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1ST SESSION

H. R. 4695

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 30, 2019

Received

AN ACT

To impose sanctions with respect to Turkey, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Protect Against Con-
3 flict by Turkey Act” or the “PACT Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

5 It is the sense of Congress that—

6 (1) the United States and Turkey have been
7 treaty allies since 1952, when Turkey became a
8 member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization
9 (NATO);

10 (2) being a NATO member means that Turkey
11 is treaty bound to safeguard the principles of democ-
12 racy, individual liberty, and the rule of law and, im-
13 portantly, should be united with other NATO allies
14 in efforts for collective defense and the preservation
15 of peace and security;

16 (3) Turkey’s military invasion of northern Syria
17 on October 9, 2019, is an unacceptable and unneces-
18 sary escalation of tensions with the potential to
19 cause a severe humanitarian crisis and undo the col-
20 lective gains made in the fight against the Islamic
21 State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) by the United States
22 and the 81 countries and organizations of the Global
23 Coalition to Defeat ISIS, including NATO and the
24 European Union (EU);

25 (4) Turkey should immediately cease attacks
26 against the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), Kurd-

1 ish and Arab civilians, and other religious and ethnic
2 minority communities in northern Syria and recall
3 its forces back to Turkey;

4 (5) targeted sanctions against Turkey are an
5 appropriate response in order for Turkey to be held
6 accountable for its military invasion of northern
7 Syria;

8 (6) Turkey's military invasion of northern Syria
9 is the latest example of the weakening and problem-
10 atic United States-Turkey bilateral relationship and
11 undermines the security of the United States and its
12 NATO allies, including that of Turkey;

13 (7) the SDF have been critical partners to
14 United States and allied counter-ISIS and broader
15 counterterrorism efforts in Syria, and the United
16 States should continue this partnership with the
17 SDF;

18 (8) the United States Government should utilize
19 diplomatic and military tools to ensure the enduring
20 defeat of ISIS;

21 (9) the United States should stand by critical
22 allies and partners;

23 (10) Russian and Iranian political and military
24 influence in Syria present a threat to United States
25 national security interests; and

1 (11) the United States Government, in concert
2 with the international community, should hold ac-
3 countable members of the Syrian regime and the
4 Governments of the Russian Federation and Iran for
5 atrocities against the Syrian people.

6 **SEC. 3. SANCTIONS AGAINST SENIOR TURKISH OFFICIALS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 15 days after the
8 date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall im-
9 pose the sanctions described in section 14 with respect to
10 the following foreign persons in connection with Turkey’s
11 military invasion of northern Syria on October 9, 2019:

12 (1) The Minister of National Defense of Tur-
13 key.

14 (2) The Chief of the General Staff of the Turk-
15 ish Armed Forces.

16 (3) The Commander of the 2nd Army of the
17 Turkish Armed Forces.

18 (4) The Minister of Treasury and Finance of
19 Turkey.

20 (b) ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS.—

21 (1) LIST.—Not later than 30 days after the
22 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
23 State, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense
24 and the Director of National Intelligence, shall sub-
25 mit to the President and appropriate congressional

1 committees a list of the following foreign persons in
2 connection with Turkey's military invasion of north-
3 ern Syria on October 9, 2019:

4 (A) Senior Turkish defense officials in-
5 volved in the decision to invade northern Syria.

6 (B) Senior Turkish military officials lead-
7 ing attacks against the Syrian Democratic
8 Forces (SDF), Kurdish and Arab civilians, or
9 other religious or ethnic minority communities
10 in northern Syria.

11 (C) Turkish officials significantly facili-
12 tating Turkey's military invasion of northern
13 Syria.

14 (D) Any Turkish official or member of the
15 Turkish Armed Forces who is responsible for,
16 complicit in, or has directly or indirectly en-
17 gaged, or has attempted to engage, in any of
18 the following relating to Turkey's military inva-
19 sion of northern Syria:

20 (i) A violation of the law of armed
21 conflict.

22 (ii) A gross violation of internationally
23 recognized human rights.

24 (2) UPDATES.—The list required under para-
25 graph (1) shall be updated every 60 days, until the

1 sanctions under this section are terminated in ac-
2 cordance with section 7.

3 (3) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—Not later than
4 15 days after submission of the list required under
5 paragraph (1) and each update relating thereto in
6 accordance with paragraph (2), the President shall
7 impose the sanctions described in section 14 with re-
8 spect to foreign persons identified in such list and
9 related updates.

10 (c) WAIVER.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President may waive,
12 on a case-by-case basis and for a period of not more
13 than 90 days, the imposition of sanctions under this
14 section with respect to a foreign person if the Presi-
15 dent—

16 (A) determines that—

17 (i) it is vital to the national security
18 interests of the United States to do so; and

19 (ii) Turkey—

20 (I) has halted attacks against the
21 SDF, Kurdish and Arab civilians, and
22 other religious and ethnic minority
23 communities in northern Syria; and

24 (II) is not hindering counter-ter-
25 rorism operations against ISIS; and

1 (B) not later than 15 days before issuing
2 such a waiver, submits to the appropriate con-
3 gressional committees a justification relating to
4 such determination.

5 (2) RENEWAL OF WAIVERS.—The President
6 may, on a case-by-case basis, renew a waiver under
7 paragraph (1) for an additional period of not more
8 than 90 days if, not later than 15 days before such
9 a waiver expires, the President determines it is vital
10 to the national security interests of the United
11 States to do so and submits to the appropriate con-
12 gressional committees a justification relating to such
13 determination.

14 **SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON ARMS TRANSFERS TO TURKISH**
15 **MILITARY UNITS IN SYRIA.**

16 (a) PROHIBITION.—No United States defense arti-
17 cles, defense services, or technology under the Arms Ex-
18 port Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.) may be trans-
19 ferred to the Government of Turkey if such articles, serv-
20 ices, or technology could be used in operations by the
21 Turkish Armed Forces in northern Syria.

22 (b) EXCEPTION.—The prohibition under subsection
23 (a) shall not apply to transfers for ultimate end use by
24 the United States military or for use in military operations
25 approved by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

1 (c) NO USE OF EMERGENCY AUTHORITY.—The au-
2 thority of the President to waive statutory congressional
3 review periods under the Arms Export Control Act in
4 cases in which an emergency exists shall not apply to the
5 transfer of defense articles, defense services, or technology
6 to the Government of Turkey.

7 **SEC. 5. SANCTIONS AGAINST FOREIGN PERSONS PRO-**
8 **VIDING ARMS TO TURKISH ARMED FORCES**
9 **IN SYRIA.**

10 (a) REPORT.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after
12 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
13 of State, in consultation with the Secretary of De-
14 fense and the Director of National Intelligence, shall
15 submit to the President and appropriate congress-
16 sional committees a list of any foreign persons deter-
17 mined to knowingly have provided, on or after such
18 date of enactment, defense articles, defense services,
19 or technology (as such terms are defined and de-
20 scribed in the Arms Export Control Act) to the Gov-
21 ernment of Turkey if such articles, services, or tech-
22 nology could be used in operations by the Turkish
23 Armed Forces in northern Syria.

24 (2) UPDATES.—The list required under para-
25 graph (1) shall be updated every 60 days or as new

1 information becomes available, until the sanctions
2 under this section are terminated in accordance with
3 section 7.

4 (b) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—The President shall
5 impose the sanctions described in section 14 with respect
6 to any foreign persons identified on the list and related
7 updates required under subsection (a).

8 (c) EXCEPTION.—The sanctions imposed pursuant to
9 this section shall not apply to transfers for ultimate end
10 use by the United States military or for use in military
11 operations approved by the North Atlantic Treaty Organi-
12 zation.

13 (d) WAIVER.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President may waive,
15 on a case-by-case basis and for a period of not more
16 than 90 days, the imposition of sanctions under this
17 section with respect to a foreign person if the Presi-
18 dent determines it is important to the national secu-
19 rity interests of the United States to do so and, not
20 later than 15 days before issuing such a waiver, sub-
21 mits to the appropriate congressional committees a
22 justification relating to such determination.

23 (2) RENEWAL OF WAIVERS.—The President
24 may, on a case-by-case basis, renew a waiver under
25 paragraph (1) for an additional period of not more

1 than 90 days if, not later than 15 days before such
2 a waiver expires, the President determines it is im-
3 portant to the national security interests of the
4 United States to do so and submits to the appro-
5 priate congressional committees a justification relat-
6 ing to such determination.

7 **SEC. 6. TARGETED FOREIGN FINANCIAL SANCTIONS.**

8 (a) HALK BANKASI OR HALKBANK.—Not later than
9 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Presi-
10 dent shall impose the sanctions described in section 14(1)
11 with respect to Halk Bankası or Halkbank or any suc-
12 cessor entity thereof.

13 (b) FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of State, in
15 consultation with the Secretary of Defense, Sec-
16 retary of Treasury, and Director of National Intel-
17 ligence, determines that any foreign financial institu-
18 tion, in addition to the foreign financial institutions
19 specified in subsection (a), has knowingly facilitated
20 significant transactions for the Turkish Armed
21 Forces or defense industry relating to Turkey’s mili-
22 tary invasion of northern Syria on October 9, 2019,
23 the President shall, not later than 60 days after any
24 such determination, impose the sanctions described

1 in section 14(1) with respect to any such foreign fi-
2 nancial institution.

3 (2) WAIVER.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—The President may
5 waive, on a case-by-case basis and for a period
6 of not more than 90 days, the imposition of
7 sanctions under this subsection if the Presi-
8 dent—

9 (i) determines that—

10 (I) it is vital to the national secu-
11 rity interests of the United States to
12 do so; and

13 (II) Turkey—

14 (aa) has halted attacks
15 against the Syrian Democratic
16 Forces, Kurdish and Arab civil-
17 ians, and other religious and eth-
18 nic minority communities in
19 northern Syria; and

20 (bb) is not hindering
21 counter-terrorism operations
22 against ISIS; and

23 (ii) not later than 15 days before
24 issuing such a waiver, submits to the ap-

1 appropriate congressional committees a jus-
2 tification relating to such determination.

3 (B) RENEWAL OF WAIVERS.—The Presi-
4 dent may, on a case-by-case basis, renew a
5 waiver under subparagraph (A) for an addi-
6 tional period of not more than 90 days if, not
7 later than 15 days before such a waiver expires,
8 the President determines it is vital to the na-
9 tional security interests of the United States to
10 do so and submits to the appropriate congress-
11 sional committees a justification relating to
12 such determination.

13 **SEC. 7. TERMINATION AUTHORITY.**

14 (a) SECTIONS 3, 4, AND 5.—The authority to impose
15 sanctions under sections 3 and 5 (and the sanctions im-
16 posed pursuant to such sections) and the prohibitions
17 under section 4 shall terminate if the President determines
18 and submits to the appropriate congressional committees
19 a finding that—

20 (1) Turkey has halted attacks against the Syr-
21 ian Democratic Forces, Kurdish and Arab civilians,
22 and other religious and ethnic minority communities
23 in northern Syria;

24 (2) Turkish forces not involved in coordinated
25 operations with NATO allies or the Global Coalition

1 to Defeat ISIS have withdrawn from northern Syria;
2 and

3 (3) Turkey is not hindering counter-terrorism
4 operations against ISIS.

5 (b) SECTION 6.—The authority to impose financial
6 sanctions under section 6 (and the sanctions imposed pur-
7 suant to such section) shall terminate if the President de-
8 termines and submits to the appropriate congressional
9 committees the finding described in subsection (a)(1).

10 **SEC. 8. IMPOSITION OF CERTAIN SANCTIONS UNDER COUN-**
11 **TERING AMERICA'S ADVERSARIES THROUGH**
12 **SANCTIONS ACT AGAINST TURKEY.**

13 (a) DETERMINATION.—For the purposes of section
14 231 of the Countering America's Adversaries Through
15 Sanctions Act (22 U.S.C. 9525), Turkey's acquisition of
16 the Russian S-400 air and missile defense system begin-
17 ning July 12, 2019, shall be considered to be a significant
18 transaction described in such section.

19 (b) SANCTIONS.—Not later than 30 days after the
20 date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall im-
21 pose five or more of the sanctions described in section 235
22 of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanc-
23 tions Act (22 U.S.C. 9529) with respect to the Govern-
24 ment of Turkey.

1 **SEC. 9. PLANS AND REPORTS TO ADDRESS NATIONAL SE-**
2 **CURITY THREATS CAUSED BY TURKEY'S MILI-**
3 **TARY INVASION OF NORTHERN SYRIA.**

4 Not later than 60 days after the date of the enact-
5 ment of this Act—

6 (1) the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the
7 appropriate congressional committees—

8 (A) a plan to ensure that ISIS detainees
9 and families held in Syria remain under proper
10 custody, in accordance with internationally rec-
11 ognized human rights requirements, and in a
12 manner that does not threaten United States
13 security interests; and

14 (B) a report on the impact that Turkey's
15 military invasion of northern Syria is having on
16 counterterrorism operations in Syria; and

17 (2) the Secretary of State shall submit to the
18 appropriate congressional committees a plan for how
19 the United States will assist the Syrian Democratic
20 Forces, Kurdish and Arab civilians, and other reli-
21 gious and ethnic minority communities affected by
22 Turkey's military invasion of northern Syria on Oc-
23 tober 9, 2019.

1 **SEC. 10. REPORT ON NET WORTH OF TURKISH PRESIDENT**
2 **RECEP TAYYIP ERDOGAN.**

3 Not later than 120 days after the date of the enact-
4 ment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation
5 with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Director of
6 National Intelligence, shall submit to the appropriate con-
7 gressional committees a report on the estimated net worth
8 and known sources of income of Turkish President Recep
9 Tayyip Erdoğan and his family members (including
10 spouse, children, parents, and siblings), including assets,
11 investments, other business interests, and relevant bene-
12 ficial ownership information.

13 **SEC. 11. REPORT ON TURKEY'S MILITARY INVASION OF**
14 **NORTHERN SYRIA.**

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

17 (1) the Russian Federation and Iran continue
18 to—

19 (A) exploit a security vacuum in Syria; and

20 (B) pose a threat to vital United States
21 national security interests; and

22 (2) continued Turkish military activity inside
23 Syria will negatively impact the national security in-
24 terest and regional stability of the United States.

25 (b) REPORT REQUIRED.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after
2 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
3 of State, in consultation with the Secretary of De-
4 fense, the Administrator of the United States Agen-
5 cy for International Development, and the heads of
6 other appropriate Federal agencies, shall submit to
7 the appropriate congressional committees a report
8 on Turkey’s military invasion of northern Syria on
9 October 9, 2019, including the impact of the with-
10 drawal of United States troops from northern Syria.
11 The Secretary of State shall provide an updated re-
12 port or briefing to the appropriate congressional
13 committees as circumstances warrant.

14 (2) ELEMENTS OF THE REPORT.—The report,
15 and any update thereto, required under paragraph
16 (1) shall include the following elements:

17 (A) A description of the impact of Tur-
18 key’s military invasion of northern Syria on the
19 ability of ISIS to reconstitute a physical caliph-
20 ate.

21 (B) A description of the impact of the in-
22 vasion on the Russian Federation’s military and
23 political influence in Syria.

1 (C) A description of the impact of the in-
2 vasion on Iran’s ability to increase its military
3 and political influence in Syria.

4 (D) A comprehensive assessment of the
5 United States Government’s activities to
6 counter Iranian and Russian Federation influ-
7 ence in Syria.

8 (E) An outline of planned joint actions by
9 the Department of State and the Department
10 of Defense, in consultation with the heads of
11 the other appropriate Federal agencies, regard-
12 ing all stabilization funds or activities for Syria,
13 and an explanation of how such funds and ac-
14 tivities can contribute to stabilization in the
15 current environment and without limited United
16 States troop presence in northern Syria.

17 (F) The creation and use by the Govern-
18 ment of Turkey of “safe zones” to justify the
19 involuntary or uninformed return of Syrian ref-
20 ugees from Turkey to Syrian territory, to jus-
21 tify the forced displacement of Syrians inside
22 Syria, or to prevent Syrians from seeking inter-
23 national protections.

24 (G) The role of the Government of Turkey
25 and Turkish-backed forces in facilitating hu-

1 humanitarian actors, including international non-
2 governmental organizations (INGOs), for cross-
3 border work from Turkey and in ensuring effi-
4 cient, open supply lines for humanitarian assist-
5 ance and personnel through border crossing
6 points on the Turkey-Syria and Iraq-Syria bor-
7 ders, and facilitating safe passage of humani-
8 tarian assistance to Syrians inside Syria based
9 on need.

10 (H) The actions of the Government of
11 Turkey and Turkish-backed forces in the oper-
12 ation of all camps for families displaced by con-
13 flict as civilian facilities, and ensuring that
14 camp residents, in particular women and chil-
15 dren, are treated as civilian victims of conflict
16 in accordance with international law and stand-
17 ards.

18 (I) The actions of the Government of Tur-
19 key and Turkish-backed forces in taking effec-
20 tive measures to protect civilians and civilian
21 infrastructure, including health facilities, water
22 pumping stations, and restricting use of explo-
23 sive weapons in populated areas.

1 **SEC. 12. STRATEGY TO PREVENT THE RESURGENCE OF**
2 **THE ISLAMIC STATE OF IRAQ AND SYRIA**
3 **(ISIS) AND ITS AFFILIATES.**

4 (a) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than 60 days
5 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
6 of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense,
7 the Administrator of the United States Agency for Inter-
8 national Development, and the heads of other appropriate
9 Federal agencies, shall jointly submit to the appropriate
10 congressional committees a strategy to prevent the resur-
11 gence of Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in Iraq
12 and Syria.

13 (b) ELEMENTS OF THE STRATEGY.—The strategy re-
14 quired under subsection (a) shall include the following ele-
15 ments:

16 (1) A summary of the United States national
17 security interests in Iraq and Syria and the impact
18 a resurgence of ISIS would have on such interests.

19 (2) A assessment of current training and sup-
20 port programs by Federal agency or department,
21 specifically focused on countering ISIS and other
22 terrorist organizations, including non-lethal assist-
23 ance, training, and organizational capacity for the
24 Syrian Democratic Forces, the Iraqi Security
25 Forces, the Kurdish Peshmerga, and others to
26 counter gains by ISIS and its affiliates.

1 (3) A description of United States Government
2 efforts to support, develop, and expand local govern-
3 ance structures in areas in Syria previously liberated
4 from ISIS control.

5 (4) An estimate of the number of current, ac-
6 tive ISIS members in Iraq and Syria, including an
7 assessment of those being held in detainee camps or
8 prisons.

9 (5) A comprehensive plan to address ISIS de-
10 tainees currently being held in Syria and Iraq, in-
11 cluding the following elements:

12 (A) The designation of an existing official
13 within the Department of State to serve as a
14 senior-level coordinator to coordinate, in con-
15 junction with the lead and other relevant agen-
16 cies, all matters for the United States Govern-
17 ment relating to the long-term disposition of
18 ISIS foreign terrorist fighter detainees, includ-
19 ing all matters in connection with—

20 (i) repatriation, transfer, prosecution,
21 and intelligence-gathering;

22 (ii) coordinating a whole-of-govern-
23 ment approach with other countries and
24 international organizations, including
25 INTERPOL, to ensure secure chains of

1 custody and locations of ISIS foreign ter-
2 rorist fighter detainees;

3 (iii) coordinating technical and evi-
4 dentiary assistance to foreign countries to
5 aid in the successful prosecution of ISIS
6 foreign terrorist fighter detainees; and

7 (iv) all multilateral and international
8 engagements led by the Department of
9 State and other agencies that are related
10 to the current and future handling, deten-
11 tion, and prosecution of ISIS foreign ter-
12 rorist fighter detainees.

13 (B) A description, which may be in classi-
14 fied form, of ISIS senior leadership and infra-
15 structure and efforts to target leadership fig-
16 ures.

17 (C) A comprehensive description of United
18 States activities utilizing social media and other
19 communication technologies to counter ISIS's
20 propaganda, influence, and ability to recruit
21 fighters domestically and internationally, in-
22 cluding with private technology companies, and
23 how such activities are being coordinated across
24 the United States Government.

(D) A description of the efforts of the United States Government, including economic sanctions, to deny financial resources, including revenues from natural resources extraction, sale of antiquities, kidnapping, extortion, taxation, smuggling, access to cash storage sites, and access to international financial networks, to ISIS and its affiliates, in conjunction with international partners and financial institutions.

(E) A description of United States Government efforts to support credible war crimes prosecutions against ISIS fighters.

(F) A plan to ensure the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

**SEC. 13. REPORT ON ACCOUNTABILITY FOR VIOLATIONS
OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, INCLUDING THE
LAW OF ARMED CONFLICT, AND OTHER
HARM TO CIVILIANS IN SYRIA DURING TUR-
KEY'S MILITARY INVASION.**

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

(1) Turkish and pro-Turkish forces should end all practices involving arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances, torture, arbitrary executions, and other unlawful treatment; and

(2) all stakeholders in Turkey's military invasion of northern Syria should reveal the fate or the location of all persons who have been subjected to enforced disappearance by such stakeholders.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that describes the causes and consequences of civilian harm occurring during Turkey's military invasion of northern Syria, including violations of the law of armed conflict and gross violations of internationally recognized human rights, as a result of the actions of all parties to the conflict.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include the following elements:

(A) A description of civilian harm occurring in the context of Turkey's military invasion, including—

(i) mass casualty incidents; and

(ii) damage to, and destruction of, civilian infrastructure and services, including—

- 1 (I) hospitals and other medical
- 2 facilities;
- 3 (II) electrical grids;
- 4 (III) water systems; and
- 5 (IV) other critical infrastructure.

6 (B) A description of violations of the law
7 of armed conflict committed during Turkey's
8 military invasion by all forces involved in the
9 Turkish-led coalition and all forces fighting on
10 its behalf and by any other combatants in the
11 conflict, including—

- 12 (i) alleged violations of the law of
- 13 armed conflict;
- 14 (ii) specific instances of failure by the
- 15 parties to the conflict to exercise distinc-
- 16 tion, proportionality, and precaution in the
- 17 use force in accordance with the law of
- 18 armed conflict;
- 19 (iii) arbitrary denials of humanitarian
- 20 access and the resulting impact on the alle-
- 21 viation of human suffering;
- 22 (iv) extra-judicial executions and de-
- 23 tention-related abuses; and
- 24 (v) other acts that may constitute vio-
- 25 lations of the law of armed conflict.

1 (C) Recommendations for establishing ac-
2 countability mechanisms for civilian harm, vio-
3 lations of the law of armed conflict, and gross
4 violations of internationally recognized human
5 rights perpetrated by Turkish and pro-Turkish
6 forces in Syria, including the potential for pros-
7 ecuting individuals perpetrating, organizing, di-
8 recting, or ordering such violations.

9 **SEC. 14. SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.**

10 The sanctions described in this section are the fol-
11 lowing:

12 (1) ASSET BLOCKING.—The President shall ex-
13 ercise all of the powers granted by the International
14 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701
15 et seq.) (except that the requirements of section 202
16 of such Act (50 U.S.C. 1701) shall not apply) to the
17 extent necessary to block and prohibit all trans-
18 actions in all property and interests in property of
19 a person if such property and interests in property
20 are in the United States, come within the United
21 States, or are or come within the possession or con-
22 trol of a United States person.

23 (2) ALIENS INADMISSIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMIS-
24 SION, OR PAROLE.—

1 (A) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—A
2 foreign person is—

3 (i) inadmissible to the United States;

4 (ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other
5 documentation to enter the United States;

6 and

7 (iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted
8 or paroled into the United States or to re-
9 ceive any other benefit under the Immigra-
10 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et
11 seq.).

12 (B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—The visa
13 or other entry documentation of a foreign per-
14 son shall be revoked, regardless of when such
15 visa or other entry documentation is or was
16 issued. A revocation under this subparagraph
17 shall take effect immediately and automatically
18 cancel any other valid visa or entry documenta-
19 tion that is in the foreign person's possession.

20 (C) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED
21 NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.—Sanc-
22 tions under this paragraph shall not apply to an
23 individual if admitting such individual into the
24 United States is necessary to permit the United
25 States to comply with the Agreement regarding

1 the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed
2 at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered
3 into force November 21, 1947, between the
4 United Nations and the United States, or other
5 applicable international obligations of the
6 United States.

7 **SEC. 15. IMPLEMENTATION.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President—

9 (1) may exercise all authorities provided to the
10 President under sections 203 and 205 of the Inter-
11 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50
12 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this Act; and

13 (2) shall issue such regulations, licenses, and
14 orders as are necessary to carry out this Act.

15 (b) PENALTIES.—The penalties provided for in sub-
16 sections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International
17 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) shall
18 apply to any person who violates, attempts to violate, con-
19 spires to violate, or causes a violation of any prohibition
20 of this Act, or an order or regulation prescribed under this
21 Act, to the same extent that such penalties apply to a per-
22 son that commits an unlawful act described in subsection
23 (a) of that section.

1 **SEC. 16. EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF**
2 **GOODS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The authorities and requirements
4 to impose sanctions under this Act or any amendments
5 made by this Act shall not include the authority or re-
6 quirement to impose sanctions on the importation of
7 goods.

8 (b) GOOD DEFINED.—In this section, the term
9 “good” means any article, natural or man-made sub-
10 stance, material, supply or manufactured product, includ-
11 ing inspection and test equipment and excluding technical
12 data.

13 **SEC. 17. HUMANITARIAN WAIVER.**

14 The President may waive the application of any pro-
15 vision of this Act (other than section 16) for the purpose
16 of providing humanitarian assistance if the President cer-
17 tifies to the appropriate congressional committees that
18 such a waiver is important to address a humanitarian need
19 and consistent with the national security interests of the
20 United States, not later than 15 days before issuing such
21 a waiver, the President submits to such committees a jus-
22 tification relating to such determination.

23 **SEC. 18. UNITED STATES REFUGEE PROGRAM PRIORITIES.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, in con-
25 sultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security shall

1 designate, as Priority 2 refugees of special humanitarian
2 concern—

3 (1) Syrian Kurds, stateless persons who habit-
4 ually resided in Syria, and other Syrians, who
5 partnered with, or worked for or directly with, the
6 United States Government in Syria for an aggregate
7 period of not less than 1 year;

8 (2) Syrian Kurds, stateless persons who habit-
9 ually resided in Syria, and other Syrians, who were
10 employed in Syria, for an aggregate period of not
11 less than 1 year, by—

12 (A) a media or nongovernmental organiza-
13 tion based in the United States;

14 (B) an organization or entity that has re-
15 ceived a grant from, or entered into a coopera-
16 tive agreement or contract with, the United
17 States Government; or

18 (C) an organization that—

19 (i) was continuously physically present
20 in Northeast Syria between 2011 and the
21 date of the enactment of this Act; and

22 (ii) has partnered with an organiza-
23 tion described in subparagraph (A) or (B);

1 (3) the spouses, children, sons, daughters, sib-
2 lings, and parents of aliens described in paragraph
3 (1); or

4 (4) Syrian Kurds, stateless persons who habit-
5 ually resided in Syria, and other Syrians, who have
6 an immediate relative (as defined in section
7 201(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality
8 Act (8 U.S.C. 1151(b)(2)(A)(i)) or a family member
9 described in section 203(a) of such Act (8 U.S.C.
10 203(a)) who is physically present in the United
11 States.

12 (b) ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION AS A REFUGEE.—
13 An alien may not be denied the opportunity to apply for
14 admission as a refugee under this section solely because
15 such alien qualifies as an immediate relative of a national
16 of the United States or is eligible for admission to the
17 United States under any other immigrant classification.

18 (c) MEMBERSHIP IN CERTAIN SYRIAN ORGANIZA-
19 TIONS.—An applicant for admission to the United States
20 under this section may not be deemed inadmissible solely
21 because the applicant was a member of, or provided sup-
22 port to, the Syrian Democratic Forces.

23 (d) EXCLUSION FROM NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS.—
24 Aliens provided refugee status under this section shall not
25 be counted against any numerical limitation under section

1 201, 202, 203, or 207 of the Immigration and Nationality
2 Act (8 U.S.C. 1151, 1152, 1153, and 1157).

3 (e) IDENTIFICATION OF OTHER PERSECUTED
4 GROUPS.—The Secretary of State, or the designee of the
5 Secretary, is authorized to classify other groups of Syr-
6 ians, including vulnerable populations, as Priority 2 refu-
7 gees of special humanitarian concern.

8 (f) SATISFACTION OF OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—
9 Aliens designated as Priority 2 refugees of special humani-
10 tarian concern under this section shall be deemed to sat-
11 isfy the requirements under section 207 of the Immigra-
12 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1157) for admission
13 to the United States.

14 **SEC. 19. DEFINITIONS.**

15 In this Act:

16 (1) ADMISSION; ADMITTED; ALIEN.—The terms
17 “admission”, “admitted”, and “alien” have the
18 meanings given such terms in section 101 of the Im-
19 migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101).

20 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
21 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
22 mittees” means—

23 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the
24 Committee on Armed Services, and the Com-

1 mittee on Financial Services of the House of
2 Representatives; and

3 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations,
4 the Committee on Armed Services, and the
5 Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban
6 Affairs of the Senate.

7 (3) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign per-
8 son” means an individual or entity that is not a
9 United States person.

10 (4) GROSS VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONALLY
11 RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS.—The term “gross vio-
12 lations of internationally recognized human rights”
13 has the meaning given such term in section
14 502B(d)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961
15 (22 U.S.C. 2304(d)(1)).

16 (5) KNOWINGLY.—The term “knowingly” with
17 respect to conduct, a circumstance, or a result,
18 means that a person has actual knowledge, or should
19 have known, of the conduct, the circumstance, or the
20 result.

21 (6) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term
22 “United States person” means—

23 (A) a United States citizen or an alien law-
24 fully admitted for permanent residence to the
25 United States; or

1 (B) an entity organized under the laws of
2 the United States or any jurisdiction within the
3 United States, including a foreign branch of
4 such an entity.

5 **SEC. 20. SUNSET.**

6 This Act shall terminate on the date that is three
7 years after the date on which sanctions imposed pursuant
8 to this Act have terminated.

Passed the House of Representatives October 29,
2019.

Attest: CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.