

116TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H. R. 4361

To require an accounting of certain property forfeited to the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

Mr. Malinowski (for himself, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Cleaver, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Ms. Moore, and Ms. Jackson Lee) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To require an accounting of certain property forfeited to the United States, 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 "Justice for Victims
- 5 of Kleptocracy Act of 2019".
- 6 SEC. 2. FORFEITED PROPERTY.
- 7 (a) In General.—Chapter 46 of title 18, United
- 8 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
- 9 lowing:

1 "§ 988. Accounting of certain forfeited property

- 2 "(a) ACCOUNTING.—The Attorney General shall
- 3 make available to the public an accounting of any property
- 4 relating to foreign government corruption that is forfeited
- 5 to the United States under section 981 or 982.
- 6 "(b) FORMAT.—The accounting described under sub-
- 7 section (a) shall be published on the website of the Depart-
- 8 ment of Justice in a format that includes the following:
- 9 "(1) A heading as follows: 'Assets stolen from
- 10 the people of and recovered by the
- 11 United States', the blank space being filled with the
- name of the foreign government that is the target of
- corruption.
- 14 "(2) The total amount recovered by the United
- 15 States on behalf of the foreign government that is
- the target of corruption.
- 17 "(c) UPDATED WEBSITE.—The Attorney General
- 18 shall update the website of the Department of Justice to
- 19 include an accounting of any new property that has been
- 20 forfeited to the United States under section 981 or 982
- 21 not later than 14 days after such forfeiture, unless such
- 22 update would compromise an ongoing law enforcement in-
- 23 vestigation.".

- 1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
- 2 for chapter 46 of title 18, United States Code, is amended
- 3 by adding at the end the following:
 - "988. Accounting of certain forfeited property.".

4 SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

- 5 It is the sense of Congress that, as soon as prac-
- 6 ticable or at such time as a foreign government meets ade-
- 7 quate standards of governance and democracy, as deter-
- 8 mined by the Secretary of State, funds forfeited to the
- 9 United States as a result of foreign government corruption
- 10 shall be returned to the lawful owner of the property.

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