSUED.*—*Not later*  
19 *than 5 days before the issuance of a waiver*  
20 *under paragraph (1) is to take effect, the Presi-*  
21 *dent shall notify and brief the appropriate con-*  
22 *gressional committees on the status of the foreign*  
23 *person’s involvement in activities described in*  
24 *this Act.*

1           (B) *AFTER WAIVER ISSUED.*—Not later  
2           than 90 days after the issuance of a waiver  
3           under paragraph (1), and every 120 days there-  
4           after if the waiver remains in effect, the Presi-  
5           dent shall brief the appropriate congressional  
6           committees on the status of the foreign person’s  
7           involvement in activities described in this Act.

8           (3) *DEFINITION.*—In this subsection, the term  
9           “appropriate congressional committees” means—

10           (A) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the*  
11           *Committee on Financial Services, the Committee*  
12           *on Ways and Means, and the Committee on the*  
13           *Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and*

14           (B) *the Committee on Foreign Relations,*  
15           *the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban*  
16           *Affairs, the Committee on Finance, and the*  
17           *Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate.*

18           (d) *CODIFICATION OF CERTAIN SERVICES IN SUPPORT*  
19 *OF NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS’ ACTIVITIES AU-*  
20 *THORIZED.*—

21           (1) *IN GENERAL.*—Except as provided in para-  
22           graph (2), section 542.516 of title 31, Code of Federal  
23           Regulations (relating to certain services in support of  
24           nongovernmental organizations’ activities authorized),

1 *as in effect on the day before the date of the enact-*  
2 *ment of this Act, shall—*

3 *(A) remain in effect on and after such date*  
4 *of enactment; and*

5 *(B) in the case of a nongovernmental orga-*  
6 *nization that is authorized to export or reexport*  
7 *services to Syria under such section on the day*  
8 *before such date of enactment, shall apply to*  
9 *such organization on and after such date of en-*  
10 *actment to the same extent and in the same*  
11 *manner as such section applied to such organiza-*  
12 *tion on the day before such date of enactment.*

13 *(2) EXCEPTION.—Section 542.516 of title 31,*  
14 *Code of Federal Regulations, as codified under para-*  
15 *graph (1), shall not apply with respect to a foreign*  
16 *person who has (or whose officers, members, represent-*  
17 *atives or employees have) engaged in (or the President*  
18 *knows or has reasonable ground to believe is engaged*  
19 *in or is likely to engage in) conduct described in sec-*  
20 *tion 212(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI) of the Immigration and Na-*  
21 *tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(B)(iv)(VI)).*

22 *(e) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—*

23 *(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after*  
24 *the date of the enactment of this Act, the President*  
25 *shall submit to the appropriate congressional commit-*



1        *tees a report containing a strategy to ensure that hu-*  
2        *manitarian organizations can access financial serv-*  
3        *ices to ensure the safe and timely delivery of assist-*  
4        *ance to communities in need in Syria.*

5            (2) *CONSIDERATION OF DATA FROM OTHER*  
6        *COUNTRIES AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZA-*  
7        *TIONS.—In preparing the strategy required by para-*  
8        *graph (1), the President shall consider credible data*  
9        *already obtained by other countries and nongovern-*  
10       *mental organizations, including organizations oper-*  
11       *ating in Syria.*

12           (3) *FORM.—The strategy required by paragraph*  
13       *(1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may*  
14       *contain a classified annex.*

15        **TITLE V—REGULATORY AUTHOR-**  
16        **ITY, COST LIMITATION, AND**  
17        **SUNSET**

18        **SEC. 501. IMPLEMENTATION AND REGULATORY AUTHORI-**  
19        **TIES.**

20           (a) *IMPLEMENTATION AUTHORITY.—The President*  
21       *may exercise all authorities provided to the President under*  
22       *sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Eco-*  
23       *nomie Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) for purposes*  
24       *of carrying out this Act and the amendments made by this*  
25       *Act.*

1       (b) *REGULATORY AUTHORITY.*—*The President shall,*  
2 *not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of*  
3 *this Act, promulgate regulations as necessary for the imple-*  
4 *mentation of this Act and the amendments made by this*  
5 *Act.*

6       (c) *BRIEFING TO CONGRESS.*—*Not less than 10 days*  
7 *before the promulgation of regulations under subsection (a),*  
8 *the President shall brief the appropriate congressional com-*  
9 *mittees on the proposed regulations and the provisions of*  
10 *this Act and the amendments made by this Act that the*  
11 *regulations are implementing.*

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

14               (1) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the*  
15               *Committee on Financial Services of the House of Rep-*  
16               *resentatives; and*

17               (2) *the Committee on Foreign Relations and the*  
18               *Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs*  
19               *of the Senate.*

20 **SEC. 502. COST LIMITATION.**

21       *No additional funds are authorized to carry out the*  
22 *requirements of this Act and the amendments made by this*  
23 *Act. Such requirements shall be carried out using amounts*  
24 *otherwise authorized.*

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

2       (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Any reports required to be sub-  
3 mitted to the appropriate congressional committees under  
4 this Act or any amendment made by this Act that are sub-  
5 ject to a deadline for submission consisting of the same unit  
6 of time may be consolidated into a single report that is sub-  
7 mitted to appropriate congressional committees pursuant to  
8 such deadline. The consolidated reports shall contain all in-  
9 formation required under this Act or any amendment made  
10 by this Act, in addition to all other elements mandated by  
11 previous law.

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

14               (1) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the*  
15               *Committee on Financial Services of the House of Rep-*  
16               *resentatives; and*

17               (2) *the Committee on Foreign Relations and the*  
18               *Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs*  
19               *of the Senate.*

20 **SEC. 504. SUNSET.**

21       *This Act shall cease to be effective beginning on Decem-*  
22 *ber 31, 2021.*

Union Calendar No. 68

115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> Session

**H. R. 1677**

[Report No. 115-115, Part I]

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**A BILL**

To halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, encourage a negotiated political settlement, and hold Syrian human rights abusers accountable for their crimes.

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MAY 11, 2017

Reported from the Committee on Foreign Affairs with an amendment

MAY 11, 2017

The Committees on Financial Services and the Judiciary discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed