

1 **SEC. 304. SUNSET.**

2 This Act shall cease to be effective on the date that
3 is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

4 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

5 (a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the
6 “Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act of 2019”.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Statement of policy.

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

Sec. 101. Measures with respect to Central Bank of Syria.

*Sec. 102. Sanctions with respect to foreign persons that engage in certain trans-
actions.*

*Sec. 103. Strategy relating to areas of Syria in which civilians are subject to
forced displacement.*

**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.*

TITLE III—ASSISTANCE FOR THE PEOPLE OF SYRIA

Sec. 301. Sense of Congress.

*Sec. 302. Briefing on monitoring and evaluating of ongoing assistance programs
in Syria and to the Syrian people.*

Sec. 303. Assessment of potential methods to enhance the protection of civilians.

*Sec. 304. 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.*

*Sec. 305. Codification of certain services in support of nongovernmental organiza-
tions’ activities authorized.*

Sec. 306. Briefing on strategy to facilitate humanitarian assistance.

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 401. Suspension of sanctions.

Sec. 402. Waivers and exemptions.

Sec. 403. Implementation and regulatory authorities.

Sec. 404. Cost limitation.

Sec. 405. Authority to consolidate reports.

Sec. 406. Rule of construction.

Sec. 407. Prohibition on construction of provisions of this Act as an authorization for use of military force.

Sec. 408. Sunset.

1 **SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

2 *It is the policy of the United States that diplomatic*
 3 *and coercive economic means should be utilized to compel*
 4 *the government of Bashar al-Assad to halt its murderous*
 5 *attacks on the Syrian people and to support a transition*
 6 *to a government in Syria that respects the rule of law,*
 7 *human rights, and peaceful co-existence with its neighbors.*

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

12 **SEC. 101. MEASURES WITH RESPECT TO CENTRAL BANK OF**
 13 **SYRIA.**

14 *(a) DETERMINATION REGARDING CENTRAL BANK OF*
 15 *SYRIA.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-*
 16 *ment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall deter-*
 17 *mine, under section 5318A of title 31, United States Code,*
 18 *whether reasonable grounds exist for concluding that the*
 19 *Central Bank of Syria is a financial institution of primary*
 20 *money laundering concern.*

21 *(b) ENHANCED DUE DILIGENCE AND REPORTING RE-*
 22 *QUIREMENTS.—If the Secretary of the Treasury determines*

1 *under subsection (a) that reasonable grounds exist for con-*
2 *cluding that the Central Bank of Syria is a financial insti-*
3 *tution of primary money laundering concern, the Secretary,*
4 *in consultation with the Federal functional regulators (as*
5 *defined in section 509 of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (15*
6 *U.S.C. 6809)), shall impose one or more of the special meas-*
7 *ures described in section 5318A(b) of title 31, United States*
8 *Code, with respect to the Central Bank of Syria.*

9 (c) *REPORT REQUIRED.—*

10 (1) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after*
11 *making a determination under subsection (a) with re-*
12 *spect to whether the Central Bank of Syria is a fi-*
13 *ancial institution of primary money laundering*
14 *concern, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit to*
15 *the appropriate congressional committees a report*
16 *that includes the reasons for the determination.*

17 (2) *FORM.—A report required by paragraph (1)*
18 *shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may in-*
19 *clude a classified annex.*

20 (3) *APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES*
21 *DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “appropriate*
22 *congressional committees” means—*

23 (A) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs and*
24 *the Committee on Financial Services of the*
25 *House of Representatives; and*

1 (B) *the Committee on Foreign Relations*
2 *and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and*
3 *Urban Affairs of the Senate.*

4 **SEC. 102. SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN PERSONS**
5 **THAT ENGAGE IN CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS.**

6 (a) *IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.*—

7 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*On and after the date that is*
8 *180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,*
9 *the President shall impose the sanctions described in*
10 *subsection (b) with respect to a foreign person if the*
11 *President determines that the foreign person, on or*
12 *after such date of enactment, knowingly engages in an*
13 *activity described in paragraph (2).*

14 (2) *ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.*—*A foreign person*
15 *engages in an activity described in this paragraph if*
16 *the foreign person—*

17 (A) *knowingly provides significant finan-*
18 *cial, material, or technological support to, or*
19 *knowingly engages in a significant transaction*
20 *with—*

21 (i) *the Government of Syria (including*
22 *any entity owned or controlled by the Gov-*
23 *ernment of Syria) or a senior political fig-*
24 *ure of the Government of Syria;*

1 (ii) a foreign person that is a military
2 contractor, mercenary, or a paramilitary
3 force knowingly operating in a military ca-
4 pacity inside Syria for or on behalf of the
5 Government of Syria, the Government of the
6 Russian Federation, or the Government of
7 Iran; or

8 (iii) a foreign person subject to sanc-
9 tions pursuant to the International Emer-
10 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C.
11 1701 et seq.) with respect to Syria or any
12 other provision of law that imposes sanc-
13 tions with respect to Syria;

14 (B) knowingly sells or provides significant
15 goods, services, technology, information, or other
16 support that significantly facilitates the mainte-
17 nance or expansion of the Government of Syria's
18 domestic production of natural gas, petroleum,
19 or petroleum products;

20 (C) knowingly sells or provides aircraft or
21 spare aircraft parts that are used for military
22 purposes in Syria for or on behalf of the Govern-
23 ment of Syria to any foreign person operating in
24 an area directly or indirectly controlled by the

1 *Government of Syria or foreign forces associated*
2 *with the Government of Syria;*

3 *(D) knowingly provides significant goods or*
4 *services associated with the operation of aircraft*
5 *that are used for military purposes in Syria for*
6 *or on behalf of the Government of Syria to any*
7 *foreign person operating in an area described in*
8 *subparagraph (C); or*

9 *(E) knowingly, directly or indirectly, pro-*
10 *vides significant construction or engineering*
11 *services to the Government of Syria.*

12 (3) *SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of*
13 *Congress that, in implementing this section, the*
14 *President should consider financial support under*
15 *paragraph (2)(A) to include the provision of loans,*
16 *credits, or export credits.*

17 (b) *SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—*

18 (1) *IN GENERAL.—The sanctions to be imposed*
19 *with respect to a foreign person subject to subsection*
20 *(a) are the following:*

21 (A) *BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—The Presi-*
22 *dent shall exercise all of the powers granted to*
23 *the President under the International Emergency*
24 *Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to*
25 *the extent necessary to block and prohibit all*

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

7 (B) *ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMIS-*
8 *SION, OR PAROLE.—*

9 (i) *VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—*
10 *An alien who the Secretary of State or the*
11 *Secretary of Homeland Security (or a des-*
12 *ignee of one of such Secretaries) knows, or*
13 *has reason to believe, has knowingly en-*
14 *gaged in any activity described in sub-*
15 *section (a)(2) is—*

16 (I) *inadmissible to the United*
17 *States;*

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

21 (III) *otherwise ineligible to be ad-*
22 *mitted or paroled into the United*
23 *States or to receive any other benefit*
24 *under the Immigration and Nation-*
25 *ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).*

1 (ii) *CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.*—

2 (I) *IN GENERAL.*—*The issuing*
3 *consular officer, the Secretary of State,*
4 *or the Secretary of Homeland Security*
5 *(or a designee of one of such Secre-*
6 *taries) shall, in accordance with sec-*
7 *tion 221(i) of the Immigration and*
8 *Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)), re-*
9 *voke any visa or other entry docu-*
10 *mentation issued to an alien described*
11 *in clause (i) regardless of when the*
12 *visa or other entry documentation is*
13 *issued.*

14 (II) *EFFECT OF REVOCATION.*—*A*
15 *revocation under subclause (I)—*

16 (i) *shall take effect imme-*
17 *diately; and*

18 (ii) *shall automatically can-*
19 *cel any other valid visa or entry*
20 *documentation that is in the*
21 *alien's possession.*

22 (2) *PENALTIES.*—*The penalties provided for in*
23 *subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the Inter-*
24 *national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C.*
25 *1705) shall apply to a person that violates, attempts*

1 *to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation*
 2 *of regulations promulgated under section 403(b) to*
 3 *carry out paragraph (1)(A) to the same extent that*
 4 *such penalties apply to a person that commits an un-*
 5 *lawful act described in section 206(a) of that Act.*

6 (3) *EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH INTER-*
 7 *NATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.*—*Sanctions under paragraph*
 8 *(1)(B) shall not apply with respect to an alien if ad-*
 9 *mitting or paroling the alien into the United States*
 10 *is necessary to permit the United States to comply*
 11 *with the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the*
 12 *United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26,*
 13 *1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, be-*
 14 *tween the United Nations and the United States, or*
 15 *other applicable international obligations.*

16 **SEC. 103. STRATEGY RELATING TO AREAS OF SYRIA IN**
 17 **WHICH CIVILIANS ARE SUBJECT TO FORCED**
 18 **DISPLACEMENT.**

19 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 180 days after the*
 20 *date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall—*

21 (1) *identify the areas described in subsection (b);*
 22 *and*

23 (2) *submit to the appropriate congressional com-*
 24 *mittees the strategy described in subsection (c).*

1 (b) *AREAS DESCRIBED.*—*The areas described in this*
2 *subsection are areas in Syria that the President deter-*
3 *mines—*

4 (1) *are under the control of—*

5 (A) *the Government of Syria;*

6 (B) *the Government of the Russian Federa-*
7 *tion;*

8 (C) *the Government of Iran; or*

9 (D) *a foreign person described in section*
10 *102(a)(2)(A)(ii); and*

11 (2) *are areas in which civilians have been subject*
12 *to forced displacement by—*

13 (A) *a government specified in subparagraph*

14 *(A), (B), or (C) of paragraph (1); or*

15 (B) *a foreign person described in section*
16 *102(a)(2)(A)(ii).*

17 (c) *STRATEGY DESCRIBED.*—*The strategy described in*
18 *this subsection is a strategy to deter foreign persons from*
19 *entering into contracts related to reconstruction in the areas*
20 *described in subsection (b) for or on behalf of—*

21 (1) *a government specified in subparagraph (A),*
22 *(B), or (C) of subsection (b)(1); or*

23 (2) *a foreign person described in section*
24 *102(a)(2)(A)(ii).*

1 (d) *FORM.*—*The strategy required by subsection (a)(2)*
 2 *shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a*
 3 *classified annex.*

4 (e) *APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-*
 5 *FINED.*—*In this section, the term “appropriate congres-*
 6 *sional committees” means—*

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

9 (2) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of the*
 10 *Senate.*

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

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

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

1 **“SEC. 702. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**
2 **CERTAIN PERSONS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE**
3 **FOR OR COMPLICIT IN HUMAN RIGHTS**
4 **ABUSES COMMITTED AGAINST CITIZENS OF**
5 **SYRIA OR THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS.**

6 *“(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose the*
7 *sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to each*
8 *person on the list required by subsection (b).*

9 *“(b) LIST OF PERSONS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR*
10 *OR COMPLICIT IN SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.—*

11 *“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days*
12 *after the date of the enactment of the Caesar Syria*
13 *Civilian Protection Act of 2019, the President shall*
14 *submit to the appropriate congressional committees a*
15 *list of foreign persons that the President determines*
16 *are knowingly responsible for or complicit in serious*
17 *human rights abuses committed against citizens of*
18 *Syria or their family members, regardless of whether*
19 *such abuses occurred in Syria.*

20 *“(2) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN PERSONS.—In de-*
21 *veloping the list required by paragraph (1), the Presi-*
22 *dent shall consider for inclusion on the list, among*
23 *others, the following:*

24 *“(A) the President of Syria.*

25 *“(B) The Prime Minister and Deputy*
26 *Prime Minister of Syria.*

1 “(C) *The Council of Ministers of Syria.*

2 “(D) *The heads of the armed forces of*
3 *Syria, including the land forces, air forces, and*
4 *intelligence services.*

5 “(E) *The heads of the Ministry of Interior*
6 *of Syria, including the Political Security Direc-*
7 *torate, the General Intelligence Directorate, and*
8 *the National Police Force.*

9 “(F) *The commanders and deputy com-*
10 *manders of the Fourth Armored Division of the*
11 *armed forces of Syria.*

12 “(G) *The commander of the Republican*
13 *Guard of Syria.*

14 “(H) *The Advisor for Strategic Affairs to*
15 *the President of Syria.*

16 “(I) *The director and deputy director of the*
17 *Scientific Studies and Research Center of Syria.*

18 “(J) *The heads of prisons under the control*
19 *of the Government of Syria.*

20 “(K) *The governors and other heads of the*
21 *security branches of the 14 provinces of Syria*
22 *who are appointed by the President of Syria.*

23 “(3) *UPDATES OF LIST.—The President shall*
24 *submit to the appropriate congressional committees*
25 *an updated list under paragraph (1) not later than*

1 300 days after the date of the enactment of the Caesar
2 Syria Civilian Protection Act of 2019 and annually
3 thereafter for a period of 5 years.

4 “(4) *FORM.*—The list required by paragraph (1)
5 shall be submitted in unclassified form but may in-
6 clude a classified annex.

7 “(c) *SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.*—

8 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The sanctions to be imposed
9 with respect to a foreign person under subsection (a)
10 are the following:

11 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—The President shall ex-
12 ercise all powers granted by the International
13 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C.
14 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and
15 prohibit all transactions in all property and in-
16 terests in property of a person on the list re-
17 quired by subsection (b) if such property and in-
18 terests in property are in the United States,
19 come within the United States, or are or come
20 within the possession or control of a United
21 States person.

22 “(B) *ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMIS-*
23 *SION, OR PAROLE.*—

24 “(i) *VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.*—
25 An alien who the Secretary of State or the

1 *Secretary of Homeland Security (or a des-*
2 *ignee of one of such Secretaries) identifies*
3 *as on the list required by subsection (b) is—*

4 *“(I) inadmissible to the United*
5 *States;*

6 *“(II) ineligible to receive a visa or*
7 *other documentation to enter the*
8 *United States; and*

9 *“(III) otherwise ineligible to be*
10 *admitted or paroled into the United*
11 *States or to receive any other benefit*
12 *under the Immigration and Nation-*
13 *ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).*

14 *“(i) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—*

15 *“(I) IN GENERAL.—The issuing*
16 *consular officer, the Secretary of State,*
17 *or the Secretary of Homeland Security*
18 *(or a designee of one of such Secre-*
19 *taries) shall, in accordance with sec-*
20 *tion 221(i) of the Immigration and*
21 *Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)), re-*
22 *voke any visa or other entry docu-*
23 *mentation issued to an alien who the*
24 *Secretary of State or the Secretary of*
25 *Homeland Security (or a designee of*

1 *one of such Secretaries) identifies as on*
2 *the list required by subsection (b), re-*
3 *gardless of when the visa or other docu-*
4 *mentation is issued.*

5 “(II) *EFFECT OF REVOCATION.*—

6 *A revocation under subclause (I)—*

7 “(aa) *shall take effect imme-*
8 *diately; and*

9 “(bb) *shall automatically*
10 *cancel any other valid visa or*
11 *entry documentation that is in the*
12 *alien’s possession.*

13 “(2) *PENALTIES.*—*A person that violates, at-*
14 *tempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a vio-*
15 *lation of paragraph (1)(A) or any regulation, license,*
16 *or order issued to carry out paragraph (1)(A) shall*
17 *be subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b)*
18 *and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency*
19 *Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same*
20 *extent as a person that commits an unlawful act de-*
21 *scribed in subsection (a) of that section.*

22 “(3) *EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH INTER-*
23 *NATIONAL AGREEMENTS.*—*Sanctions under para-*
24 *graph (1)(B) shall not apply with respect to an alien*
25 *if admitting or paroling the alien into the United*

1 *States is necessary to permit the United States to*
2 *comply with the Agreement regarding the Head-*
3 *quarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Suc-*
4 *cess June 26, 1947, and entered into force November*
5 *21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United*
6 *States, or other applicable international agreements.*

7 “(d) *RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.*—*Nothing in this sec-*
8 *tion shall be construed to limit the authority of the Presi-*
9 *dent pursuant to the International Emergency Economic*
10 *Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), relevant Executive or-*
11 *ders, regulations, or other provisions of law.”.*

12 (b) *SENSE OF CONGRESS.*—*It is the sense of Congress*
13 *that the President should impose sanctions under section*
14 *702 of the Syria Human Rights Accountability Act of 2012,*
15 *as amended by subsection (a), for—*

16 (1) *the deliberate targeting of civilian schools,*
17 *hospitals, or markets; and*

18 (2) *the deliberate diversion, hindering, or block-*
19 *ing of access for humanitarian purposes, including*
20 *access across borders and conflict lines, with the in-*
21 *tent to inflict suffering on civilians.*

1 **SEC. 202. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**
2 **THE TRANSFER OF GOODS OR TECH-**
3 **NOLOGIES TO SYRIA THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE**
4 **USED TO COMMIT HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.**

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

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

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

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

12 *“(iii) any article—*

13 *“(I) designated by the President*
14 *for purposes of the United States Mu-*
15 *nitions List under section 38(a)(1) of*
16 *the Arms Export Control Act (22*
17 *U.S.C. 2778(a)(1)); and*

18 *“(II) that the President deter-*
19 *mines is significant for purposes of the*
20 *imposition of sanctions under sub-*
21 *section (a); or*

22 *“(iv) other goods or technologies that*
23 *the President determines are used by the*
24 *Government of Syria to commit human*
25 *rights abuses against the people of Syria.”.*

1 **TITLE III—ASSISTANCE FOR THE**
2 **PEOPLE OF SYRIA**

3 **SEC. 301. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

4 *It is the sense of Congress that it is in the interests*
5 *of the United States to continue to provide assistance to*
6 *the people of Syria in order to promote peace, stability, and*
7 *development, including through multilateral organizations.*

8 **SEC. 302. BRIEFING ON MONITORING AND EVALUATING OF**
9 **ONGOING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN SYRIA**
10 **AND TO THE SYRIAN PEOPLE.**

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

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

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

1 (2) *the memoranda of understanding entered*
2 *into by the Department of State, the United States*
3 *Agency for International Development, and their re-*
4 *spective Inspectors General, and the multilateral or-*
5 *ganizations through which United States assistance*
6 *will be delivered that formalize requirements for the*
7 *sharing of information between such entities for the*
8 *conduct of audits, investigations, and evaluations;*
9 *and*

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

12 **SEC. 303. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL METHODS TO EN-**
13 **HANCE THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS.**

14 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 90 days after the*
15 *date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall brief*
16 *the appropriate congressional committees on the potential*
17 *effectiveness, risks, and operational requirements of mili-*
18 *tary and non-military means to enhance the protection of*
19 *civilians inside Syria, especially civilians who are in be-*
20 *sieged areas, trapped at borders, or internally displaced.*

21 (b) *CONSULTATION.*—*The briefing required by sub-*
22 *section (a) shall be informed by consultations with the De-*
23 *partment of State, the United States Agency for Inter-*
24 *national Development, the Department of Defense, and*

1 *international and local humanitarian aid organizations*
 2 *operating in Syria.*

3 (c) *APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-*
 4 *FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-*
 5 *sional committees” means—*

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

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

11 **SEC. 304. ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT ENTITIES TAKING AC-**
 12 **TIONS RELATING TO GATHERING EVIDENCE**
 13 **FOR INVESTIGATIONS INTO WAR CRIMES OR**
 14 **CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY IN SYRIA SINCE**
 15 **MARCH 2011.**

16 (a) *IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection*
 17 *(b), the Secretary of State, after consultation with the Attor-*
 18 *ney General and the heads of other appropriate Federal*
 19 *agencies, is authorized, consistent with the national inter-*
 20 *est, to provide assistance to support entities that are con-*
 21 *ducting criminal investigations, supporting prosecutions,*
 22 *or collecting evidence and preserving the chain of custody*
 23 *for such evidence for eventual prosecution, against those*
 24 *who have committed war crimes or crimes against human-*
 25 *ity in Syria, including the aiding and abetting of such*

1 *crimes by foreign governments and organizations sup-*
2 *porting the Government of Syria, since March 2011.*

3 (b) *LIMITATION.*—*No assistance may be provided*
4 *under subsection (a) while President Bashar al-Assad re-*
5 *mains in power—*

6 (1) *to build the investigative or judicial capac-*
7 *ities of the Government of Syria; or*

8 (2) *to support prosecutions in the domestic*
9 *courts in Syria.*

10 (c) *BRIEFING.*—*Not later than one year after the date*
11 *of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall*
12 *brief the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-*
13 *resentatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the*
14 *Senate on assistance provided under subsection (a).*

15 **SEC. 305. CODIFICATION OF CERTAIN SERVICES IN SUP-**
16 **PORT OF NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZA-**
17 **TIONS' ACTIVITIES AUTHORIZED.**

18 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Except as provided in subsection*
19 *(b), section 542.516 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations*
20 *(relating to certain services in support of nongovernmental*
21 *organizations' activities authorized), as in effect on the day*
22 *before the date of the enactment of this Act, shall—*

23 (1) *remain in effect on and after such date of en-*
24 *actment; and*

1 (2) *in the case of a nongovernmental organiza-*
2 *tion that is authorized to export or reexport services*
3 *to Syria under such section on the day before such*
4 *date of enactment, apply to such organization on and*
5 *after such date of enactment to the same extent and*
6 *in the same manner as such section applied to such*
7 *organization on the day before such date of enact-*
8 *ment.*

9 (b) *EXCEPTION.—*

10 (1) *IN GENERAL.—Section 542.516 of title 31,*
11 *Code of Federal Regulations, as codified under sub-*
12 *section (a), shall not apply with respect to a foreign*
13 *person that has been designated as a foreign terrorist*
14 *organization under section 219 of the Immigration*
15 *and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189), or otherwise*
16 *designated as a terrorist organization, by the Sec-*
17 *retary of State, in consultation with or upon the re-*
18 *quest of the Attorney General or the Secretary of*
19 *Homeland Security.*

20 (2) *EFFECTIVE DATE.—Paragraph (1) shall*
21 *apply with respect to a foreign person on and after*
22 *the date on which the designation of that person as*
23 *a terrorist organization is published in the Federal*
24 *Register.*

1 **SEC. 306. BRIEFING ON STRATEGY TO FACILITATE HUMANI-**
2 **TARIAN ASSISTANCE.**

3 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 180 days after the
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall brief
5 the appropriate congressional committees on the strategy of
6 the President to help facilitate the ability of humanitarian
7 organizations to access financial services to help facilitate
8 the safe and timely delivery of assistance to communities
9 in need in Syria.

10 (b) *CONSIDERATION OF DATA FROM OTHER COUN-*
11 *TRIES AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.*—In pre-
12 paring the strategy required by subsection (a), the President
13 shall consider credible data already obtained by other coun-
14 tries and nongovernmental organizations, including organi-
15 zations operating in Syria.

16 (c) *APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-*
17 *FINED.*—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
18 sional committees” means—

19 (1) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the*
20 *Committee on Financial Services of the House of Rep-*
21 *resentatives; and*

22 (2) *the Committee on Foreign Relations and the*
23 *Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs*
24 *of the Senate.*

1 **TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS**

2 **SEC. 401. SUSPENSION OF SANCTIONS.**

3 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The President may suspend in*
4 *whole or in part the imposition of sanctions otherwise re-*
5 *quired under this Act or any amendment made by this Act*
6 *for periods not to exceed 180 days if the President deter-*
7 *mines that the following criteria have been met in Syria:*

8 (1) *The air space over Syria is no longer being*
9 *utilized by the Government of Syria or the Govern-*
10 *ment of the Russian Federation to target civilian*
11 *populations through the use of incendiary devices, in-*
12 *cluding barrel bombs, chemical weapons, and conven-*
13 *tional arms, including air-delivered missiles and ex-*
14 *plosives.*

15 (2) *Areas besieged by the Government of Syria,*
16 *the Government of the Russian Federation, the Gov-*
17 *ernment of Iran, or a foreign person described in sec-*
18 *tion 102(a)(2)(A)(ii) are no longer cut off from inter-*
19 *national aid and have regular access to humanitarian*
20 *assistance, freedom of travel, and medical care.*

21 (3) *The Government of Syria is releasing all po-*
22 *litical prisoners forcibly held within the prison sys-*
23 *tem of the regime of Bashar al-Assad and the Govern-*
24 *ment of Syria is allowing full access to the same fa-*

1 *cilities for investigations by appropriate inter-*
2 *national human rights organizations.*

3 (4) *The forces of the Government of Syria, the*
4 *Government of the Russian Federation, the Govern-*
5 *ment of Iran, and any foreign person described in*
6 *section 102(a)(2)(A)(ii) are no longer engaged in de-*
7 *liberate targeting of medical facilities, schools, resi-*
8 *dential areas, and community gathering places, in-*
9 *cluding markets, in violation of international norms.*

10 (5) *The Government of Syria is—*

11 (A) *taking steps to verifiably fulfill its com-*
12 *mitments under the Convention on the Prohibi-*
13 *tion of the Development, Production, Stockpiling*
14 *and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their De-*
15 *struction, done at Geneva September 3, 1992,*
16 *and entered into force April 29, 1997 (commonly*
17 *known as the “Chemical Weapons Convention”),*
18 *and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nu-*
19 *clear Weapons, done at Washington, London,*
20 *and Moscow July 1, 1968, and entered into force*
21 *March 5, 1970 (21 UST 483); and*

22 (B) *making tangible progress toward becom-*
23 *ing a signatory to the Convention on the Prohi-*
24 *bition of the Development, Production and Stock-*
25 *piling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin*

1 *Weapons and on their Destruction, done at*
2 *Washington, London, and Moscow April 10,*
3 *1972, and entered into force March 26, 1975 (26*
4 *UST 583).*

5 *(6) The Government of Syria is permitting the*
6 *safe, voluntary, and dignified return of Syrians dis-*
7 *placed by the conflict.*

8 *(7) The Government of Syria is taking verifiable*
9 *steps to establish meaningful accountability for per-*
10 *petrators of war crimes in Syria and justice for vic-*
11 *tims of war crimes committed by the Assad regime,*
12 *including by participation in a credible and inde-*
13 *pendent truth and reconciliation process.*

14 *(b) BRIEFING REQUIRED.—Not later than 30 days*
15 *after the President makes a determination described in sub-*
16 *section (a), the President shall provide a briefing to the ap-*
17 *propriate congressional committees on the determination*
18 *and the suspension of sanctions pursuant to the determina-*
19 *tion.*

20 *(c) REIMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—Any sanctions sus-*
21 *pending under subsection (a) shall be reimposed if the Presi-*
22 *dent determines that the criteria described in that sub-*
23 *section are no longer being met.*

24 *(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section*
25 *shall be construed to limit the authority of the President*

1 *to terminate the application of sanctions under section 102*
 2 *with respect to a person that no longer engages in activities*
 3 *described in subsection (a)(2) of that section.*

4 (e) *APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-*
 5 *FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-*
 6 *sional committees” means—*

7 (1) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Com-*
 8 *mittee on Financial Services, the Committee on Ways*
 9 *and Means, and the Committee on the Judiciary of*
 10 *the House of Representatives; and*

11 (2) *the Committee on Foreign Relations, the*
 12 *Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs,*
 13 *and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate.*

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

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

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

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

24 (A) *the Agreement regarding the Head-*
 25 *quarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake*

1 *Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force*
2 *November 21, 1947, between the United Nations*
3 *and the United States;*

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

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

9 **(b) WAIVER.—**

10 *(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may, for peri-*
11 *ods not to exceed 180 days, waive the application of*
12 *any provision of this Act with respect to a foreign*
13 *person if the President certifies to the appropriate*
14 *congressional committees that such a waiver is in the*
15 *national security interests of the United States.*

16 *(2) BRIEFING.—Not later than 90 days after the*
17 *issuance of a waiver under paragraph (1), and every*
18 *180 days thereafter while the waiver remains in ef-*
19 *fect, the President shall brief the appropriate congres-*
20 *sional committees on the reasons for the waiver.*

21 **(c) HUMANITARIAN WAIVER.—**

22 *(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may waive, for*
23 *renewable periods not to exceed 2 years, the applica-*
24 *tion of any provision of this Act with respect to a*
25 *nongovernmental organization providing humani-*

1 *tarian assistance not covered by the authorization de-*
2 *scribed in section 305 if the President certifies to the*
3 *appropriate congressional committees that such a*
4 *waiver is important to address a humanitarian need*
5 *and is consistent with the national security interests*
6 *of the United States.*

7 (2) *BRIEFING.*—*Not later than 90 days after the*
8 *issuance of a waiver under paragraph (1), and every*
9 *180 days thereafter while the waiver remains in ef-*
10 *fect, the President shall brief the appropriate congres-*
11 *sional committees on the reasons for the waiver.*

12 (d) *APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-*
13 *FINED.*—*In this section, the term “appropriate congres-*
14 *sional committees” means—*

15 (1) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Com-*
16 *mittee on Financial Services, the Committee on Ways*
17 *and Means, and the Committee on the Judiciary of*
18 *the House of Representatives; and*

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

22 **SEC. 403. IMPLEMENTATION AND REGULATORY AUTHORI-**
23 **TIES.**

24 (a) *IMPLEMENTATION AUTHORITY.*—*The President*
25 *may exercise all authorities provided to the President under*

1 *sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Eco-*
2 *nomie Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) for purposes*
3 *of carrying out this Act and the amendments made by this*
4 *Act.*

5 (b) *REGULATORY AUTHORITY.*—*The President shall,*
6 *not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of*
7 *this Act, promulgate regulations as necessary for the imple-*
8 *mentation of this Act and the amendments made by this*
9 *Act.*

10 **SEC. 404. COST LIMITATION.**

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

15 **SEC. 405. AUTHORITY TO CONSOLIDATE REPORTS.**

16 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Any reports required to be sub-*
17 *mitted to the appropriate congressional committees under*
18 *this Act or any amendment made by this Act that are sub-*
19 *ject to a deadline for submission consisting of the same unit*
20 *of time may be consolidated into a single report that is sub-*
21 *mitted to the appropriate congressional committees pursu-*
22 *ant to such deadline. The consolidated reports shall contain*
23 *all information required under this Act or any amendment*
24 *made by this Act, in addition to all other elements man-*
25 *dated by previous law.*

1 (b) *APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-*
2 *FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-*
3 *sional committees” means—*

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

7 (2) *the Committee on Foreign Relations and the*
8 *Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs*
9 *of the Senate.*

10 **SEC. 406. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

11 *Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the au-*
12 *thority of the President pursuant to the International*
13 *Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)*
14 *or any other provision of law.*

15 **SEC. 407. PROHIBITION ON CONSTRUCTION OF PROVISIONS**
16 **OF THIS ACT AS AN AUTHORIZATION FOR USE**
17 **OF MILITARY FORCE.**

18 *Nothing in this Act may be construed as an authoriza-*
19 *tion for use of military force.*

20 **SEC. 408. SUNSET.**

21 *This Act shall cease to be effective on the date that is*
22 *5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.*

Calendar No. 107

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 31

AN ACT

To require certain additional actions in connection with the national emergency with respect to Syria, and for other purposes.

JUNE 3, 2019

Reported with an amendment