

# VARIOUS MEASURES

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## MARKUP

BEFORE THE

### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

**H. Res. 931, H. Res. 1006, H. Res. 1052,  
H. Res. 1055, H.R. 1567, H.R. 4591, H.R. 5723,  
H.R. 6018, H.R. 6413, and H.R. 6651**

SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

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## VARIOUS MEASURES

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, DC.*

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 10 o'clock a.m., in room 2172 Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Edward Royce (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Chairman ROYCE. Pursuant to notice, we meet today to mark up 10 bipartisan measures. Without objection, all members may have 5 days to submit statements or extraneous materials on today's business.

As members were notified yesterday, we intend to consider today's measures en bloc, and so, without objection, the following items previously provided to the members—and also, by the way, it's in your packets here—will all be considered en bloc and are considered as read.

And they are House Resolution 931, regarding the Ukrainian famine back from 1932-1933; House Resolution 1006, condemning the deteriorating situation in Venezuela with the Cook Amendment 64 in the nature of a substitute and the Sires Amendment 22; House Resolution 1052, affirming United States-Australia space cooperation; House Resolution 1055, affirming strong United States-Liberia ties; H.R. 1567, United States-Mexico Economic Partnership Act with the Castro Amendment 104 in the nature of a substitute; H.R. 4591, Preventing Iranian Destabilization of Iraq Act with the Kinzinger Amendment 35 in the nature of a substitute and the Poe Amendment 114 and Wilson Amendment 70; H.R. 5273—this is the Global Fragility and Violence Reduction Act of 2018 with the Engel Amendment 115 in the nature of a substitute; H.R. 6018, Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership Act of 2018 with the McCaul Amendment 109 in the nature of a substitute and the Meadows Amendment 165; H.R. 6413, the STOP Organ Trafficking Act with the Royce Amendment 143; and H.R. 6651—this is the PEPFAR Extension Act of 2018 with the Smith Amendment 113.

[The information referred to follows:]

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 931

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the 85th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933, known as the Holodomor, should serve as a reminder of repressive Soviet policies against the people of Ukraine.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 8, 2018

Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Ms. KAPTUR, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. RUSH, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. STEWART, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. LAMBORN, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. TONKO, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. ROSKAM) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the 85th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933, known as the Holodomor, should serve as a reminder of repressive Soviet policies against the people of Ukraine.

Whereas 2017–2018 marks the 85th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933, known as the Holodomor;

Whereas in 1932 and 1933, millions of Ukrainian people perished at the will of the totalitarian Stalinist government

of the former Soviet Union, which perpetrated a premeditated famine in Ukraine in an effort to break the nation's resistance to collectivization and communist occupation;

Whereas the Soviet Government deliberately confiscated grain harvests and starved millions of Ukrainian men, women, and children by a policy of forced collectivization that sought to destroy the nationally conscious movement for independence;

Whereas Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin ordered the borders of Ukraine sealed to prevent anyone from escaping the man-made starvation and to prevent the delivery of any international food aid that would provide relief to the starving;

Whereas numerous scholars worldwide have worked to uncover the scale of the famine, including Canadian wheat expert Andrew Cairns, who visited Ukraine in 1932 and was told that there was no grain "because the government had collected so much grain and exported it to England and Italy", while Joseph Stalin simultaneously denied food aid to the people of Ukraine;

Whereas nearly a quarter of Ukraine's rural population perished or were forced into exile due to the induced starvation, and the entire country suffered from the consequences of the prolonged famine;

Whereas noted correspondents of the time were refuted for their courage in depicting and reporting on the forced famine in Ukraine, including Gareth Jones, William Henry Chamberlin, and Malcolm Muggeridge, who wrote, "They (the peasants) will tell you that many have already died of famine and that many are dying every day; that

thousands have been shot by the government and hundreds of thousands exiled . . .”;

Whereas title V of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1986 (Public Law 99–180; 99 Stat. 1157), signed into law on December 13, 1985, established the Commission on the Ukraine Famine to “conduct a study of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933 in order to expand the world’s knowledge of the famine and provide the American public with a better understanding of the Soviet system by revealing the Soviet role” in it;

Whereas with the dissolution of the Soviet Union, archival documents became available that confirmed the deliberate and premeditated deadly nature of the famine, and that exposed the atrocities committed by the Soviet Government against the Ukrainian people;

Whereas Raphael Lemkin, who devoted his life to the development of legal concepts and norms for containing mass atrocities and whose tireless advocacy swayed the United Nations in 1948 to adopt the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, authored an essay in 1953 entitled “Soviet Genocide in [the] Ukraine”, which highlighted the “classic example of Soviet genocide”, characterizing it “not simply a case of mass murder[, but as] a case of genocide, of destruction, not of individuals only, but of a culture and a nation”;

Whereas the Government of Ukraine passed on November 28, 2006, a law numbered No: N 376–V, and entitled “About the 1932–1933 Holodomor in Ukraine”, giving official recognition to the Ukraine Famine as an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people;



Whereas President George W. Bush signed into law Public Law 109–340 on October 13, 2006, authorizing the Government of Ukraine “to establish a memorial on Federal land in the District of Columbia to honor the victims of the Ukrainian famine-genocide of 1932–1933”, which was officially dedicated in November 2015;

Whereas the Government of Ukraine and the Ukrainian communities in the United States and worldwide continue their efforts to secure greater international awareness and understanding of the 1932–1933 tragedy; and

Whereas victims of the Holodomor of 1932–1933 will be commemorated by Ukrainian communities around the globe, and in Ukraine, through November 2018: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) solemnly remembers the 85th anniversary of  
3       the Holodomor of 1932–1933 and extends its deepest  
4       sympathies to the victims, survivors, and families  
5       of this tragedy;

6               (2) condemns the systematic violations of  
7       human rights, including the freedom of self-deter-  
8       mination and freedom of speech, of the Ukrainian  
9       people by the Soviet Government;

10              (3) recognizes the findings of the Commission  
11       on the Ukraine Famine as submitted to Congress on  
12       April 22, 1988, including that “Joseph Stalin and  
13       those around him committed genocide against the  
14       Ukrainians in 1932–1933”;

1           (4) encourages dissemination of information re-  
2           garding the Holodomor of 1932–1933 in order to ex-  
3           pand the world’s knowledge of this manmade trag-  
4           edy; and

5           (5) supports the continuing efforts of the people  
6           of Ukraine to work toward ensuring democratic  
7           principles, a free-market economy, and full respect  
8           for human rights, in order to enable Ukraine to  
9           achieve its potential as an important strategic part-  
10          ner of the United States in that region of the world,  
11          and to reflect the will of its people.

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 1006

Condemning the deteriorating situation in Venezuela and the regional humanitarian crisis it has caused, affirming support for the legitimate National Assembly and the Supreme Court, and urging further regional action in support of democracy in Venezuela.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 19, 2018

Mr. COOK (for himself, Mr. SIRES, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Mr. ENGEL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## RESOLUTION

Condemning the deteriorating situation in Venezuela and the regional humanitarian crisis it has caused, affirming support for the legitimate National Assembly and the Supreme Court, and urging further regional action in support of democracy in Venezuela.

Whereas the government of Nicolás Maduro and the United Socialist Party of Venezuela have systematically dismantled and destroyed democracy in Venezuela;

Whereas the government of Nicolás Maduro and the United Socialist Party of Venezuela are responsible for creating a humanitarian, economic, social, and political crisis in Venezuela that is unprecedented in the country's history;

Whereas Nicolás Maduro has consistently refused to acknowledge Venezuela's humanitarian crisis and has rejected humanitarian aid from the United States and the international community;

Whereas the government of Nicolás Maduro and the United Socialist Party of Venezuela have used food and humanitarian aid as a weapon for social control and have stolen funds from Local Food Production and Provision Committees, the Venezuelan distribution food aid program, according to a joint statement issued by Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and the United States on July 12, 2018;

Whereas Venezuela's inflation rate has reached nearly 14,000 percent and is predicted to continue increasing, according to reports issued by the opposition-led National Assembly;

Whereas it is estimated that the Venezuelan Government owes about—

- (1) \$64,000,000,000 to bondholders;
- (2) a total of \$20,000,000,000 to China and Russia;
- (3) \$5,000,000,000 to multilateral lenders; and
- (4) according to press reports, tens of billions to importers and service companies in the oil industry;

Whereas the capital city of Caracas has a per-capita homicide rate of 104 per 100,000 citizens, among the highest in the world, according to the Venezuelan Observatory of Violence;

Whereas, on June 20, 2018, the Pan-American Health Organization issued a report finding increases in new cases of malaria, measles, diphtheria, HIV/AIDS, and tuberculosis in Venezuela;

Whereas, on June 22, 2018, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights issued a report stating that “human rights violations committed during demonstrations form part of a wider pattern of repression against political dissidents and anyone perceived as posing a threat” to the government of Nicolás Maduro and referred the report to the International Criminal Court;

Whereas according to the Venezuelan human rights group Foro Penal, there are at least 254 political prisoners being held in Venezuela as of July 2018;

Whereas according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the deterioration of conditions in Venezuela has led to the emigration of at least 2,000,000 Venezuelans to neighboring countries, including Brazil, Chile, Caribbean island countries, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, and Peru;

Whereas the United States has provided at least \$56,000,000 since fiscal year 2017 to countries in the Western Hemisphere, in response to the Venezuelan humanitarian crisis;

Whereas the United States has imposed sanctions on—

- (1) 59 Venezuelan officials, for human rights violations and corruption; and
- (2) 22 individuals with connections to Venezuela and 27 Venezuelan entities, for drug trafficking;

Whereas Canada has sanctioned at least 70 Venezuelan officials for corruption or human rights abuses;

Whereas the European Union has sanctioned at least 18 Venezuelan officials for human rights violations and undermining democracy, including Vice President Deley Rodríguez;

Whereas Switzerland has placed economic sanctions on at least 7 senior Venezuelan officials and multiple Venezuelan entities, for violations of individual freedoms and for severely undermining the separation of powers;

Whereas Panama has increased its financial oversight of at least 55 Venezuelans and 16 Venezuelan entities that the United States considered to be a high risk for money laundering;

Whereas Colombia, Panama, Mexico, and the United States have expanded cooperation to fight illegal financial networks that support the repressive government of Nicolás Maduro;

Whereas the United States, the Lima Group, the G-7, and European Union declared the national elections that occurred in Venezuela on May 20, 2018, were illegitimate;

Whereas the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States (OAS) passed Resolution 1078 (2108/17) on April 3, 2017, expressing “grave concern regarding the unconstitutional alteration of the democratic order”;

Whereas Executive Order 13835 (83 Fed. Reg. 24001), signed on May 21, 2018, tightened existing sanctions that prohibit United States purchases of Venezuelan debt;

Whereas the government of Nicolás Maduro expelled two senior United States diplomats from Caracas on May 22, 2018, and the United States responded reciprocally on May 23, 2018;

Whereas, on May 29, 2018, a panel of international experts designated by the Secretary General of the OAS found that “there are reasonable grounds that satisfy the

standard of proof required by Article 53 of the Rome Statute” that the Venezuelan people were subjected to “crimes against humanity”, and that as a result the situation in Venezuela should be referred to the International Criminal Court; and

Whereas, on June 5, 2018, the General Assembly of the OAS passed a resolution on Venezuela, with the support of 19 countries, reaffirming the “obligation of the governments [of the Americas] to promote and defend [democracy]” and declaring that the national elections that occurred on May 20, 2018, were illegitimate “for not complying with international standards, for not having met the participation of all Venezuelan political actors, and for being carried out without the necessary guarantees for a free, fair, transparent and democratic process”: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) condemns the deteriorating situation in  
3       Venezuela and the regional humanitarian crisis it  
4       has caused, affirms support for the legitimate Na-  
5       tional Assembly and the Supreme Court, and urges  
6       further regional action in support of democracy in  
7       Venezuela;

8               (2) applauds the efforts of the Lima Group and  
9       the countries that voted in favor of the Resolution  
10       on the Situation in Venezuela passed by the OAS  
11       General Assembly on June 5, 2018, and calls on  
12       countries that abstained from the vote or voted  
13       against the resolution to join the international com-

1 munity and the region in support of democracy in  
2 Venezuela;

3 (3) supports the findings of the OAS panel of  
4 experts, as presented on May 29, 2018, that there  
5 are reasonable grounds to believe that the govern-  
6 ment of Nicolás Maduro has committed crimes  
7 against humanity and urges countries in the region  
8 to take actions to support an investigation under  
9 international law into crimes against humanity com-  
10 mitted by that government;

11 (4) expresses concern over the continued hu-  
12 manitarian crisis in Venezuela;

13 (5) urges countries in the region to coordinate  
14 a regional humanitarian response and to work with  
15 European, Asian, and African countries to coordi-  
16 nate the imposition of sanctions and visa bans for  
17 Venezuelan officials responsible for the ongoing cri-  
18 sis; and

19 (6) calls on the President to increase United  
20 States support to the Venezuelan people by pro-  
21 viding further humanitarian assistance in the region,  
22 imposing additional targeted sanctions on Ven-  
23 ezuelan officials, including under the Global  
24 Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (22  
25 U.S.C. 2656 note), increasing public diplomacy ef-



- 1     forts to expose the levels of corruption among Ven-
- 2     ezuelan officials, and supporting democratic actors
- 3     in Venezuela.



**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H. RES. 1006  
OFFERED BY MR. COOK OF CALIFORNIA**

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas the government of Nicolás Maduro and the United Socialist Party of Venezuela have systematically dismantled and destroyed democracy in Venezuela;

Whereas the government of Nicolás Maduro and the United Socialist Party of Venezuela are responsible for creating a humanitarian, economic, social, and political crisis in Venezuela that is unprecedented in the country's history;

Whereas Nicolás Maduro has consistently refused to acknowledge Venezuela's humanitarian crisis and has rejected humanitarian aid from the United States and the international community;

Whereas the government of Nicolás Maduro and the United Socialist Party of Venezuela have used food and humanitarian aid as a weapon for social control and have stolen funds from Local Food Production and Provision Committees, the Venezuelan distribution food aid program, according to a joint statement issued by Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and the United States on July 12, 2018;

Whereas Venezuela's inflation rate has reached nearly 14,000 percent and is predicted to continue increasing, according to reports issued by the opposition-led National Assembly;

Whereas it is estimated that the Venezuelan Government owes—

- (1) \$65,000,000,000 to bondholders;
- (2) over \$20,000,000,000 to China and Russia;
- (3) over \$5,000,000,000 to multilateral lenders;

and

- (4) according to press reports, tens of billions of dollars to importers and service companies in the oil industry;

Whereas Venezuela has a per-capita homicide rate of 110 per 100,000 citizens, among the highest in the world, according to the Venezuelan Observatory of Violence;

Whereas on June 20, 2018, the Pan-American Health Organization issued a report finding increases in new cases of malaria, measles, diphtheria, HIV/AIDS, and tuberculosis in Venezuela;

Whereas on June 22, 2018, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights issued a report stating that “human rights violations committed during demonstrations form part of a wider pattern of repression against political dissidents and anyone perceived as posing a threat” to the government of Nicolás Maduro and referred the report to the International Criminal Court;

Whereas according to the Venezuelan human rights group Foro Penal, there are at least 253 political prisoners being held in Venezuela as of August 2018;

Whereas according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the deterioration of conditions in Venezuela has led to the emigration of at least 2,000,000 Venezuelans to neighboring countries, including Brazil, Chile,

Caribbean island countries, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, and Peru;

Whereas the United States has provided at least \$70,000,000 since fiscal year 2017 to countries in the Western Hemisphere, in response to the Venezuelan humanitarian crisis;

Whereas the United States has imposed sanctions on—

- (1) 59 Venezuelan officials, for human rights violations and corruption; and
- (2) 22 individuals with connections to Venezuela and 27 Venezuelan entities, for drug trafficking;

Whereas Canada has sanctioned at least 70 Venezuelan officials for corruption or human rights abuses;

Whereas the European Union has sanctioned at least 18 Venezuelan officials for human rights violations and undermining democracy, including Vice President Deley Rodríguez;

Whereas Switzerland has placed economic sanctions on at least 7 senior Venezuelan officials and multiple Venezuelan entities, for violations of individual freedoms and for severely undermining the separation of powers;

Whereas Panama has increased its financial oversight of at least 55 Venezuelans and 16 Venezuelan entities that the United States considered to be a high-risk for money laundering;

Whereas Colombia, Panama, Mexico, and the United States have expanded cooperation to fight illegal financial networks that support the repressive government of Nicolás Maduro;

Whereas the United States, the Lima Group, the G-7, and European Union declared the national elections that occurred in Venezuela on May 20, 2018, were illegitimate;

Whereas the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States (OAS) passed Resolution 1078 (2108/17) on April 3, 2017, expressing “grave concern regarding the unconstitutional alteration of the democratic order”;

Whereas Executive Order 13835 (83 Fed. Reg. 24001), signed on May 21, 2018, tightened existing sanctions that prohibit United States purchases of Venezuelan debt;

Whereas the government of Nicolás Maduro expelled two senior United States diplomats from Caracas on May 22, 2018, and the United States responded reciprocally on May 23, 2018;

Whereas on May 29, 2018, a panel of international experts designated by the Secretary General of the OAS found that “there are reasonable grounds that satisfy the standard of proof required by Article 53 of the Rome Statute” that the Venezuelan people were subjected to “crimes against humanity”, and that as a result the situation in Venezuela should be referred to the International Criminal Court; and

Whereas on June 5, 2018, the General Assembly of the OAS passed a resolution on Venezuela, with the support of 19 countries, reaffirming the “obligation of the governments [of the Americas] to promote and defend [democracy]” and declaring that the national elections that occurred on May 20, 2018 were illegitimate “for not complying with international standards, for not having met the participa-

tion of all Venezuelan political actors, and for being carried out without the necessary guarantees for a free, fair, transparent and democratic process”: Now, therefore, be it

Strike all after the resolved clause and insert the following:

- 1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—
- 2               (1) condemns the deteriorating situation in
- 3       Venezuela and the regional humanitarian crisis it
- 4       has caused, affirms support for the legitimate Na-
- 5       tional Assembly and the Supreme Court, and urges
- 6       further regional action in support of democracy in
- 7       Venezuela;
- 8               (2) applauds the efforts of the Lima Group and
- 9       the countries that voted in favor of the Resolution
- 10       on the Situation in Venezuela passed by the OAS
- 11       General Assembly on June 5, 2018, and calls on
- 12       countries that abstained from the vote or voted
- 13       against the resolution to join the international com-
- 14       munity and the region in support of democracy in
- 15       Venezuela;
- 16               (3) supports the findings of the OAS panel of
- 17       experts, as presented on May 29, 2018, that there
- 18       are reasonable grounds to believe that the govern-
- 19       ment of Nicolás Maduro has committed crimes

1 against humanity and urges countries in the region  
2 to take actions to support an investigation under  
3 international law into crimes against humanity com-  
4 mitted by that government;

5 (4) expresses concern over the continued hu-  
6 manitarian crisis in Venezuela;

7 (5) urges countries in the region to coordinate  
8 a regional humanitarian response and to work with  
9 European, Asian, and African countries to coordi-  
10 nate the imposition of sanctions and visa bans for  
11 Venezuelan officials responsible for the ongoing cri-  
12 sis; and

13 (6) calls on the President to increase United  
14 States support to the Venezuelan people by pro-  
15 viding further humanitarian assistance in the region,  
16 imposing additional targeted sanctions on Ven-  
17 ezuelan officials, including under the Global  
18 Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (22  
19 U.S.C. 2656 note), increasing public diplomacy ef-  
20 forts to expose the levels of corruption among Ven-  
21 ezuelan officials, and supporting democratic actors  
22 in Venezuela.



**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE  
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H. RES. 1006  
OFFERED BY MR. SIRES OF NEW JERSEY**

After the 10th preamble clause, insert the following:

Whereas Nicolás Maduro used an alleged assassination attempt in August 2018 as an opportunity to further crack down on his opposition and arbitrarily detained several Venezuelan National Assembly members, including Juan Requesnas;

In the 12th preamble clause, strike “\$70,000,000” and insert “\$118,000,000”.

In paragraph (1) of the 13th preamble clause, strike “59” and insert “63”.





115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION **H. RES. 1052**

Affirming United States-Australia cooperation on space research, exploration,  
and utilization.

---

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 6, 2018

Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. GALLAGHER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

---

**RESOLUTION**

Affirming United States-Australia cooperation on space  
research, exploration, and utilization.

Whereas the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Australia are treaty allies;

Whereas United States and Australia defense cooperation extends back 100 years, to the Battle of Hamel in World War I;

Whereas the Australia, New Zealand, United States Security Treaty, also referred to as the ANZUS Treaty, has formed the framework of the United States-Australia alliance since 1951;

Whereas the Australia-United States Ministerial Consultation, also referred to as AUSMIN, has contributed to a deeper partnership between the two nations;

Whereas the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) notes that, “The United States and Australia have been cooperating in civil space for more than 50 years”;

Whereas the United States Apollo missions and subsequent space science and exploration conducted by the United States benefitted greatly from the partnership with our Australian allies;

Whereas Neil Armstrong’s first steps on the surface of the Moon were relayed to Houston through the Honeysuckle Creek site in Australia;

Whereas NASA also notes that, “The Canberra complex is an integral component of NASA’s Deep Space Network (DSN), the world’s largest and most sensitive scientific telecommunications system”;

Whereas the Canberra Deep Space Communication Complex (CDSCC) is one of NASA’s largest tracking and communication facilities outside the United States;

Whereas, on Tuesday, October 17, 2017, Australian Ambassador to the United States Joe Hockey and Acting NASA Administrator Robert Lightfoot signed a 25-year agreement for continued cooperation on space cooperation, including on space tracking;

Whereas the United States and Australian governments have jointly committed to expanding Space Situational Awareness (SSA);

Whereas United States-Australia cooperation on SSA is critical to maximize defense capabilities, monitoring environmental changes, avoiding space congestion and collisions, and protecting against exploitation from the growing counter-space capabilities of our adversaries;

Whereas, on September 24, 2017, the Government of Australia under Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull committed to creating the Australian Space Agency, with operations beginning on July 1, 2018; and

Whereas the Australian Space Agency commenced operations on July 1, 2018: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2           (1) commends the Australian Government in  
3       constituting the Australian Space Agency;

4           (2) recognizes the value in United States-Australia  
5       cooperation on space research, exploration,  
6       and utilization, including on terrestrial research,  
7       commercial activities, and human and robotic space  
8       exploration;

9           (3) supports international cooperation on space  
10       research, exploration, and utilization and other  
11       forms of space diplomacy as being in the national interest  
12       of the United States;

13          (4) encourages the Department of State to support  
14       and facilitate international cooperation with  
15       Australia on space research, exploration, and utilization  
16       through diplomatic efforts, including through  
17       the Australia-United States Ministerial Consultations  
18       (AUSMIN) forum and multilateral initiatives  
19       with Japan, Canada, the European Union, and other

1 partners of both the United States and Australia;  
2 and

3 (5) supports deeper cooperation with our Aus-  
4 tralian allies in contributing each country's unique  
5 strengths and resources to mutual prosperity and se-  
6 curity.

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 1055

To affirm strong United States-Liberia ties and support for democratic principles, and call for full implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations, including the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal for Liberia.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 7, 2018

Mr. DONOVAN (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## RESOLUTION

To affirm strong United States-Liberia ties and support for democratic principles, and call for full implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations, including the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal for Liberia.

Whereas today the United States is home to an estimated 80,000 people of Liberian ancestry in vibrant communities across the country, who have been instrumental in America's efforts to build a peaceful, democratic, and prosperous Liberia;

Whereas Liberia and the United States share close historical, political, and economic ties over the course of a nearly 200-year relationship;

Whereas the people and Government of the United States have a deep interest in Liberia's democratic stability and postconflict development;

Whereas the civil war from 1991 to 2002 resulted in the death of over 200,000 people in Sierra Leone and Liberia, the displacement of over 1,000,000 persons, and the horrific cases of amputations, mass rape, and human rights abuses conducted under the leadership of Charles Taylor;

Whereas Charles Taylor was convicted through the Special Court for Sierra Leone for 11 different charges of war crimes, crimes against humanity, such as rape, sexual abuse, and slavery, and violation of international law, including the use of child soldiers;

Whereas a comprehensive peace agreement was signed by the Government of Liberia, rebel groups, and political parties in 2003;

Whereas the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, as established under the 2003 comprehensive peace agreement, was formally created in 2005 with a mandate "to promote national peace, security, unity and reconciliation by investigating gross human rights violations and violations of humanitarian law, sexual violations, and economic crimes that occurred between January 1979 and October 2003";

Whereas the Truth and Reconciliation Commission released a report in December 2008 recommending the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal for Liberia and listed individuals, corporations, and institutions recommended for further investigation and prosecution, among other recommendations;

Whereas the Government of Liberia has not fully implemented the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Agreement to date, including the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal;

Whereas Liberia experienced its first democratic and peaceful transition of power since 1944 after President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf respected constitutional term limits and George Weah defeated Vice President Joseph Boakai following a runoff during the 2017 Presidential elections;

Whereas the United States congratulated the people of Liberia on the successful conclusion of the Presidential runoff election and recognized the important role Liberia's Supreme Court, political parties, security forces, and civil society organizations played in holding a peaceful and transparent contest; and

Whereas the United States Government and American citizens have invested in Liberia to rebuild and support democratic institutions, postconflict recovery, economic growth, improved access to education and health care, professionalization of the country's military and civilian security forces, and efforts to foster accountability and transparency of government institutions: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) upholds its commitment to maintain and  
3       foster the enduring relationship between the people  
4       and the Governments of the United States and Libe-  
5       ria;

6               (2) urges the Government and people of Liberia  
7       to support the truth and reconciliation process

1 through full implementation of the recommendations  
2 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, includ-  
3 ing the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal  
4 Tribunal; and

5 (3) supports efforts by the Department of State  
6 and United States Agency for International Develop-  
7 ment to advance Liberian efforts toward national  
8 reconciliation through continued support for the rule  
9 of law, effective governance, and the robust role of  
10 civil society.



115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1567

To promote economic partnership and cooperation between the United States  
and Mexico.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 16, 2017

Mr. CUELLAR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To promote economic partnership and cooperation between  
the United States and Mexico.

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 “United States-Mexico  
5 Economic Partnership Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7 The purpose of this Act is to promote economic part-  
8 nership and cooperation between the United States and  
9 Mexico, particularly in the areas of academic exchange,  
10 entrepreneurship, and infrastructure integration.

1 **SEC. 3. EXPANSION OF UNITED STATES-MEXICO ACADEMIC**  
2 **EXCHANGE PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—It shall be the policy of the United  
4 States to increase United States-Mexico academic ex-  
5 changes at the secondary, post-secondary, and post-grad-  
6 uate levels.

7 (b) **PRIORITY.**—The exchanges described in sub-  
8 section (a) should be across the United States and Mexico,  
9 however, priority should be given to strengthening ties be-  
10 tween communities and academic institutions in the cov-  
11 ered United States-Mexico border region.

12 (c) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Con-  
13 gress that—

14 (1) the exchanges described in subsection (a)  
15 should reflect the goals of the 100,000 Strong in the  
16 Americas Initiative; and

17 (2) the United States and Mexico should seek  
18 to contribute to doubling the number of students  
19 studying in each other's country by not later than 5  
20 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

21 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF UNITED STATES-MEXICO EN-**  
22 **TREPRENEURSHIP COOPERATION, TRAINING,**  
23 **AND MENTORING PROGRAMS.**

24 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President shall develop a  
25 plan to implement policies and programs that support co-  
26 operation, training, and mentoring of entrepreneurs.

1 (b) ELEMENTS.—The policies and programs de-  
2 scribed in subsection (a) shall seek to create innovation  
3 through United States and Mexican academic institutions  
4 and businesses assisting prospective and developing entre-  
5 preneurs in strengthen their business skills and promoting  
6 cooperation and joint business initiatives across the  
7 United States and Mexico, with a focus on the covered  
8 United States-Mexico border region.

9 (c) MATCHING FUNDS.—The policies and programs  
10 described in subsection (a) should seek to ensure United  
11 States Government funds are, at a minimum, matched by  
12 private sector funds for purposes of carrying out such poli-  
13 cies and programs.

14 (d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
15 gress that the policies and programs described in sub-  
16 section (a) should reflect the goals of the 100,000 Strong  
17 in the Americas Initiative and should seek to provide not  
18 less than 100 grants of not more than \$25,000 each for  
19 participants in such programs to better leverage participa-  
20 tion by the private sector.

21 (e) REPORT.—The President shall submit to Con-  
22 gress a report on the plan described in subsection (a) not  
23 later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this  
24 Act.

1 **SEC. 5. UNITED STATES-MEXICO ENERGY INFRASTRUC-**  
2 **TURE COORDINATION AND COOPERATION**  
3 **PROGRAMS.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President shall develop a  
5 plan to implement policies and programs that promote  
6 United States-Mexico energy infrastructure coordination  
7 and cooperation through support of vocational-level edu-  
8 cation, internships, and exchanges between the two coun-  
9 tries, particularly in the region in which the Eagle Ford  
10 Shale is located and in proximity to such region.

11 (b) **ELEMENTS.**—The policies and programs de-  
12 scribed in subsection (a) shall seek to develop skills related  
13 to safe and responsible energy extraction and other inno-  
14 vative energy technologies that can be provided by edu-  
15 cational institutions located in the region described in sub-  
16 section (a) or in proximity to such region, including by  
17 seeking to provide such skills to individuals in Mexico who  
18 are seeking vocational level jobs in Mexico’s energy sector.

19 (c) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Con-  
20 gress that the policies and programs described in sub-  
21 section (a) should seek to provide education, internships,  
22 and exchanges for at least 1,000 participants.

23 (d) **REPORT.**—The President shall submit to Con-  
24 gress a report on the plan described in subsection (a) not  
25 later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this  
26 Act.

1 **SEC. 6. MEDICAL SCHOOL PILOT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall develop a  
3 plan, in coordination with the private sector and non-profit  
4 organizations, to implement a pilot program to develop a  
5 pipeline between undergraduate colleges and universities  
6 in the United States and medical school programs in Mex-  
7 ico. The pilot program should be utilized to prepare med-  
8 ical students to become doctors who can pass medical li-  
9 censing board exams in the United States.

10 (b) ELEMENTS.—The pilot program described in sub-  
11 section (a) shall seek to ensure that medical school pro-  
12 grams in Mexico shall have comparable accreditation  
13 standards as medical school program in the United States  
14 by the Accreditation and Standards in Foreign Medical  
15 Education as well as registered in the International Med-  
16 ical Education Directory.

17 (c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
18 gress that the pilot program described in subsection (a)  
19 should seek to increase the number of bilingual medical  
20 professionals in a cost-effective manner who can practice  
21 in United States under-served communities.

22 (d) REPORT.—The President shall submit to Con-  
23 gress a report on the plan described in subsection (a) not  
24 later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this  
25 Act.

1 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) 100,000 STRONG IN THE AMERICAS INITIA-  
4 TIVE.—The term “100,000 Strong in the Americas  
5 Initiative” means the initiative established in March  
6 2011 by the United States Government to increase  
7 educational exchanges in the Western Hemisphere.

8 (2) COVERED UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER  
9 REGION.—The term “covered United States-Mexico  
10 border region” means those portions of the United  
11 States and Mexico that are within 100 kilometers of  
12 the international boundary between those countries.

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 1567  
OFFERED BY MR. CASTRO OF TEXAS**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “United States-Mexico  
3 Economic Partnership Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) The United States and Mexico have bene-  
7 fitted from a bilateral, mutually beneficial partner-  
8 ship focused on advancing the economic interests of  
9 both countries.

10 (2) In 2013, Mexico adopted major energy re-  
11 forms that opened its energy sector to private invest-  
12 ment, increasing energy cooperation between Mexico  
13 and the United States and opening new opportuni-  
14 ties for United States energy engagement.

15 (3) On January 18, 2018, the Principal Deputy  
16 Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Af-  
17 fairs at the Department of State stated, “Our ex-  
18 change programs build enduring relationships and

1 networks to advance U.S. national interests and for-  
2 eign policy goals. . . The role of our exchanges. . .  
3 in advancing U.S. national security and economic in-  
4 terests enjoys broad bipartisan support from Con-  
5 gress and other stakeholders, and provides a strong  
6 return on investment.”.

7 (4) According to the Institute of International  
8 Education, in the 2015-2016 academic year, more  
9 than 56,000 United States students studied in other  
10 countries in the Western Hemisphere region while  
11 more than 84,000 non-United States students from  
12 the region studied in the United States, but only  
13 5,000 of those United States students studied in  
14 Mexico and only 16,000 of those non-United States  
15 students were from Mexico.

16 (5) In March 2011, the United States launched  
17 the 100,000 Strong in the Americas Initiative, which  
18 seeks to increase educational exchanges between the  
19 United States and other countries in the Western  
20 Hemisphere region so that 100,000 United States  
21 students are studying in other countries in the West-  
22 ern Hemisphere region and 100,000 non-United  
23 States students from the region are studying in the  
24 United States per year by 2020.



1           (6) In January 2014, the United States estab-  
2           lished the 100,000 Strong in the Americas Innova-  
3           tion Fund, which seeks to realize the goals of the  
4           100,000 Strong in the Americas Initiative by facili-  
5           tating a public-private partnership between the De-  
6           partment of State and nongovernmental organiza-  
7           tions, corporations, and universities in the United  
8           States and other countries of the Western Hemi-  
9           sphere region.

10           (7) To date, the 100,000 Strong in the Amer-  
11           icas Innovation Fund has awarded more than 100  
12           grants to more than 250 higher education institu-  
13           tions from 25 countries in the Western Hemisphere  
14           region, and has raised \$9,000,000 in investments,  
15           75 percent of which was from corporations, founda-  
16           tions, and regional governments.

17 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

18           It is the policy of the United States—

19           (1) to continue deepening economic cooperation  
20           between the United States and Mexico; and

21           (2) to seek to prioritize and expand educational  
22           and professional exchange programs with Mexico, in-  
23           cluding through the framework of the 100,000  
24           Strong in the Americas Initiative.

1 **SEC. 4. STRATEGY TO PRIORITIZE AND EXPAND EDU-**  
2 **CATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCHANGE**  
3 **PROGRAMS WITH MEXICO.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of State shall de-  
5 velop a strategy to carry out the policy described in section  
6 3, to include prioritizing and expanding educational and  
7 professional exchange programs with Mexico through the  
8 framework of the 100,000 Strong in the Americas Initia-  
9 tive.

10 (b) **ELEMENTS.**—The strategy required under sub-  
11 section (a) shall—

12 (1) encourage more academic exchanges be-  
13 tween the United States and Mexico at the sec-  
14 ondary, post-secondary, and post-graduate levels, es-  
15 pecially with communities and through academic in-  
16 stitutions in the covered United States-Mexico bor-  
17 der region;

18 (2) encourage United States and Mexican aca-  
19 demic institutions and businesses to collaborate to  
20 assist prospective and developing entrepreneurs in  
21 strengthening their business skills and promoting co-  
22 operation and joint business initiatives across the  
23 United States and Mexico, with a focus on initiatives  
24 in the covered United States-Mexico border region;

25 (3) promote energy infrastructure coordination  
26 and cooperation through support of vocational-level

1 education, internships, and exchanges between the  
2 United States and Mexico, particularly in the region  
3 in which the Eagle Ford Shale is located and in  
4 proximity to such region; and

5 (4) assess the feasibility of fostering partner-  
6 ships between universities in the United States and  
7 medical school and nursing programs in Mexico to  
8 ensure that medical school and nursing programs in  
9 Mexico have comparable accreditation standards as  
10 medical school and nursing programs in the United  
11 States by the Accreditation and Standards in For-  
12 eign Medical Education, in addition to the Accredi-  
13 tation Commission For Education in Nursing, so  
14 that medical students can pass medical licensing  
15 board exams, and nursing students can pass nursing  
16 licensing exams, in the United States.

17 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date  
18 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall  
19 submit to Congress a report on the strategy required  
20 under subsection (a).

21 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

22 In this Act:

23 (1) 100,000 STRONG IN THE AMERICAS INITIA-  
24 TIVE.—The term “100,000 Strong in the Americas  
25 Initiative” means the initiative established in March

1 2011 by the United States Government to increase  
2 educational exchanges in the Western Hemisphere.

3 (2) COVERED UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER  
4 REGION.—The term “covered United States-Mexico  
5 border region” means those portions of the United  
6 States and Mexico that are within 100 kilometers of  
7 the international boundary between those countries.



115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4591

To impose sanctions with respect to Iranian persons that threaten the peace or stability of Iraq or the Government of Iraq.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 7, 2017

Mr. KINZINGER (for himself, Mr. SUOZZI, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. NUNES, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. OLSON, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. RUSSELL, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To impose sanctions with respect to Iranian persons that threaten the peace or stability of Iraq or the Government of Iraq.

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 “Preventing Iranian De-  
5 stabilization of Iraq Act of 2017”.

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

2 It shall be the policy of the United States to impose  
3 sanctions with respect to terrorist organizations and for-  
4 eign countries, including the Government of Iran, that  
5 threaten the peace or stability and impede the democratic  
6 processes of Iraq or the Government of Iraq.

7 **SEC. 3. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO IRA-**  
8 **NIAN PERSONS THREATENING PEACE OR**  
9 **STABILITY IN IRAQ.**

10 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
11 gress that the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary  
12 of State should continue to implement Executive Order  
13 13438 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property  
14 of certain persons who threaten stabilization efforts in  
15 Iraq).

16 (b) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—The President shall  
17 impose the sanctions described in subsection (c)(1)(A) and  
18 the Secretary of State or the Secretary of Homeland Secu-  
19 rity (or a designee of one of such Secretaries) shall impose  
20 the sanctions described in subsection (c)(1)(B) with re-  
21 spect to any Iranian person that the President, acting  
22 through the Secretary of State or the Secretary of Home-  
23 land Security (or a designee of one of such Secretaries),  
24 as the case may be, determines—

1           (1) to have knowingly committed, or to pose a  
2 significant risk of committing, an act or acts of vio-  
3 lence that have the purpose or effect of—

4           (A) threatening the peace or stability of  
5 Iraq or the Government of Iraq;

6           (B) undermining or attempting to under-  
7 mine, co-opt, or confound the democratic proce-  
8 ss in Iraq; or

9           (C) undermining efforts to promote eco-  
10 nomic reconstruction and political reform in  
11 Iraq or to provide humanitarian assistance to  
12 the Iraqi people;

13          (2) has knowingly materially assisted, spon-  
14 sored, or provided financial, material, or techno-  
15 logical support for, or goods or services to or in sup-  
16 port of, any activity described in subparagraph (A),  
17 (B), or (C) of paragraph (1); or

18          (3) is owned or controlled by, or has acted or  
19 purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indi-  
20 rectly, a foreign person that has carried out any ac-  
21 tivity described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of  
22 paragraph (1) or paragraph (2).

23 (e) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—

24          (1) IN GENERAL.—The sanctions described in  
25 this subsection are the following:

1           (A) ASSET BLOCKING.—The exercise of all  
2 powers granted to the President by the Inter-  
3 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50  
4 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to  
5 block and prohibit all transactions in all prop-  
6 erty and interests in property of an entity de-  
7 termined by the President to be subject to sub-  
8 section (b) if such property and interests in  
9 property are in the United States, come within  
10 the United States, or are or come within the  
11 possession or control of a United States person.

12           (B) ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, AD-  
13 MISSION, OR PAROLE.—

14           (i) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—

15           An alien who the Secretary of State or the  
16 Secretary of Homeland Security (or a des-  
17 ignee of one of such Secretaries) knows or  
18 has reasonable grounds to believe meets  
19 any of the criteria described in subsection  
20 (b) is—

21           (I) inadmissible to the United  
22 States;

23           (II) ineligible to receive a visa or  
24 other documentation to enter the  
25 United States; and



1 (III) otherwise ineligible to be  
2 admitted or paroled into the United  
3 States or to receive any other benefit  
4 under the Immigration and Nation-  
5 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

6 (ii) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

7 (I) IN GENERAL.—Any visa or  
8 other documentation issued to an  
9 alien who is an Iranian person on the  
10 list required under subsection (b), re-  
11 gardless of when such visa or other  
12 documentation was issued, shall be re-  
13 voked and such alien shall be denied  
14 admission to the United States.

15 (II) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—  
16 A revocation under subclause (I) shall  
17 take effect immediately and shall  
18 automatically cancel any other valid  
19 visa or entry documentation that is in  
20 the alien's possession.

21 (2) INAPPLICABILITY OF NATIONAL EMER-  
22 GENCY REQUIREMENT.—The requirements of section  
23 202 of the International Emergency Economic Pow-  
24 ers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701) shall not apply for pur-

1 poses of the imposition of sanctions under this sec-  
2 tion.

3 (3) PENALTIES.—A person that is subject to  
4 sanctions described in paragraph (1)(A) shall be  
5 subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b)  
6 and (c) of section 206 of the International Emer-  
7 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the  
8 same extent as a person that commits an unlawful  
9 act described in subsection (a) of that section.

10 (4) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NA-  
11 TIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.—Sanctions  
12 under paragraph (1)(B) shall not apply to an alien  
13 if admitting the alien into the United States is nec-  
14 essary to permit the United States to comply with  
15 the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the  
16 United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26,  
17 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947,  
18 between the United Nations and the United States,  
19 or other applicable international obligations.

20 (d) WAIVER.—The President may, on a case-by-case  
21 basis and for periods not to exceed 90 days, waive the  
22 application of sanctions in this section with respect to an  
23 Iranian person if the President certifies to the appropriate  
24 congressional committees at least 15 days before such

1 waiver is to take effect that such waiver is vital to the  
2 national security interests of the United States.

3 (e) IMPLEMENTATION AUTHORITY.—The President  
4 may exercise all authorities provided to the President  
5 under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emer-  
6 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704)  
7 for purposes of carrying out this section.

8 (f) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall, not  
10 later than 90 days after the date of the enactment  
11 of this Act, promulgate regulations as necessary for  
12 the implementation of this section.

13 (2) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—Not less  
14 than 10 days before the promulgation of regulations  
15 under paragraph (1), the President shall notify and  
16 provide to the appropriate congressional committees  
17 the proposed regulations and the provisions of this  
18 section that the regulations are implementing.

19 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

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

23 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the  
24 Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on  
25 Ways and Means, and the Committee on Finan-

1           cial Services of the House of Representatives;  
2           and

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

6           (2) IRANIAN PERSON.—The term “Iranian per-  
7           son” means—

8                   (A) an individual who is a citizen or na-  
9           tional of Iran; and

10                   (B) an entity organized under the laws of  
11           Iran or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of  
12           the Government of Iran.

13           (3) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term  
14           “United States person” has the meaning given that  
15           term in section 576.317 of title 31, Code of Federal  
16           Regulations, as in effect on June 22, 2016.

17           (4) ADMITTED; ALIEN.—The terms “admitted”  
18           and “alien” have the meanings given those terms in  
19           section 101(3) of the Immigration and Nationality  
20           Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(3)).

21           (5) KNOWINGLY.—The term “knowingly”, with  
22           respect to conduct, a circumstance, or a result,  
23           means that a person has actual knowledge, or should  
24           have known, of the conduct, the circumstance, or the  
25           result.

1           (6) GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ.—The term “Gov-  
2           ernment of Iraq” has the meaning given that term  
3           in section 576.310 of title 31, Code of Federal Reg-  
4           ulations, as in effect on June 22, 2016.

5           (7) PERSON.—The term “person” has the  
6           meaning given that term in section 576.311 of title  
7           31, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on  
8           June 22, 2016.

9           (8) PROPERTY; PROPERTY INTEREST.—The  
10          terms “property” and “property interest” have the  
11          meanings given those terms in section 576.312 of  
12          title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on  
13          June 22, 2016.

14          (h) SUNSET.—This section shall cease to be effective  
15          beginning on January 1, 2022.

16       **SEC. 4. REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF**  
17               **IRAN IN IRAQ.**

18          (a) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date  
19          of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days there-  
20          after for a period not to exceed 5 years, the President shall  
21          submit to the appropriate congressional committees a re-  
22          port on activities of the Government of Iran in Iraq.

23          (b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report re-  
24          quired by subsection (a) shall include a description of the  
25          following:

1           (1) The Government of Iran's support for Iraqi  
2 militias or political parties, including weapons, fi-  
3 nancing, and other forms of material support.

4           (2) A list of referrals to the relevant United  
5 Nations Security Council sanctions committees by  
6 the United States Permanent Representative to the  
7 United Nations.

8           (3) Iranian persons that are in Iraq despite the  
9 asset freeze and visa ban sanctions imposed against  
10 such entities pursuant to United Nations Security  
11 Council Resolution 2231.

12           (4) Iraqi persons that have aided, abetted, or  
13 facilitated the Government of Iran's transport of  
14 personnel, money, and munitions into Syria to aid  
15 the regime of Bashar al-Assad.

16           (5) Iraqi financial institutions that are pro-  
17 viding credit, loans, or other assistance to Govern-  
18 ment of Iran-backed irregular or militia forces re-  
19 sponsible for engaging in activities described in sec-  
20 tion 3(b).

21           (6) Actions taken by the Government of Iran to  
22 influence Shia institutions in Najaf, Iraq.

23           (c) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a)  
24 shall be submitted in classified form if it is determined

1 that it is necessary for the national security interests of  
2 the United States to do so.

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

5 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the  
6 Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on  
7 Ways and Means, and the Committee on Financial  
8 Services of the House of Representatives; and

9 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the  
10 Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Fi-  
11 nance, and the Committee on Banking, Housing,  
12 and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 4591  
OFFERED BY MR. KINZINGER OF ILLINOIS**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Preventing Destabiliza-  
3 tion of Iraq Act of 2018”.

4 **SEC. 2. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO FOR-**  
5 **EIGN PERSONS THREATENING PEACE OR**  
6 **STABILITY IN IRAQ.**

7       (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
8 gress that the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary  
9 of State should continue to implement Executive Order  
10 13438 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property  
11 of certain persons who threaten stabilization efforts in  
12 Iraq).

13       (b) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—The President shall  
14 impose the sanctions described in subsection (c) with re-  
15 spect to any foreign person that the President determines  
16 knowingly commits a significant act of violence that has  
17 the direct purpose or effect of—



1           (1) threatening the peace or stability of Iraq or  
2 the Government of Iraq;

3           (2) undermining the democratic process in Iraq;  
4 or

5           (3) undermining significantly efforts to promote  
6 economic reconstruction and political reform in Iraq  
7 or to provide humanitarian assistance to the Iraqi  
8 people.

9 (c) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—

10           (1) IN GENERAL.—The sanctions described in  
11 this subsection are the following:

12           (A) ASSET BLOCKING.—The exercise of all  
13 powers granted to the President by the Inter-  
14 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50  
15 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to  
16 block and prohibit all transactions in all prop-  
17 erty and interests in property of a foreign per-  
18 son determined by the President to be subject  
19 to subsection (b) if such property and interests  
20 in property are in the United States, come  
21 within the United States, or are or come within  
22 the possession or control of a United States  
23 person.

24           (B) ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, AD-  
25 MISSION, OR PAROLE.—

1 (i) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—

2 An alien who the Secretary of State or the  
3 Secretary of Homeland Security (or a des-  
4 ignee of one of such Secretaries) knows or  
5 has reasonable grounds to believe meets  
6 any of the criteria described in subsection

7 (b) is—

8 (I) inadmissible to the United  
9 States;

10 (II) ineligible to receive a visa or  
11 other documentation to enter the  
12 United States; and

13 (III) otherwise ineligible to be  
14 admitted or paroled into the United  
15 States or to receive any other benefit  
16 under the Immigration and Nation-  
17 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

18 (ii) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

19 (I) IN GENERAL.—Any visa or  
20 other documentation issued to an  
21 alien who is a foreign person that is  
22 described in subsection (b) regardless  
23 of when such visa or other docu-  
24 mentation was issued, shall be re-

1 voked and such alien shall be denied  
2 admission to the United States.

3 (II) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—  
4 A revocation under subclause (I) shall  
5 take effect immediately and shall  
6 automatically cancel any other valid  
7 visa or entry documentation that is in  
8 the alien's possession.

9 (2) PENALTIES.—A person that is subject to  
10 sanctions described in paragraph (1)(A) shall be  
11 subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b)  
12 and (c) of section 206 of the International Emer-  
13 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the  
14 same extent as a person that commits an unlawful  
15 act described in subsection (a) of that section.

16 (3) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NA-  
17 TIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.—Sanctions  
18 under paragraph (1)(B) shall not apply to an alien  
19 if admitting the alien into the United States is nec-  
20 essary to permit the United States to comply with  
21 the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the  
22 United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26,  
23 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947,  
24 between the United Nations and the United States,  
25 or other applicable international obligations.

1       (d) WAIVER.—The President may, on a case-by-case  
2 basis and for periods not to exceed 90 days, waive the  
3 application of sanctions in this section with respect to a  
4 foreign person if the President certifies to the appropriate  
5 congressional committees at least 15 days before such  
6 waiver is to take effect that such waiver is vital to the  
7 national security interests of the United States.

8       (e) IMPLEMENTATION AUTHORITY.—The President  
9 may exercise all authorities provided to the President  
10 under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emer-  
11 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704)  
12 for purposes of carrying out this section.

13       (f) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—

14           (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall, not  
15 later than 90 days after the date of the enactment  
16 of this Act, promulgate regulations as necessary for  
17 the implementation of this section.

18           (2) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—Not less  
19 than 10 days before the promulgation of regulations  
20 under paragraph (1), the President shall notify and  
21 provide to the appropriate congressional committees  
22 the proposed regulations and the provisions of this  
23 section that the regulations are implementing.

24       (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

1           (1) ADMITTED; ALIEN.—The terms “admitted”  
2           and “alien” have the meanings given those terms in  
3           section 101(3) of the Immigration and Nationality  
4           Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(3)).

5           (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
6           TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
7           mittees” means—

8                   (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the  
9                   Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on  
10                  Ways and Means, and the Committee on Finan-  
11                  cial Services of the House of Representatives;  
12                  and

13                  (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations  
14                  and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and  
15                  Urban Affairs of the Senate.

16           (3) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign per-  
17           son” means a person that is not a United States  
18           person.

19           (4) GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ.—The term “Gov-  
20           ernment of Iraq” has the meaning given that term  
21           in section 576.310 of title 31, Code of Federal Reg-  
22           ulations, as in effect on June 22, 2016.

23           (5) KNOWINGLY.—The term “knowingly”, with  
24           respect to conduct, a circumstance, or a result,  
25           means that a person has actual knowledge, or should

1 have known, of the conduct, the circumstance, or the  
2 result.

3 (6) PERSON.—The term “person” has the  
4 meaning given that term in section 576.311 of title  
5 31, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on  
6 June 22, 2016.

7 (7) PROPERTY; PROPERTY INTEREST.—The  
8 terms “property” and “property interest” have the  
9 meanings given those terms in section 576.312 of  
10 title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on  
11 June 22, 2016.

12 (8) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term  
13 “United States person” has the meaning given that  
14 term in section 576.317 of title 31, Code of Federal  
15 Regulations, as in effect on June 22, 2016.

16 (h) SUNSET.—This section shall cease to be effective  
17 beginning on January 1, 2022.

18 **SEC. 3. DETERMINATION WITH RESPECT TO THE IMPOSI-**  
19 **TION OF SANCTIONS.**

20 (a) DETERMINATION.—Not later than 90 days after  
21 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of  
22 State shall submit to the appropriate congressional com-  
23 mittees a determination, including a detailed justification,  
24 on whether Asa’ib Ahl al-Haq, Harakat Hizballah al-  
25 Nujaba, or any foreign person that is an official, agent,

1 affiliate of, or owned or controlled by Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq  
2 or Harakat Hizballah al-Nujaba meets the criteria for—

3 (1) designation as a foreign terrorist organiza-  
4 tion pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and  
5 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189);

6 (2) the application of sanctions pursuant to Ex-  
7 ecutive Order 13224 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating  
8 to blocking property and prohibiting transactions  
9 with persons who commit, threaten to commit, or  
10 support terrorism); or

11 (3) the application of sanctions pursuant to sec-  
12 tion 2 of this Act.

13 (b) FORM.—The determination in subsection (a) shall  
14 be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classi-  
15 fied annex.

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

19 (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the  
20 Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Permanent Select  
21 Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Finan-  
22 cial Services, and the Committee on the Judiciary of  
23 the House of Representatives; and

24 (2) the Committee on Armed Services, the  
25 Committee on Foreign Relations, the Select Com-

1        mittee on Intelligence, the Committee on Banking,  
2        Housing, and Urban Affairs, and the Committee on  
3        the Judiciary of the Senate.

4 **SEC. 4. WATCHLISTS.**

5        (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall an-  
6        nually establish, maintain, and publish a list of armed  
7        groups, militias, or proxy forces in Iraq receiving  
8        logistical, military, or financial assistance from Iran’s Rev-  
9        olutionary Guard Corps or over which Iran’s Revolu-  
10       tionary Guard Corps exerts any form of control or influ-  
11       ence.

12       (b) PUBLICATION.—The lists required under sub-  
13       section (a) shall be published at the same time as the De-  
14       partment of State’s Annual Country Reports on Ter-  
15       rorism, beginning with the first such Country Reports  
16       published after the date of the enactment of this Act.

17       (c) FORM.—If the Secretary of State determines that  
18       it is appropriate to do so, the Secretary may, not later  
19       than 30 days after publication of the Annual Country Re-  
20       ports on Terrorism referred to in subsection (b), submit  
21       to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-  
22       resentatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of  
23       the Senate a classified annex.





**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE  
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 4591  
OFFERED BY MR. POE OF TEXAS**

Page 8, after line 12, insert the following:

- 1 (b) ADDITIONAL DETERMINATION.—  
2 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall  
3 include in the determination submitted under sub-  
4 section (a) an additional determination, including a  
5 detailed justification, on whether any of the individ-  
6 uals described in paragraph (2) meet the criteria for  
7 the application of sanctions described in paragraph  
8 (2) or (3) of subsection (a).  
9 (2) INDIVIDUALS DESCRIBED.—The individuals  
10 described in this paragraph are the following:  
11 (A) Qais al-Khazali.  
12 (B) Laith al-Khazali.  
13 (C) Akram Abbas al-Kaabi.  
14 (D) Shibl al-Zaydi.  
15 (E) Kazim al-Ta'i.  
16 (F) Hamid al-Jazairi.  
17 (G) Ali al-Yasiri.

Page 8, line 13, strike “(b)” and insert “(c)”.

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2

Page 8, line 13, insert “and the additional determination in subsection (b)” before “shall”.

☒

**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE  
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 4591  
OFFERED BY MR. WILSON OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

Page 5, line 2, strike “90 days” and insert “180 days”.

Page 7, line 25, strike “or” and insert “Liwa Fatemiyoun, Liwa Zainebiyoun, and”.

Page 8, line 2, strike “or” and insert a comma.

Page 8, line 2, after “Nujaba,” insert “Liwa Fatemiyoun, or Liwa Zainebiyoun”.



115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5273

To reduce global fragility and violence by improving the capacity of the United States to reduce and address the causes of violence, violent conflict, and fragility in pilot countries, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 14, 2018

Mr. ENGEL (for himself, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. COOK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To reduce global fragility and violence by improving the capacity of the United States to reduce and address the causes of violence, violent conflict, and fragility in pilot countries, 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 “Global Fragility and  
5 Violence Reduction Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) According to the United Nations, an un-  
2           precedented 66 million people around the world are  
3           currently forcibly displaced from their homes. This  
4           is the highest level of global displacement ever re-  
5           corded.

6           (2) According to the World Bank, violence and  
7           violent conflict, rather than natural disasters, are  
8           now the leading causes of displacement worldwide,  
9           driving 80 percent of humanitarian needs. The Bank  
10          also notes that the same conflicts have accounted for  
11          the majority of forcibly displaced persons every year  
12          since 1991.

13          (3) According to the World Health Organiza-  
14          tion, preventable forms of violence kill at least 1.4  
15          million people each year and cause debilitating phys-  
16          ical and mental harm to many others.

17          (4) According to the Institute for Economics  
18          and Peace, violence containment costs the global  
19          economy \$14.3 trillion a year, or 13.4 percent of the  
20          world's GDP. If violence were to decrease uniformly  
21          across the world by just 10 percent, the global econ-  
22          omy would gain \$1.43 trillion each year.

23          (5) Violence and violent conflict underpin many  
24          of the United States Government's key national se-  
25          curity challenges. Notably, violent conflicts allow for

1 environments in which terrorist organizations recruit  
2 and thrive, while the combination of violence, cor-  
3 ruption, poverty, poor governance, and underdevelop-  
4 ment often enables transnational gangs and criminal  
5 networks to wreak havoc and commit atrocities  
6 worldwide.

7 (6) According to new research by the University  
8 of Maryland and University of Pittsburgh, exposure  
9 to violence increases support for violence and violent  
10 extremism. Research increasingly finds exposure to  
11 violence as a predictor of future participation in vio-  
12 lence, including violent extremism.

13 (7) Since 2002, a body of research has emerged  
14 on failed or fragile states. The World Bank defines  
15 a fragile state as a low-income country characterized  
16 by weak state capacity, weak state legitimacy, or  
17 both, leaving citizens vulnerable to a range of  
18 shocks.

19 (8) United States foreign policy and assistance  
20 efforts in highly violent and fragile states remain  
21 governed by an outdated patchwork of authorities  
22 that prioritize responding to immediate needs rather  
23 than solving the problems that cause them. United  
24 States Ambassadors, United States Agency for  
25 International Development (USAID) Mission Direc-

1 tors, and commanders of combatant commands do  
2 not have the policy framework or tools they need to  
3 align United States policy or assistance with an  
4 overarching, long-term strategy to reduce and pre-  
5 vent global fragility and violence.

6 (9) Lessons learned over the past 20 years, docu-  
7 mented by the 2013 Special Inspector General for  
8 Iraq Reconstruction Lessons Learned Study and the  
9 2016 Fragility Study Group report, show that effec-  
10 tive, sustained United States efforts to reduce vio-  
11 lence and stabilize fragile and violence-affected  
12 states require clearly defined goals and strategies,  
13 adequate long-term funding, rigorous and iterative  
14 conflict analysis, coordination across the United  
15 States Government, including strong civil-military  
16 coordination, and integration with national and sub-  
17 national partners, including local civil society organi-  
18 zations, local justice systems, and local governance  
19 structures.

20 (10) United States National Security Strategies  
21 over the past 15 years have regularly affirmed that  
22 the United States has a national security interest in  
23 improving its capacity to prevent, manage, and miti-  
24 gate violence and violent conflicts in order to miti-  
25 gate the consequences of armed conflict, including

1 humanitarian disasters, terrorism, organized crime,  
2 increased risk of mass atrocities, and reversed devel-  
3 opment.

4 (11) According to the Small Arms Survey, the  
5 extent to which the international community will be  
6 able to bring down global levels of violence will de-  
7 pend largely on the actions taken by states to imple-  
8 ment more tangible multilateral commitments to im-  
9 prove governance, promote inclusive development,  
10 and protect human rights, among other things.

11 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

12 It is the policy of the United States to—

13 (1) ensure that all relevant United States Gov-  
14 ernment departments and agencies coordinate to  
15 achieve coherent, long-term goals for programs de-  
16 signed to reduce and address the causes of violence,  
17 violent conflict, and fragility in fragile and violence-  
18 affected countries, including when implementing the  
19 Global Fragility and Violence Reduction Initiative  
20 described in section 4;

21 (2) seek to improve the global, regional, and  
22 local coordination of relevant international and mul-  
23 tilateral development and donor organizations re-  
24 garding efforts to reduce and address the causes of  
25 violence, violent conflict, and fragility in fragile and



1 violence-affected countries, and, where possible, align  
2 such efforts with multilateral goals and indicators;

3 (3) expand and enhance the effectiveness of for-  
4 eign assistance programs and activities that reduce  
5 and address the causes of violence, violent conflict,  
6 and fragility in fragile and violence-affected coun-  
7 tries, including programs intended to improve the in-  
8 dicators described in section 4(g);

9 (4) support the research and development of ef-  
10 fective approaches to reduce and address the causes  
11 of violence, violent conflict, and fragility in fragile  
12 and violence-affected countries; and

13 (5) improve the monitoring, evaluation, learn-  
14 ing, and adaptation tools and authorities for relevant  
15 United States Government departments and agen-  
16 cies working to reduce and address the causes of vio-  
17 lence, violent conflict, and fragility in fragile and vi-  
18 olence-affected countries.

19 **SEC. 4. GLOBAL INITIATIVE TO REDUCE FRAGILITY AND VI-**  
20 **OLENCE.**

21 (a) INITIATIVE.—The Administrator of the United  
22 States Agency for International Development (USAID), in  
23 coordination with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of  
24 Defense, and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies  
25 and departments, shall establish an interagency initiative

1 to be referred to as the “Global Initiative to Reduce Fra-  
2 gility and Violence” relating to reducing and addressing  
3 the causes of violence, violent conflict, and fragility, with  
4 a focus on ten pilot countries.

5 (b) IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY.—Not later than  
6 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
7 Administrator of USAID, in coordination with the Sec-  
8 retary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the heads  
9 of other relevant Federal agencies and departments, shall  
10 develop and submit to the appropriate congressional com-  
11 mittees an initial interagency strategy for implementing  
12 the Global Initiative to Reduce Fragility and Violence re-  
13 quired under subsection (a), including the following:

14 (1) Descriptions of the organizational steps  
15 each relevant Federal agency or department will  
16 take to improve strategic planning, implementation,  
17 monitoring, evaluation, and coordination among and  
18 within such agencies and departments under such  
19 initiative.

20 (2) Descriptions of the initial goals, objectives,  
21 and role of each relevant Federal agency or depart-  
22 ment under such initiative.

23 (3) Descriptions of the steps each relevant Fed-  
24 eral agency or department will take to improve co-  
25 ordination and collaboration with international devel-

1       opment organizations, international donors, multilat-  
2       eral organizations, and the private sector under such  
3       initiative.

4           (4) Descriptions of potential areas of improved  
5       public and private sector research and development,  
6       including from academic, philanthropic, and civil so-  
7       ciety organizations, on more effective approaches to  
8       reducing and preventing the causes of violence, vio-  
9       lent conflict, and fragility in fragile and violence-af-  
10      fected countries.

11          (5) Plans for regularly evaluating and updating  
12      on an iterative basis the information described in  
13      this subsection.

14      (c) **INDIVIDUAL PILOT COUNTRY PLANS.**—The strat-  
15      egy required under subsection (b) shall contain an annex  
16      identifying the ten pilot countries designated pursuant to  
17      subsection (d), and for each such pilot country contain a  
18      mission-led, 10-year pilot country plan establishing initial  
19      goals, objectives, and plans of action for United States  
20      Government activities, including development, security,  
21      and other assistance activities that are relevant to redue-  
22      ing and addressing the causes of violence, violent conflict,  
23      and fragility, including the following:

24           (1) Interagency plans for coordination and im-  
25      plementation that define the appropriate role of each

1 relevant Federal agency or department and pro-  
2 cesses for coordinating among and within such agen-  
3 cies and departments when carrying out each such  
4 pilot country plan.

5 (2) Interagency plans to ensure appropriate  
6 local actors, including governance and civil society  
7 entities, and organizations led by women, youth, and  
8 under-represented communities have roles in devel-  
9 oping, implementing, monitoring, evaluating, and  
10 updating relevant aspects of each such pilot country  
11 plan.

12 (3) Clear, transparent, and measurable initial  
13 political, diplomatic, security, and developmental  
14 benchmarks, timetables, and performance metrics  
15 for each such pilot country, with a focus on outcome  
16 metrics, including such metrics that capture griev-  
17 ances and patterns that cause violence and, where  
18 applicable, align with best practice indicators deter-  
19 mined by Sustainable Development Goal #16 and  
20 the OECD Development Assistance Committee's  
21 Fragility Framework.

22 (4) Interagency plans for monitoring and eval-  
23 uation, adaptive management, and iterative learning  
24 that provide for regular and iterative policy and pro-  
25 gram adaptations based on monitoring and evalua-

1 tion findings and other evidence generated in each  
2 such pilot country and across such pilot countries.

3 (5) Descriptions of the available policy tools to  
4 reduce and address the causes of violence, violent  
5 conflict, and fragility in each such pilot country.

6 (6) Descriptions of the resources and authori-  
7 ties that would be required for each relevant Federal  
8 agency or department to best implement each such  
9 pilot country plan, as well as evidence-based iterative  
10 updates to such plans.

11 (7) Descriptions of potential areas of improved  
12 partnership between the United States Government  
13 and international development organizations, rel-  
14 evant international donors, multilateral organiza-  
15 tions, and the private sector regarding efforts to re-  
16 duce and address the causes of violence, violent con-  
17 flict, and fragility in each such pilot country.

18 (8) Plans for regularly evaluating and updating  
19 on an iterative basis the plans described in this sub-  
20 section.

21 (d) PILOT COUNTRY DESIGNATION.—The Adminis-  
22 trator of USAID, in coordination with the Secretary of  
23 State and the Secretary of Defense, shall carry out the  
24 following actions:

1           (1) Develop the list of candidate countries  
2 under consideration for the initiative required under  
3 this section on the basis of the following:

4           (A) Current levels of violence, violent con-  
5 flict, and fragility, as determined by empirical  
6 data, such as the following, to the extent such  
7 data are available:

8           (i) Total levels of deaths due to vio-  
9 lence and violence-related deaths per  
10 100,000 population in the candidate coun-  
11 try under consideration.

12           (ii) Total levels of violent injuries and  
13 violence exposure levels in such country.

14           (iii) Violent injuries and violence expo-  
15 sure levels per 100,000 population in such  
16 country.

17           (iv) Levels of persons forcibly dis-  
18 placed, whether internally or internation-  
19 ally, due to violence or violent conflict in  
20 such country.

21           (v) Total levels of gender-based vio-  
22 lence and violence against children and  
23 youth in such country.

1 (vi) Prevalence of physical or sexual  
2 violence in the last 12 months in such  
3 country.

4 (vii) Levels of mortality due to armed  
5 group violence in such country.

6 (viii) Levels of citizen support for  
7 armed groups in such country.

8 (ix) Such country's ranking on select  
9 global fragility lists and select good govern-  
10 ance indexes.

11 (x) Such country's ranking on select  
12 United States Government conflict and  
13 atrocity early warning watch lists.

14 (xi) Such country's vulnerability to  
15 current or future transnational threats.

16 (B) An assessment of the potential for  
17 United States Government activities to reduce  
18 and address the causes of violence, violent con-  
19 flict, and fragility in each candidate country  
20 under consideration, including the capacity and  
21 commitment of relevant entities within each  
22 such country to participate in the Global Initia-  
23 tive to Reduce Fragility and Violence under this  
24 section.

1           (2) Organize such candidate countries under  
2 consideration into the categories of “Core Country”  
3 and “Prevention Country” such that—

4           (A) a candidate country shall be a Core  
5 Country for purposes of pilot country selection  
6 where current levels of violence, violent conflict,  
7 and fragility are highest in the world, as deter-  
8 mined by the data specified in paragraph (1);  
9 and

10          (B) a candidate country shall be a Preven-  
11 tion Country for purposes of pilot country selec-  
12 tion where current levels of violence, violent  
13 conflict, and fragility are lower than such levels  
14 in a Core Country, as determined by the data  
15 specified in paragraph (1), but warning signs  
16 for future violence, violent conflict, and fragility  
17 are significant and strategic prevention efforts  
18 are likely to make a meaningful difference in  
19 mitigating or preventing future violence, violent  
20 conflict, and fragility.

21          (3) Designate, on the basis of the criteria speci-  
22 fied in paragraph (1), 10 pilot countries, organized  
23 with not fewer than three countries in each of the  
24 Core and Prevention categories described in para-  
25 graph (2) and not more than four countries in each



1 geographic region, as determined by the Department  
2 of State.

3 (4) Consider when making designations pursu-  
4 ant to paragraph (3) designating multiple countries  
5 in the same region if the drivers of violence, violent  
6 conflict, and fragility are transnational in such re-  
7 gion.

8 (e) STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION.—In addition to  
9 the individuals specified in subsection (a), the initiative  
10 required under this section shall be developed in coordina-  
11 tion with—

12 (1) the United States Ambassador, USAID  
13 Mission Director, geographic Combatant Commands,  
14 and relevant inter-agency country teams in each ap-  
15 plicable country; and

16 (2) representatives of local civil society and na-  
17 tional and local governance entities, as well as rel-  
18 evant international development organizations, mul-  
19 tilateral organizations, donors, and relevant private,  
20 academic, and philanthropic entities, as appropriate.

21 (f) CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATION.—The Adminis-  
22 trator of USAID, in coordination with the Secretary of  
23 State and Secretary of Defense (or their respective des-  
24 ignees), shall provide briefings to the appropriate congres-  
25 sional committees not later than—

1           (1) 45 days after the date of the enactment of  
2 this Act regarding the countries selected as pilot  
3 countries for the initiative required under this sec-  
4 tion;

5           (2) 90 days after such date of enactment re-  
6 garding progress on the individual pilot country  
7 plans under subsection (c); and

8           (3) 30 days after submission of such initiative  
9 regarding plans for implementing such initiative and  
10 such individual pilot country plans.

11       (g) MEASURING VIOLENCE, VIOLENT CONFLICT, AND  
12 FRAGILITY.—For the purposes of implementing, moni-  
13 toring, and evaluating the effectiveness of the individual  
14 pilot country plans required under subsection (c), progress  
15 towards reducing and addressing the causes of violence,  
16 violent conflict, and fragility shall be measured by indica-  
17 tors established for each such pilot country by relevant  
18 inter-agency country teams in each such pilot country, in-  
19 formed by consultations with the stakeholders specified in  
20 subsection (e)(2). Such indicators shall be based on the  
21 data described in subsection (d)(1)(A), as appropriate,  
22 and updated regularly to account for any improvements  
23 in the available indicators and to include indicators for  
24 additional priority areas, such as:

1           (1) Improving inclusive, transparent, and ac-  
2           countable power structures, including effective, le-  
3           gitimate, and resilient national and sub-national in-  
4           stitutions.

5           (2) Improving effective and respected conflict  
6           prevention, mitigation, management, and resolution  
7           mechanisms.

8           (3) Reducing levels of citizen support for vio-  
9           lence, violent extremism, and adversarial armed  
10          groups.

11          (4) Ensuring strong foundations for plurality,  
12          non-discrimination, human rights, rule of law, and  
13          equal access to justice.

14          (5) Addressing political, social, economic, and  
15          environmental vulnerabilities, grievances, and con-  
16          flicts.

17          (6) Ensuring inclusive economic development  
18          and enabling business environments.

19          (7) Improving resilience to transnational  
20          stresses and shocks, including from organized crime  
21          and violent extremist organizations.

22 **SEC. 5. IMPLEMENTATION AND UPDATES OF PILOT COUN-**  
23 **TRY PLANS.**

24          The Administrator of the United States Agency for  
25          International Development (USAID), the Secretary of

1 State, the Secretary of Defense, the heads of other rel-  
2 evant Federal agencies and departments, relevant United  
3 States Ambassadors, USAID Mission Directors, and other  
4 relevant individuals with responsibility over activities in  
5 each pilot country designated pursuant to section 4 shall  
6 ensure that—

7           (1) the Global Initiative to Reduce Fragility  
8           and Violence and each individual pilot country plan  
9           required under such section are implemented and  
10          updated on a regular and iterative basis;

11          (2) such initiative and individual pilot country  
12          plans are used to guide United States Government  
13          policy at a senior level and are incorporated into rel-  
14          evant strategies and plans across the United States  
15          Government and in each such pilot country;

16          (3) detailed and iterative goals, objectives, and  
17          plans of action are developed, implemented, updated,  
18          and coordinated among and within each relevant  
19          Federal agency or department for the duration of  
20          each such individual pilot country plan;

21          (4) resources for all relevant activities in each  
22          such pilot country are requested and utilized con-  
23          sistent with such initiative and individual pilot coun-  
24          try plans; and

1           (5) the results of program monitoring and eval-  
2           uation under such initiative and individual pilot  
3           country plans are regularly reviewed and utilized to  
4           determine continuation, modification, or termination  
5           of future year programming and that regular and  
6           iterative policy and program adaptations are made  
7           to each such plan.

8   **SEC. 6. BIENNIAL REPORTS AND CONGRESSIONAL CON-**  
9                                   **SULTATION.**

10          (a) BIENNIAL REPORTS.—Not later than two years  
11       after the date of the enactment of this Act and every two  
12       years thereafter until full implementation of the 10-year  
13       individual pilot country plans required under section 4, the  
14       Administrator of the United States Agency for Inter-  
15       national Development (USAID), in coordination with the  
16       Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the  
17       heads of other relevant Federal agencies and departments,  
18       shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees  
19       a report on progress made and lessons learned with re-  
20       spect to the Global Initiative to Reduce Fragility and Vio-  
21       lence and each individual pilot country plan required  
22       under section 4, including—

23               (1) descriptions of steps taken to incorporate  
24       such initiative and such individual pilot country

1 plans into relevant strategies and plans that affect  
2 such pilot countries;

3 (2) accountings of all funding received and obli-  
4 gated to implement each such individual pilot coun-  
5 try plan during the past two years, as well as fund-  
6 ing requested, planned, and projected for the fol-  
7 lowing two years;

8 (3) descriptions of progress made towards the  
9 goals and objectives established for each such indi-  
10 vidual pilot country, including progress made to-  
11 wards achieving the specific targets, metrics, and in-  
12 dicators described in section 4; and

13 (4) descriptions of updates made during the  
14 past two years to the goals, objectives, plans of ac-  
15 tion, and other elements described in section 4(e) for  
16 each such individual pilot country plan, as well as  
17 any changes made to programs based on the results  
18 of monitoring and evaluation in accordance with sec-  
19 tions 4 and 5.

20 (b) CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATION.—The Adminis-  
21 trator of USAID, the Secretary of State, the Secretary  
22 of Defense, and the heads of other relevant Federal agen-  
23 cies and departments shall jointly consult with the appro-  
24 priate congressional committees not less often than annu-  
25 ally regarding progress made on the initiative and indi-

1 vidual pilot country plans required under section 4. The  
2 consultation requirement under this subsection shall ter-  
3 minate upon full implementation of the 10-year individual  
4 pilot country plans required under such section.

5 **SEC. 7. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING ASSISTANCE FOR**  
6 **THE GLOBAL FRAGILITY AND VIOLENCE RE-**  
7 **DUCTION INITIATIVE.**

8 It is the sense of Congress that the President, to-  
9 gether with the Administrator of the United States Agency  
10 for International Development (USAID), the Secretary of  
11 State, the Secretary of Defense, and the heads of other  
12 relevant Federal agencies and departments, should—

13 (1) support the creation of a “Global Fragility  
14 and Violence Reduction Fund” to help support  
15 USAID and Department of State activities under  
16 the Global Fragility and Violence Reduction Initia-  
17 tive and individual pilot country plans required  
18 under section 4;

19 (2) work with Congress to provide funding that  
20 allows for more adaptive program planning and im-  
21 plementation under such initiative and individual  
22 pilot country plans, including through exemptions  
23 from specific and minimum funding levels when such  
24 exemptions would make programs better able to re-

1       spond to monitoring and evaluation or changed cir-  
2       cumstances in relevant countries;

3               (3) work with Congress to provide funding that  
4       better integrates conflict and violence reduction ac-  
5       tivities into other program areas where appropriate;  
6       and

7               (4) support the creation of a multilateral fund  
8       and other international initiatives to improve global  
9       public and private support for coordinating and  
10      funding efforts to reduce and address the causes of  
11      violence, violent conflict, and fragility.

12 **SEC. 8. GAO REVIEW.**

13       (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than five years after the  
14      date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General  
15      of the United States shall conduct an independent review  
16      of all United States Government activities in each pilot  
17      country designated pursuant to section 4.

18       (b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The review re-  
19      quired under subsection (a) shall include the following:

20               (1) An assessment of the extent to which  
21      United States Government activities in each pilot  
22      country designated pursuant to section 4 are being  
23      implemented in accordance with the relevant indi-  
24      vidual pilot country plan required under such sec-  
25      tion.



1           (2) Descriptions of all activities that are being  
2 implemented in accordance with each such individual  
3 pilot country plan, including, with respect to each  
4 such activity, the role of each relevant Federal agen-  
5 cy or department, the entities responsible for imple-  
6 mentation, and the funding level.

7           (3) Assessments of the processes and proce-  
8 dures for coordinating among and within each rel-  
9 evant Federal agency or department when imple-  
10 menting each such individual pilot country plan.

11           (4) Assessments of the monitoring and evalua-  
12 tion efforts under each such individual pilot country  
13 plan, including assessments of the progress made  
14 and lessons learned with respect to each such plan,  
15 as well as any changes made to activities based on  
16 the results of such monitoring and evaluation.

17           (5) Recommendations for changes necessary to  
18 better implement United States Government activi-  
19 ties in accordance with such individual pilot country  
20 plans, as well as recommendations for any changes  
21 to such plans.

22 **SEC. 9. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-**  
23 **FINED.**

24           The term “appropriate congressional committees”  
25 means—

1           (1) the Committees on Foreign Relations,  
2           Armed Services, and Appropriations of the Senate;  
3           and

4           (2) the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Armed  
5           Services, and Appropriations of the House of Rep-  
6           resentatives.

○

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 5273  
OFFERED BY MR. ENGEL OF NEW YORK**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Global Fragility and  
3 Violence Reduction Act of 2018”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5       Congress finds the following:

6           (1) According to the United Nations, an un-  
7 precedented 68.5 million people around the world,  
8 the highest level ever recorded, are currently forcibly  
9 displaced from their homes.

10          (2) According to the World Bank, violence and  
11 violent conflict are now the leading causes of dis-  
12 placement and food insecurity worldwide, driving 80  
13 percent of humanitarian needs, with the same con-  
14 flicts accounting for the majority of forcibly dis-  
15 placed persons every year since 1991.

16          (3) According to the World Health Organiza-  
17 tion, preventable forms of violence kill at least 1.4  
18 million people each year. According to the Institute

1 for Economics and Peace, violence containment costs  
2 the global economy \$14.76 trillion a year, or 12.4  
3 percent of the world's GDP. If violence were to de-  
4 crease uniformly across the world by just 10 per-  
5 cent, the global economy would gain \$1.48 trillion  
6 each year.

7 (4) Violence and violent conflict underpin many  
8 of the United States Government's key national se-  
9 curity challenges. Notably, violent conflicts allow for  
10 environments in which terrorist organizations recruit  
11 and thrive, while the combination of violence, cor-  
12 ruption, poverty, poor governance, and underdevelop-  
13 ment often enables transnational gangs and criminal  
14 networks to wreak havoc and commit atrocities  
15 worldwide.

16 (5) According to new research by the University  
17 of Maryland and University of Pittsburgh, exposure  
18 to violence increases support for violence and violent  
19 extremism. Research increasingly finds exposure to  
20 violence as a predictor of future participation in vio-  
21 lence, including violent extremism.

22 (6) United States foreign policy and assistance  
23 efforts in highly violent and fragile states remain  
24 governed by an outdated patchwork of authorities

1 that prioritize responding to immediate needs rather  
2 than solving the problems that cause them.

3 (7) Lessons learned over the past 20 years, doc-  
4 umented by the 2013 Special Inspector General for  
5 Iraq Reconstruction Lessons Learned Study, the  
6 2016 Fragility Study Group report, and the 2018  
7 Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Lessons  
8 Learned Study on Stabilization, show that effective,  
9 sustained United States efforts to reduce violence  
10 and stabilize fragile and violence-affected states re-  
11 quire clearly defined goals and strategies, adequate  
12 long-term funding, rigorous and iterative conflict  
13 analysis, coordination across the United States Gov-  
14 ernment, including strong civil-military coordination,  
15 and integration with national and sub-national part-  
16 ners, including local civil society organizations, local  
17 justice systems, and local governance structures.

18 (8) The “Stabilization Assistance Review” re-  
19 leased in 2018 by the Departments of State and De-  
20 fense and the United States Agency for Inter-  
21 national Development states, “The United States  
22 has strong national security and economic interests  
23 in reducing levels of violence and promoting stability  
24 in areas affected by armed conflict.” The Review  
25 further states, “Stabilization is an inherently polit-

1       ical endeavor that requires aligning U.S. Govern-  
2       ment efforts – diplomatic engagement, foreign as-  
3       sistance, and defense – toward supporting locally le-  
4       gitimate authorities and systems to peaceably man-  
5       age conflict and prevent violence.”.

6       **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

7       It is the policy of the United States to—

8               (1) ensure that all relevant United States Gov-  
9       ernment departments and agencies coordinate to  
10      achieve coherent, long-term goals for programs de-  
11      signed to prevent violence, stabilize conflict-affected  
12      areas, and address the long-term causes of violence  
13      and fragility, including when implementing the Glob-  
14      al Fragility and Violence Reduction Initiative de-  
15      scribed in section 5(a);

16              (2) seek to improve global, regional, and local  
17      coordination of relevant international and multilat-  
18      eral development and donor organizations regarding  
19      efforts to prevent violence, stabilize conflict-affected  
20      areas, and address the long-term causes of violence  
21      and fragility in fragile and violence-affected coun-  
22      tries, and, where practicable and appropriate, align  
23      such efforts with multilateral goals and indicators;

24              (3) expand and enhance the effectiveness of  
25      United States foreign assistance programs and ac-

1       activities to prevent violence, stabilize conflict-affected  
2       areas, and address the long-term causes of violence  
3       and fragility, including programs intended to im-  
4       prove the indicators described in section 5(d)(1);

5               (4) support the research and development of ef-  
6       fective approaches to prevent violence, stabilize con-  
7       flict-affected areas, and address the long-term  
8       causes of violence and fragility; and

9               (5) improve the monitoring, evaluation, learn-  
10       ing, and adaptation tools and authorities for relevant  
11       United States Government departments and agen-  
12       cies working to prevent violence, stabilize conflict-af-  
13       fected areas, and address the long-term causes of vi-  
14       olence and fragility.

15       **SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING ASSISTANCE FOR**  
16                       **THE GLOBAL FRAGILITY AND VIOLENCE RE-**  
17                       **DUCTION INITIATIVE.**

18       It is the sense of Congress that the President, the  
19       Secretary of State, the Administrator of USAID, the Sec-  
20       retary of Defense, and the heads of other relevant Federal  
21       departments and agencies, should work with Congress to  
22       provide sufficient types and levels of funding to—

23               (1) allow for more adaptive program planning  
24       and implementation under the initiative and priority  
25       country or regional plans required under section 5,

1 including through exemptions from specific and min-  
2 imum funding levels when such exemptions would  
3 make programs better able to respond to monitoring  
4 and evaluation or changed circumstances in relevant  
5 countries;

6 (2) better integrate conflict and violence reduc-  
7 tion activities into other program areas where appro-  
8 priate; and

9 (3) contribute to the creation of transparent  
10 and accountable multilateral funds, initiatives, and  
11 strategies to enhance and better coordinate both pri-  
12 vate and public efforts to prevent violence, stabilize  
13 conflict-affected areas, and address the long-term  
14 causes of violence and fragility.

15 **SEC. 5. GLOBAL INITIATIVE TO REDUCE FRAGILITY AND VI-**  
16 **OLENCE.**

17 (a) INITIATIVE.—The Secretary of State, in coordina-  
18 tion with the Administrator of the United States Agency  
19 for International Development (USAID), the Secretary of  
20 Defense, and the heads of other relevant Federal depart-  
21 ments and agencies, shall establish an interagency initia-  
22 tive, to be referred to as the “Global Initiative to Reduce  
23 Fragility and Violence”, to prevent violence, stabilize con-  
24 flict-affected areas, and address the long-term causes of  
25 violence and fragility.



1 (b) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than 180  
2 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
3 retary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of  
4 USAID, the Secretary of Defense, and the heads of other  
5 relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall develop  
6 and submit to the appropriate congressional committees  
7 an interagency implementation plan for the Global Initia-  
8 tive to Reduce Fragility and Violence established pursuant  
9 to subsection (a) that includes the following:

10 (1) Descriptions of the overall goals, objectives,  
11 criteria, and metrics guiding the implementation, in-  
12 cluding with respect to prioritizing countries and  
13 measuring progress.

14 (2) A list of the priority countries and regions  
15 selected pursuant to subsection (d)(2).

16 (3) Identification of the roles and responsibil-  
17 ities of each participating Federal department or  
18 agency, while ensuring that with respect to activities  
19 relating to stabilization—

20 (A) the Department of State shall be the  
21 overall lead for establishing United States for-  
22 eign policy and advancing diplomatic and polit-  
23 ical efforts;

1           (B) USAID shall be the lead implementing  
2           agency for development, humanitarian, and re-  
3           lated non-security programs;

4           (C) the Department of Defense shall sup-  
5           port the activities of the Department of State  
6           and USAID as appropriate, including by pro-  
7           viding requisite security and reinforcing civilian  
8           efforts, with the concurrence of the Secretary of  
9           State and Administrator of USAID; and

10          (D) other Federal departments and agen-  
11          cies shall support the activities of the Depart-  
12          ment of State and USAID as appropriate, with  
13          the concurrence of the Secretary of State and  
14          Administrator of USAID.

15          (4) Identification of the authorities, staffing,  
16          and other resource requirements needed to effec-  
17          tively implement the initiative.

18          (5) Descriptions of the organizational steps the  
19          Department of State, USAID, the Department of  
20          Defense, and each other relevant Federal depart-  
21          ment or agency will take to improve planning, co-  
22          ordination, implementation, monitoring, evaluation,  
23          adaptive management, and iterative learning with re-  
24          spect to the programs under such initiative.

1           (6) Descriptions of the steps each relevant Fed-  
2       eral department or agency will take to improve co-  
3       ordination and collaboration under such initiative  
4       with international development organizations, inter-  
5       national donors, multilateral organizations, and the  
6       private sector.

7           (7) Descriptions of potential areas of improved  
8       public and private sector research and development,  
9       including with academic, philanthropic, and civil so-  
10      ciety organizations, on more effective approaches to  
11      preventing violence, stabilizing conflict-affected  
12      areas, and addressing the long-term causes of vio-  
13      lence and fragility.

14          (8) Plans for regularly evaluating and updating,  
15      on an iterative basis—

16            (A) the Global Initiative to Reduce Fra-  
17            gility and Violence;

18            (B) the interagency implementation plan  
19            described in this subsection; and

20            (C) the priority country and regional plans  
21            described in subsection (e).

22      (e) PRIORITY COUNTRY AND REGIONAL PLANS.—

23      Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of  
24      this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the  
25      Administrator of USAID, the Secretary of Defense, and

1 the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agen-  
2 cies, shall develop and submit to the appropriate congres-  
3 sional committees 10-year plans to align and integrate the  
4 diplomatic, development, security, and other relevant ac-  
5 tivities of the United States Government with the initiative  
6 required under subsection (a) for each of the priority  
7 countries and regions designated pursuant to subsection  
8 (d). Such priority country and regional plans shall include:

9           (1) Specific interagency plans for coordination  
10       and implementation under the country or regional  
11       plan.

12           (2) Descriptions of how and when the relevant  
13       goals, objectives, and plans for each priority country  
14       or region will be incorporated into relevant United  
15       States country plans and strategies, including De-  
16       partment of State Integrated Country Strategies,  
17       USAID Country Development Cooperation Strate-  
18       gies, and Department of Defense Campaign Plans,  
19       Operational Plans, and Regional Strategies, as well  
20       as any equivalent or successor plans or strategies.

21           (3) Interagency plans to ensure that appro-  
22       priate local actors, including government and civil  
23       society entities and organizations led by women,  
24       youth, or under-represented communities, have roles  
25       in developing, implementing, monitoring, evaluating,

1 and updating relevant aspects of each such country  
2 or regional plan.

3 (4) Clear, transparent, and measurable diplo-  
4 matic, development, and security benchmarks, time-  
5 tables, and performance metrics for each such coun-  
6 try and region that align with best practices where  
7 applicable.

8 (5) Interagency plans for monitoring and eval-  
9 uation, adaptive management, and iterative learning  
10 that provide for regular and iterative policy and pro-  
11 gram adaptations based on outcomes, lessons  
12 learned, and other evidence gathered from each such  
13 country or region and across such countries and re-  
14 gions.

15 (6) Descriptions of the available policy tools to  
16 prevent violence, stabilize conflict-affected areas, and  
17 address the long-term causes of violence and fra-  
18 gility in each such country or region.

19 (7) Descriptions of the resources and authori-  
20 ties that would be required for each relevant Federal  
21 department or agency to best implement each such  
22 country or regional plan, as well as evidence-based  
23 iterative updates to such plans.

24 (8) Descriptions of potential areas of improved  
25 partnership with respect to such country or region,

1 regarding efforts to prevent violence, stabilize con-  
2 flict-affected areas, and address the long-term  
3 causes of violence and fragility, between the United  
4 States Government and—

5 (A) international development organiza-  
6 tions;

7 (B) relevant international donors;

8 (C) multilateral organizations; and

9 (D) the private sector.

10 (d) DESIGNATION OF PRIORITY COUNTRIES AND RE-  
11 GIONS.—

12 (1) IDENTIFICATION OF CANDIDATE COUNTRIES  
13 AND REGIONS.—The Secretary of State, in coordina-  
14 tion with the Administrator of USAID and the Sec-  
15 retary of Defense and in consultation with the ap-  
16 propriate congressional committees, shall develop a  
17 list of candidate countries and regions to be consid-  
18 ered for inclusion under the initiative on the basis  
19 of—

20 (A) clearly defined indicators of high levels  
21 of violence and fragility in such country or re-  
22 gion, such as—

23 (i) violence committed by armed  
24 groups, gender-based violence, and violence  
25 against children and youth;

1 (ii) prevalence of, and citizen support  
2 for, adversarial armed groups;

3 (iii) internal and external population  
4 displacement;

5 (iv) patterns of human rights viola-  
6 tions, including early warning indicators of  
7 the commission of genocide or other atroc-  
8 ities;

9 (v) poor governance, pervasive corrup-  
10 tion, and political instability; and

11 (vi) vulnerability to current or future  
12 transnational threats; and

13 (B) the capacity and opportunity to work  
14 across Federal departments and agencies and  
15 with local partners and other donors to prevent  
16 violence, stabilize conflict-affected areas, and  
17 address the long-term causes of violence and  
18 fragility with respect to such country or region,  
19 including by measurably—

20 (i) improving inclusive, transparent,  
21 and accountable power structures, includ-  
22 ing effective, legitimate, and resilient na-  
23 tional and sub-national institutions;

1 (ii) improving effective and respected  
2 conflict prevention, mitigation, manage-  
3 ment, and resolution mechanisms;

4 (iii) reducing levels of support among  
5 the residents of such country or region for  
6 violence, violent extremism, and adversarial  
7 armed groups;

8 (iv) ensuring strong foundations for  
9 plurality, non-discrimination, human  
10 rights, rule of law, and equal access to jus-  
11 tice;

12 (v) addressing political, social, eco-  
13 nomic, and environmental vulnerabilities,  
14 grievances, and conflicts;

15 (vi) ensuring inclusive economic devel-  
16 opment and enabling business environ-  
17 ments; and

18 (vii) improving resilience to  
19 transnational stresses and shocks, includ-  
20 ing from organized crime, violent extremist  
21 organizations, and economic and food mar-  
22 kets crises.

23 (2) SELECTION OF PRIORITY COUNTRIES AND  
24 REGIONS.—From among the candidate countries and  
25 regions identified pursuant to paragraph (1), the



1 Secretary of State, in coordination with the Admin-  
2 istrator of USAID and the Secretary of Defense,  
3 shall select certain countries as “priority countries”  
4 and certain regions as “priority regions” in a man-  
5 ner that ensures that—

6 (A) countries and regions are selected in a  
7 sufficient number and of sufficient diversity to  
8 provide indicators of the various drivers and  
9 early warnings of violence, conflict, and fra-  
10 gility, as well as best practices for United  
11 States efforts to prevent violence, stabilize con-  
12 flict-affected areas, and address the long-term  
13 causes of violence and fragility;

14 (B) not fewer than three countries or re-  
15 gions are designated as “Stabilization Coun-  
16 tries” or “Stabilization Regions”, in which the  
17 current levels of violence, violent conflict, or fra-  
18 gility are among the highest in the world;

19 (C) not fewer than three countries or re-  
20 gions are designated as “Prevention Countries”  
21 or “Prevention Regions”, in which current lev-  
22 els of violence, violent conflict, or fragility are  
23 lower than such levels in Stabilization Countries  
24 or Stabilization Regions but warning signs for

1 future violence, conflict, or fragility are signifi-  
2 cant;

3 (D) regions, rather than individual coun-  
4 tries, are selected where the threat or spillover  
5 of violence, conflict, or fragility threatens the  
6 stability of multiple countries within a single  
7 geographic region; and

8 (E) the countries and regions selected are  
9 in the areas of responsibility of at least three  
10 geographic bureaus of the Department of State.

11 (e) STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION.—The initiative  
12 required under subsection (a) shall be developed in coordi-  
13 nation with representatives of local civil society and na-  
14 tional and local governance entities, as well as relevant  
15 international development organizations, multilateral or-  
16 ganizations, donors, and relevant private, academic, and  
17 philanthropic entities, as appropriate.

18 (f) CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATION.—The Secretary  
19 of State, the Administrator of USAID, and the Secretary  
20 of Defense shall provide regular briefings on the imple-  
21 mentation of this Act to any appropriate congressional  
22 committee upon the request of such committee.

23 (g) MEASURING VIOLENCE, VIOLENT CONFLICT, AND  
24 FRAGILITY.—For the purposes of implementing, moni-  
25 toring, and evaluating the effectiveness of the priority

1 country and regional plans required under subsection (e),  
2 progress towards preventing violence, stabilizing conflict-  
3 affected areas, and addressing the long-term causes of vio-  
4 lence and fragility shall be measured by indicators estab-  
5 lished for each such country by relevant inter-agency coun-  
6 try teams for each such country, informed by consultations  
7 with the stakeholders specified in subsection (e).

8 **SEC. 6. IMPLEMENTATION AND UPDATES OF PRIORITY**  
9 **COUNTRY AND REGIONAL PLANS.**

10 The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Ad-  
11 ministrator of USAID, the Secretary of Defense, and the  
12 heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies,  
13 and in consultation with the relevant United States Am-  
14 bassadors, USAID Mission Directors, geographic Combat-  
15 ant Commanders, and other relevant individuals with re-  
16 sponsibility over activities in each priority country or re-  
17 gion designated pursuant to section 5, shall ensure that—

18 (1) the Global Initiative to Reduce Fragility  
19 and Violence and the priority country and regional  
20 plans required under such section are implemented,  
21 updated, and coordinated on a regular and iterative  
22 basis;

23 (2) such initiative and country and regional  
24 plans are used to guide United States Government  
25 policy at a senior level and incorporated into rel-

1 evant strategies and plans across the United States  
2 Government and in each such country;

3 (3) resources for all relevant activities and re-  
4 quirements of such initiative and country and re-  
5 gional plans are prioritized, requested, and used con-  
6 sistent with such initiative and country and regional  
7 plans; and

8 (4) the results of program monitoring and eval-  
9 uation under such initiative and country and re-  
10 gional plans are regularly reviewed and used to de-  
11 termine continuation, modification, or termination of  
12 future year programming.

13 **SEC. 7. BIENNIAL REPORTS AND CONGRESSIONAL CON-**  
14 **SULTATION.**

15 (a) BIENNIAL REPORTS.—Not later than two years  
16 after the date of the enactment of this Act and every two  
17 years thereafter until the date that is 10 years after the  
18 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State,  
19 the Administrator of USAID, the Secretary of Defense,  
20 and the heads of other relevant Federal departments and  
21 agencies shall jointly submit to the appropriate congres-  
22 sional committees a report on progress made and lessons  
23 learned with respect to the Global Initiative to Reduce  
24 Fragility and Violence and each priority country or re-  
25 gional plan required under section 5, including—

1           (1) descriptions of steps taken to incorporate  
2 such initiative and such country or regional plans  
3 into relevant strategies and plans that affect such  
4 countries or regions;

5           (2) accountings of all funding received and obli-  
6 gated to implement each such country or regional  
7 plan during the past two years, as well as funding  
8 requested, planned, and projected for the following  
9 two years;

10          (3) descriptions of progress made towards the  
11 goals and objectives established for each such pri-  
12 ority country or region, including progress made to-  
13 wards achieving the specific targets, metrics, and in-  
14 dicators described in section 5(b); and

15          (4) descriptions of updates made during the  
16 past two years to the goals, objectives, plans of ac-  
17 tion, and other elements described in section 5 for  
18 each such country or regional plan, as well as any  
19 changes made to programs based on the results of  
20 monitoring and evaluation.

21          (b) CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATION.—In addition to  
22 the reports required under subsection (a), the Secretary  
23 of State, the Administrator of USAID, the Secretary of  
24 Defense, and the heads of other relevant Federal depart-  
25 ments and agencies shall jointly consult with the appro-

1 priate congressional committees at least once a year re-  
2 garding progress made on the initiative and priority coun-  
3 try and regional plans required under section 5.

4 **SEC. 8. GAO REVIEW.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than two years after the  
6 date of the enactment of this Act and every two years  
7 thereafter until the date that is 10 years after the date  
8 of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of  
9 the United States shall consult with the Chairman and  
10 Ranking Member of the Foreign Relations Committee of  
11 the Senate and the Foreign Affairs Committee of the  
12 House of Representatives regarding opportunities for  
13 independent review of the activities under the Global Ini-  
14 tiative to Reduce Fragility and Violence and the priority  
15 country and regional plans required by section 5, includ-  
16 ing—

17 (1) opportunities to—

18 (A) assess the extent to which United  
19 States Government activities in each priority  
20 country designated pursuant to section 5 are  
21 being implemented in accordance with the ini-  
22 tiative and the relevant country or regional plan  
23 required under such section;

24 (B) assess the processes and procedures  
25 for coordinating among and within each rel-

1           evant Federal department or agency when im-  
2           plementing such initiative and each such coun-  
3           try or regional plan;

4           (C) assess the monitoring and evaluation  
5           efforts under such initiative and each such  
6           country or regional plan, including assessments  
7           of the progress made and lessons learned with  
8           respect to each such plan, as well as any  
9           changes made to activities based on the results  
10          of such monitoring and evaluation; and

11          (D) recommend changes necessary to bet-  
12          ter implement United States Government activi-  
13          ties in accordance with such initiative and coun-  
14          try and regional plans, as well as recommenda-  
15          tions for any changes to such initiative or  
16          plans; and

17          (2) such other matters the Comptroller General  
18          determines to be appropriate.

19          (b) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—All relevant  
20          Federal departments and agencies shall make all relevant  
21          data, documents, and other information available to the  
22          Comptroller General for purposes of conducting inde-  
23          pendent reviews pursuant to this section.

24          **SEC. 9. DEFINITIONS.**

25          In this Act—

1           (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
2           TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
3           mittees” means—

4                   (A) the Committees on Foreign Relations,  
5                   Armed Services, and Appropriations of the Sen-  
6                   ate; and

7                   (B) the Committees on Foreign Affairs,  
8                   Armed Services, and Appropriations of the  
9                   House of Representatives.

10           (2) RELEVANT FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OR  
11           AGENCY.—The term “relevant Federal department  
12           or agency” means the Department of the Treasury  
13           and any other Federal department or agency the  
14           President determines is relevant to carry out the  
15           purposes of this Act.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill To reduce  
global fragility and violence by improving the capacity of  
the United States to reduce and address the causes of vi-  
olence, violent conflict, and fragility, and for other pur-  
poses.”.





115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6018

To establish an interagency program to assist countries in the Sahel, Maghreb, and adjacent regions of Africa to improve immediate and long-term capabilities to counter terrorist threats, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 6, 2018

Mr. McCAUL (for himself and Mr. KEATING) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To establish an interagency program to assist countries in the Sahel, Maghreb, and adjacent regions of Africa to improve immediate and long-term capabilities to counter terrorist threats, 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 “Trans-Sahara Counter-  
5 terrorism Partnership Act of 2018”.

1 **SEC. 2. TRANS-SAHARA COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNER-**  
2 **SHIP.**

3 (a) TRANS-SAHARA COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNER-  
4 SHIP.—

5 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State,  
6 in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and  
7 the Administrator of the United States Agency for  
8 International Development, shall establish a partner-  
9 ship, to be known as the “Trans-Sahara Counterter-  
10 rorism Partnership” (TSCTP), to coordinate all  
11 United States programs, projects, and activities in  
12 the Sahel, Maghreb, and adjacent regions of Africa  
13 that are conducted for any of the following purposes:

14 (A) To build the capacity of foreign mili-  
15 tary and law enforcement entities in such re-  
16 gions to conduct counterterrorism operations.

17 (B) To improve the ability of foreign mili-  
18 tary and law enforcement entities in such re-  
19 gions to cooperate on counterterrorism efforts.

20 (C) To enhance the border security capac-  
21 ity of partner countries in such regions, includ-  
22 ing the ability to monitor, restrain, and inter-  
23 dict terrorist movements.

24 (D) To strengthen the rule of law in such  
25 countries, including access to justice, and the  
26 ability of the law enforcement entities of such

1 partner countries to detect, disrupt, respond to,  
2 investigate, and prosecute terrorist activity.

3 (E) To monitor and counter the financing  
4 of terrorism.

5 (F) To further reduce any opportunities  
6 among communities in such regions for recruit-  
7 ment or incitement for terrorist activities  
8 through public diplomaey efforts, such as sup-  
9 porting youth employment, promoting meaning-  
10 ful participation of women, strengthening local  
11 governance and civil society capacity, and im-  
12 proving access to education.

13 (2) CONSULTATION.—In coordinating programs  
14 through the TSCTP, the Secretary of State may  
15 also consult, as appropriate, with the Director of  
16 National Intelligence, the Secretary of the Treasury,  
17 the Attorney General, and the heads of other rel-  
18 evant Federal departments and agencies.

19 (3) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Not later  
20 than 15 days before obligating amounts for an activ-  
21 ity coordinated by the TSCTP pursuant to para-  
22 graph (1), the Secretaries of State shall submit a  
23 notification, in accordance with the requirements of  
24 section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961  
25 (22 U.S.C. 2394–1), that includes the following:

1 (A) The foreign country and entity, as ap-  
2 plicable, whose capabilities are to be enhanced  
3 in accordance with the purposes specified in  
4 paragraph (1).

5 (B) The amount, type, and purpose of sup-  
6 port to be provided.

7 (C) An assessment of the capacity of the  
8 foreign country or entity to absorb the training  
9 or equipment to be provided.

10 (D) The estimated cost, implementation  
11 timeline, and delivery schedule for assistance.

12 (E) A description of the arrangements to  
13 sustain any equipment provided by the activity  
14 beyond the completion date of such activity, if  
15 applicable, and the estimated cost and source of  
16 funds to support such sustainment.

17 (F) The amount, type, statutory authoriza-  
18 tion, and purpose of any United States assist-  
19 ance provided to such foreign country during  
20 the three preceding fiscal years.

21 (b) COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY FOR COUNTERTER-  
22 RORISM EFFORTS.—

23 (1) DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than 90 days  
24 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
25 retary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of

1 Defense and the Administrator of the United States  
2 Agency for International Development, shall submit  
3 to the appropriate congressional committees a com-  
4 prehensive, interagency strategy that—

5 (A) highlights the desired end states, stra-  
6 tegic objectives, and sub-objectives for the  
7 United States counterterrorism effort in the  
8 Sahel, Maghreb, and adjacent regions of Africa  
9 with respect to the use of all forms of United  
10 States assistance to counter violent extremism;  
11 and

12 (B) includes a plan by the Secretary of  
13 State for the manner in which programs shall  
14 be coordinated by the TSCTP pursuant to sub-  
15 section (a)(1).

16 (2) SUPPORTING MATERIAL IN ANNUAL BUDG-  
17 ET REQUEST.—The Secretary of State shall include,  
18 in the budget materials submitted in support of the  
19 budget of the President (submitted to Congress pur-  
20 suant to section 1105 of title 31, United States  
21 Code) for each fiscal year beginning after the date  
22 of the enactment of this Act, a description of the re-  
23 quirements, activities, and planned allocation of  
24 amounts requested by the TSCTP.

1           (3) FORM.—The report required by paragraph  
2           (1) and each description required under paragraph  
3           (2) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may  
4           include a classified annex.

5           (c) ASSESSMENT, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION  
6 OF PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.—

7           (1) MONITORING AND EVALUATION.—The Sec-  
8           retary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of  
9           Defense and the Administrator of the United States  
10          Agency for International Development, shall conduct  
11          rigorously assess, monitor, and evaluate programs  
12          coordinated by the TSCTP pursuant to subsection  
13          (a)(1) including by the following:

14                (A) Initial assessments of partner capa-  
15                bility requirements, potential programmatic  
16                risks, baseline information, and indicators of ef-  
17                ficacy for purposes of planning, monitoring, and  
18                evaluation of the programs and activities co-  
19                ordinated by the TSCTP.

20                (B) Evaluations of the efficiency and effec-  
21                tiveness of such programs and activities.

22                (C) Monitoring implementation of such  
23                programs and activities with respect to the stat-  
24                ed objectives outlined in the strategy required  
25                under subsection (b)(1).

1           (D) Identification of lessons learned in car-  
2           rying out such programs and activities to de-  
3           velop recommendations for improving such  
4           strategy and future security cooperation pro-  
5           grams and activities of the TSCTP.

6           (2) BEST PRACTICES REQUIREMENTS.—The on-  
7           going assessment required under paragraph (1) shall  
8           be conducted in accordance with the best practices  
9           described in section 383(b)(2) of title 10, United  
10          States Code.

11          (3) REPORTS.—

12           (A) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—For the 5-  
13           year period beginning on the date of the enact-  
14           ment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall  
15           submit to the appropriate congressional com-  
16           mittees an annual report on the findings of the  
17           ongoing assessment required by paragraph (1)  
18           during the previous fiscal year. Each report  
19           shall include, with respect to such previous  
20           year, the following:

21                   (i) A description of all activities co-  
22                   ordinated by the TSCTP pursuant to sub-  
23                   section (a)(1).

1           (ii) An evaluation of the lessons  
2 learned and best practices identified in ac-  
3 cordance with paragraph (2).

4           (iii) An analysis of major actions  
5 taken by the government of each foreign  
6 country receiving assistance coordinated by  
7 the TSCTP to combat corruption, improve  
8 transparency and accountability, and pro-  
9 mote other forms of good governance such  
10 as those described in section 133 of the  
11 Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.  
12 2152c) (relating to programs to encourage  
13 good governance).

14           (B) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF EFFICIENCY  
15 EVALUATION.—The Secretaries of State and  
16 Defense shall jointly make publicly available a  
17 summary of each evaluation conducted pursu-  
18 ant to paragraph (1), from which the Secre-  
19 taries may redact or omit any information that  
20 the Secretaries determine should not be dis-  
21 closed to the public in order to protect the in-  
22 terests of the United States or of any relevant  
23 foreign country.



1           (C) FORM.—The report required by sub-  
2           paragraph (A) shall be submitted in unclassi-  
3           fied form but may include a classified annex.

4           (d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES  
5           DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate con-  
6           gressional committees” means—

7           (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the  
8           Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on  
9           Appropriations, and the Permanent Select Com-  
10          mittee on Intelligence of the House of Representa-  
11          tives; and

12          (2) the Committee on Armed Services, the  
13          Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on  
14          Appropriations, and the Select Committee on Intel-  
15          ligence of the Senate.

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 6018  
OFFERED BY MR. MCCAUL OF TEXAS**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Trans-Sahara  
3 Counterterrorism Partnership Act of 2018”.

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

5 It is the sense of Congress that—

6 (1) the Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Part-  
7 nership, launched in 2005, is an interagency pro-  
8 gram to assist partner countries in the Sahel and  
9 Maghreb regions of Africa on their immediate and  
10 long-term capabilities to address terrorist threats  
11 and prevent the spread of violent extremism;

12 (2) armed groups and violent Islamist terrorist  
13 organizations, such as Al Qaeda in the Islamic  
14 Maghreb, Boko Haram, the Islamic State of West  
15 Africa, and other affiliated groups, have killed tens  
16 of thousands of innocent civilians, displaced popu-  
17 lations, destabilized local and national governments,

1 and caused mass human suffering in the affected  
2 communities;

3 (3) it is in the national security interest of the  
4 United States to combat the spread of radical  
5 Islamist extremism and build partner countries' ca-  
6 pacity to combat these threats in Africa;

7 (4) extremist movements exploit vulnerable and  
8 marginalized communities suffering from poverty,  
9 lack of economic opportunity (particularly among  
10 youth populations), and weak governance; and

11 (5) to address critical security, political, eco-  
12 nomic, and humanitarian challenges in these regions  
13 of Africa, a coordinated, interagency approach is  
14 needed to appropriately allocate resources, share re-  
15 sponsibility, de-conflict programs, and maximize the  
16 effectiveness of United States defense, diplomatic,  
17 and development capabilities.

18 **SEC. 3. TRANS-SAHARA COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNER-**  
19 **SHIP.**

20 (a) TRANS-SAHARA COUNTER TERRORISM PARTNER-  
21 SHIP.—

22 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State,  
23 in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and  
24 the Administrator of the United States Agency for  
25 International Development, shall establish a partner-

1 ship, to be known as the “Trans-Sahara  
2 Counterterrorism Partnership” (TSCTP), to coordi-  
3 nate all United States programs, projects, and ac-  
4 tivities in North and West Africa that are conducted  
5 for any of the following purposes:

6 (A) To build the capacity of foreign mili-  
7 tary and law enforcement entities in such re-  
8 gions to conduct counterterrorism operations.

9 (B) To improve the ability of foreign mili-  
10 tary and law enforcement entities in such re-  
11 gions to cooperate with the United States and  
12 other partner countries on counterterrorism ef-  
13 forts.

14 (C) To enhance the border security capac-  
15 ity of partner countries in such regions, includ-  
16 ing the ability to monitor, restrain, and inter-  
17 dict terrorists.

18 (D) To strengthen the rule of law in such  
19 countries, including access to justice, and the  
20 ability of the law enforcement entities of such  
21 partner countries to detect, disrupt, respond to,  
22 investigate, and prosecute terrorist activity.

23 (E) To monitor and counter the financing  
24 of terrorism.

1           (F) To further reduce any vulnerabilities  
2           among affected populations in such regions to  
3           recruitment or incitement of terrorist activities  
4           through public diplomacy efforts, such as sup-  
5           porting youth employment, promoting meaning-  
6           ful participation of women, strengthening local  
7           governance and civil society capacity, and im-  
8           proving access to economic opportunities and  
9           education.

10          (2) CONSULTATION.—In coordinating programs  
11          through the TSCTP, the Secretary of State shall  
12          also consult, as appropriate, with the Director of  
13          National Intelligence, the Secretary of the Treasury,  
14          the Attorney General, and the heads of other rel-  
15          evant Federal departments and agencies.

16          (3) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Not later  
17          than 15 days before obligating amounts for an activ-  
18          ity coordinated by the TSCTP pursuant to para-  
19          graph (1), the Secretaries of State shall submit a  
20          notification, in accordance with the requirements of  
21          section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961  
22          (22 U.S.C. 2394–1), that includes the following:

23                 (A) The foreign country and entity, as ap-  
24                 plicable, whose capabilities are to be enhanced

1 in accordance with the purposes specified in  
2 paragraph (1)

3 (B) The amount, type, and purpose of sup-  
4 port to be provided.

5 (C) An assessment of the capacity of the  
6 foreign country or entity to absorb the assist-  
7 ance to be provided.

8 (D) The estimated cost and anticipated im-  
9 plementation timeline for assistance.

10 (E) As applicable, a description of the ar-  
11 rangements to sustain any equipment provided  
12 by the activity beyond the completion date of  
13 such activity, if applicable, and the estimated  
14 cost and source of funds to support such  
15 sustainment.

16 (F) The amount, type, statutory authoriza-  
17 tion, and purpose of any United States security  
18 assistance provided to such foreign country dur-  
19 ing the three preceding fiscal years pursuant to  
20 authorities under title 10, United States Code,  
21 the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.  
22 2151 et seq.), or any other “train and equip”  
23 authorities of the Department of Defense.

24 (b) COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY FOR  
25 COUNTERTERRORISM EFFORTS.—

1           (1) DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than 180 days  
2 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
3 retary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of  
4 Defense and the Administrator of the United States  
5 Agency for International Development, shall submit  
6 to the appropriate congressional committees a com-  
7 prehensive, interagency strategy that—

8           (A) states the objectives of the United  
9 States counterterrorism effort in North and  
10 West Africa with respect to the use of all forms  
11 of United States assistance to counter violent  
12 extremism; and

13           (B) includes a plan by the Secretary of  
14 State for the manner in which programs shall  
15 be coordinated by the TSCTP pursuant to sub-  
16 section (a)(1), including which agency or bu-  
17 reau of the Department of State, as applicable,  
18 will be responsible for leading and coordinating  
19 each such program; and

20           (C) outlines a plan to monitor and evaluate  
21 TSCTP programs and identifies the key indica-  
22 tors that will be used to measure performance  
23 and progress under the strategy.

24           (2) SUPPORTING MATERIAL IN ANNUAL BUDG-  
25 ET REQUEST.—The Secretary of State shall include,

1 in the budget materials submitted in support of the  
2 budget of the President (submitted to Congress pur-  
3 suant to section 1105 of title 31, United States  
4 Code) for each fiscal year beginning after the date  
5 of the enactment of this Act, a description of the re-  
6 quirements, activities, and planned allocation of  
7 amounts requested by the TSCTP.

8 (e) MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF PROGRAMS  
9 AND ACTIVITIES.—

10 (1) MONITORING AND EVALUATION.—The Sec-  
11 retary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of  
12 Defense and the Administrator of the United States  
13 Agency for International Development, shall monitor  
14 and evaluate the programs coordinated by the  
15 TSCTP pursuant to subsection (a)(1) in accordance  
16 with the plan outlined pursuant to subsection  
17 (b)(1)(C).

18 (2) REPORT.—For the 5-year period beginning  
19 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,  
20 the Secretary of State shall submit to the appro-  
21 priate congressional committees an annual report on  
22 monitoring and evaluation efforts pursuant to para-  
23 graph (1) that describes—

24 (A) the progress made in meeting the ob-  
25 jectives listed in the strategy required by sub-



1 section (b)(1), including any lessons learned in  
2 carrying out TSCTP programs and activities  
3 and any recommendations for improving such  
4 programs and activities;

5 (B) the efforts taken to coordinate, de-con-  
6 flict and streamline TSCTP programs to maxi-  
7 mize resource effectiveness;

8 (C) the extent to which each partner coun-  
9 try has demonstrated the ability to absorb the  
10 equipment or training provided in the year pre-  
11 vious under TSCTP programs, and where appli-  
12 cable, the ability to maintain and appropriately  
13 utilize such equipment provided;

14 (D) the extent to which each partner coun-  
15 try is investing its own resources to advance the  
16 goals described in subsection (a)(1) or dem-  
17 onstrated a commitment and willingness to co-  
18 operate with the United States to advance such  
19 goals; and

20 (E) the actions taken by the government of  
21 each partner country receiving assistance  
22 through programs coordinated by the TSCTP  
23 to combat corruption, improve transparency  
24 and accountability, and promote other forms of  
25 good governance.

1 (d) FORM.—The strategy required by subsection  
2 (b)(1) and the report required by subsection (c)(2) shall  
3 be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classi-  
4 fied annex.

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

8 (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the  
9 Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on  
10 Appropriations, and the Permanent Select Com-  
11 mittee on Intelligence of the House of Representa-  
12 tives; and

13 (2) the Committee on Armed Services, the  
14 Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on  
15 Appropriations, and the Select Committee on Intel-  
16 ligence of the Senate.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill To establish  
an interagency program to assist countries in North and  
West Africa to improve immediate and long-term capa-  
bilities to counter terrorist threats, and for other pur-  
poses.”.



**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE  
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 6018  
OFFERED BY MR. MEADOWS OF NORTH  
CAROLINA**

Page 4, after line 9, insert the following:

- 1                   (G) To support independent, local-lan-  
2                   guage media, particularly in rural areas, to  
3                   counter media operations and recruitment prop-  
4                   aganda by terrorist organizations.

Page 4, line 14, insert “the Chief Executive Officer  
of the United States Agency for Global Media (formerly  
known as the Broadcasting Board of Governors),” after  
“the Attorney General,”.

Page 4, line 19, strike “Secretaries” and insert  
“Secretary”.



115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6413

To combat trafficking in human organs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 17, 2018

Mr. TROTT (for himself and Mr. DEUTCH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To combat trafficking in human organs, 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 “Strategy To Oppose  
5 Predatory Organ Trafficking Act” or the “STOP Organ  
6 Trafficking Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress finds the following:

9 (1) The World Health Organization (WHO) es-  
10 timates that approximately 10 percent of all trans-  
11 planted kidneys worldwide are illegally obtained,

1 often bought from vulnerable impoverished persons  
2 or forcibly harvested from prisoners.

3 (2) In 2004, the World Health Assembly passed  
4 a resolution urging its member-states to take meas-  
5 ures to protect the poorest as well as vulnerable  
6 groups from exploitation by organ traffickers.

7 (3) On February 13, 2008, the United Nations  
8 Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking  
9 (UNGIFT) hosted the “Vienna Forum to Fight  
10 Human Trafficking”, and subsequently reported  
11 that a lack of adequate illicit organ trafficking laws  
12 has provided opportunity for the illegal trade to  
13 grow.

14 (4) On March 21, 2011, the Council of the Eu-  
15 ropean Union adopted rules supplementing the defi-  
16 nition of criminal offenses and the level of sanctions  
17 in order to strengthen the prevention of organ traf-  
18 ficking and the protection of those victims.

19 (5) In 2005, the United States ratified the Pro-  
20 tocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in  
21 Persons, Especially Women and Children, a supple-  
22 ment to the United Nations Convention against  
23 Transnational Organized Crime, which includes the  
24 removal of organs as a form of exploitation under  
25 the definition of “trafficking in persons”.

1           (6) According to a 2013 United Nations report  
2           from the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in per-  
3           sons, especially women and children, the economic  
4           and social divisions within and among countries is  
5           notably reflected in the illicit organ trafficking mar-  
6           ket, in which the victims are commonly poor, unem-  
7           ployed, and more susceptible to deceit and extortion.

8 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

9           It is the sense of Congress that—

10           (1) the kidnapping or coercion of individuals for  
11           the purpose of extracting their organs for profit is  
12           in contradiction of the ideals and standards for eth-  
13           ical behavior upon which the United States has  
14           based its laws;

15           (2) the illegal harvesting of organs from chil-  
16           dren is a violation of the human rights of the child  
17           and is a breach of internationally accepted medical  
18           ethical standards described in WHO Assembly Reso-  
19           lution 57.18 (May 22, 2004);

20           (3) the illegal harvesting and trafficking of or-  
21           gans violates the Universal Declaration of Human  
22           Rights, in Article 3 which states that “Everyone has  
23           the right to life, liberty and security of person.”, and  
24           in Article 4 which states that “No one shall be held  
25           in slavery or servitude.”; and

1           (4) establishing efficient voluntary organ dona-  
2           tion systems with strong enforcement mechanisms is  
3           the most effective way to combat trafficking of per-  
4           sons for the removal of their organs.

5 **SEC. 4. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

6           It shall be the policy of the United States to—

7           (1) combat the international trafficking of per-  
8           sons for the removal of their organs;

9           (2) promote the establishment of voluntary  
10          organ donation systems with effective enforcement  
11          mechanisms in bilateral diplomatic meetings, as well  
12          as in international health forums; and

13          (3) promote the dignity and security of human  
14          life in accordance with the Universal Declaration of  
15          Human Rights.

16 **SEC. 5. REVOCATION OR DENIAL OF PASSPORTS TO INDI-**  
17 **VIDUALS WHO ARE ORGAN TRAFFICKERS.**

18          The Act entitled “An Act to regulate the issue and  
19          validity of passports, and for other purposes”, approved  
20          July 3, 1926 (22 U.S.C. 211a et seq.), commonly known  
21          as the “Passport Act of 1926”, is amended by adding at  
22          the end the following new section:

23 **“SEC. 4. AUTHORITY TO DENY OR REVOKE PASSPORT.**

24          “(a) ISSUANCE.—The Secretary of State may refuse  
25          to issue a passport to any individual who has been con-

1 victed of an offense under section 301 of the National  
2 Organ Transplant Act (42 U.S.C. 274e) if such individual  
3 used a passport or otherwise crossed an international bor-  
4 der in the commission of such an offence.

5 “(b) REVOCATION.—The Secretary of State may re-  
6 voke a passport previously issued to any individual de-  
7 scribed in paragraph (1).”.

8 **SEC. 6. AMENDMENTS TO THE TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PRO-**  
9 **TECTION ACT OF 2000.**

10 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 103 of the Trafficking  
11 Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102) is  
12 amended—

13 (1) in paragraph (9)—

14 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or”  
15 at the end;

16 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the  
17 period at the end and inserting: “; or”; and

18 (C) by adding at the end the following new  
19 subparagraph:

20 “(C) trafficking of persons for the removal  
21 of their organs (as defined in paragraph  
22 (13)).”;

23 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (13) through  
24 (15) as paragraphs (14) through (16), respectively;  
25 and



1 (3) by inserting after paragraph (12) the fol-  
2 lowing new paragraph:

3 “(13) TRAFFICKING OF PERSONS FOR THE RE-  
4 MOVAL OF THEIR ORGANS.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘trafficking  
6 of persons for the removal of their organs’  
7 means the recruitment, transportation, transfer,  
8 harboring, or receipt of a person, either living  
9 or deceased, for the purpose of removing one or  
10 more of such person’s organs, by means of—

11 “(i) coercion;

12 “(ii) abduction;

13 “(iii) deception;

14 “(iv) fraud;

15 “(v) abuse of power or a position of  
16 vulnerability; or

17 “(vi) transfer of payments or benefits  
18 to achieve the consent of a person having  
19 control over a person described in the mat-  
20 ter preceding clause (i).

21 “(B) ORGAN DEFINED.—In subparagraph  
22 (A), the term ‘organ’ has the meaning given the  
23 term ‘human organ’ in section 301(c)(1) of the  
24 National Organ Transplant Act (42 U.S.C.  
25 274e(e)(1)).”.

1 (b) INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE TO MONITOR AND  
2 COMBAT TRAFFICKING.—Section 105(d)(3) of the Traf-  
3 ficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C.  
4 7103(d)(3)) is amended by inserting after the first sen-  
5 tence the following new sentence: “Such procedures shall  
6 include collection and organization of data from human  
7 rights officers at United States embassies on host country  
8 laws against trafficking of persons for the removal of their  
9 organs and any instances of violations of such laws.”.

10 **SEC. 7. REPORTING.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the  
12 date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter  
13 through 2025, the Secretary of State shall submit to the  
14 appropriate congressional committees a comprehensive re-  
15 port that includes the following information:

16 (1) A description of the sources, practices,  
17 methods, facilitators, and recipients of trafficking of  
18 persons for the removal of their organs during the  
19 period covered by each such report.

20 (2) A description of activities undertaken by the  
21 Department of State, either unilaterally or in co-  
22 operation with other countries, to address and pre-  
23 vent trafficking of persons for the removal of their  
24 organs.

1           (3) A description of activities undertaken by  
2           countries to address and prevent trafficking of per-  
3           sons for the removal of their organs.

4           (b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The reports re-  
5           quired under subsection (a) shall include the collection and  
6           organization of data from human rights officers at United  
7           States diplomatic and consular posts on host country laws  
8           against trafficking of persons for the removal of their or-  
9           gans, including enforcement of such laws, or any instances  
10          of violations of such laws.

11          (c) ADDITIONAL MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The  
12          reports required under subsection (a) may include the fol-  
13          lowing:

14                (1) Information provided in meetings with host  
15                country officials.

16                (2) Information provided through cooperation  
17                with United Nations or World Health Organization  
18                agencies.

19                (3) Communications and reports provided by  
20                nongovernmental organizations working on the issue  
21                of trafficking of persons for the removal of their or-  
22                gans.

23                (4) Any other reports or information sources  
24                the Secretary of State determines to be necessary  
25                and appropriate.

1 **SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committee on Foreign Affairs of  
4 the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
5 Foreign Relations of the Senate.  
6

7  
8 (2) **ORGAN.**—The term “organ” has the meaning given the term “human organ” in section  
9 301(c)(1) of the National Organ Transplant Act (42  
10 U.S.C. 274e(c)(1)).  
11

12 (3) **TRAFFICKING OF PERSONS FOR THE REMOVAL OF THEIR ORGANS.**—The term “trafficking of persons for the removal of their organs” means  
13 the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring,  
14 or receipt of a person, either living or deceased, for  
15 the purpose of removing one or more of the person’s  
16 organs, by means of—  
17

18 (A) coercion;  
19

20 (B) abduction;  
21

22 (C) deception;  
23

24 (D) fraud;  
25

26 (E) abuse of power or a position of vulnerability; or

(F) transfer of payments or benefits to  
achieve the consent of a person having control

1           over a person described in the matter preceding  
2           clause (i).

3 **SEC. 9. LIMITATION ON FUNDS.**

4       No additional funds are authorized to be appro-  
5       priated to carry out this Act or any amendment made by  
6       this Act.

○

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 6413**  
**OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE OF CALIFORNIA**

Page 2, line 2, after “or” insert “in some cases”.

Page 4, beginning on line 3, strike “trafficking of persons for the removal of their organs” and each place it appears thereafter and insert “trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs”.

Page 6, beginning on line 3, strike “TRAFFICKING OF PERSONS FOR THE REMOVAL OF THEIR ORGANS” and each place it appears thereafter and insert “TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS FOR PURPOSES OF THE REMOVAL OF ORGANS”.

Page 6, beginning on line 8, strike “, either living or deceased,”.

Page 7, strike lines 1 through 9.

Page 7, line 11, strike “one year” and insert “two years”.

Page 8, after line 25, add the following:

1       (d) RELATION TO TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS RE-  
2 PORT.—The reports required under subsection (a) shall be  
3 deemed to satisfy the reporting requirements relating to

1 trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of or-  
2 gans under section 110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Pro-  
3 tection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)).

Page 9, line 16, strike “, either living or deceased,”.

☒

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6651

To extend certain authorities relating to United States efforts to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria globally, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 3, 2018

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Ms. LEE, Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Ms. BASS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

---

## A BILL

To extend certain authorities relating to United States efforts to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria globally, 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 “PEPFAR Extension  
5 Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. INSPECTORS GENERAL AND ANNUAL STUDY.**

7 Section 101 of the United States Leadership Against  
8 HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (22  
9 U.S.C. 7611) is amended—



- 1 (1) in subsection (f)(1)—  
2 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
3 “2018” and inserting “2023”; and  
4 (B) in subparagraph (C)(iv)—  
5 (i) by striking “four” and inserting  
6 “nine”; and  
7 (ii) by striking “2018” and inserting  
8 “2023”; and  
9 (2) in subsection (g)—  
10 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “2019”  
11 and inserting “2024”; and  
12 (B) in paragraph (2)—  
13 (i) in the heading, by striking “2018”  
14 and inserting “2024”; and  
15 (ii) by striking “September 30, 2018”  
16 and inserting “September 30, 2023”.

17 **SEC. 3. PARTICIPATION IN THE GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT**  
18 **AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS, AND MALARIA.**

19 Section 202(d) of the United States Leadership  
20 Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of  
21 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7622(d)) is amended—

- 22 (1) in paragraph (4)—  
23 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

1 (i) in clause (i), by striking “fiscal  
2 years 2009 through 2018” and inserting  
3 “fiscal years 2004 through 2023”;

4 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “2018”  
5 and inserting “2023”; and

6 (iii) by striking clause (vi); and

7 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

8 (i) by striking clause (ii);

9 (ii) by redesignating clauses (iii) and  
10 (iv) as clauses (ii) and (iii), respectively;

11 (iii) in clause (ii) (as redesignated by  
12 clause (ii) of this subparagraph)—

13 (I) in the first sentence, by add-  
14 ing at the end before the period the  
15 following: “or section 104B or 104C  
16 of such Act”; and

17 (II) in the second sentence, by  
18 striking “for HIV/AIDS assistance”;  
19 and

20 (iv) in clause (iii) (as redesignated by  
21 clause (ii) of this subparagraph), by strik-  
22 ing “2018” and inserting “2023”; and

23 (2) in paragraph (5), by striking “2018” and  
24 inserting “2023”.

1 **SEC. 4. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.**

2       Section 403(c) of the United States Leadership  
3 Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of  
4 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7673(c)) is amended by striking “2018”  
5 and inserting “2023”.

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 6651**  
**OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF NEW JERSEY**

Page 2, line 16, strike “2023” and insert “2024”.

Strike section 4 and insert the following:

1 **SEC. 4. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.**

2 Section 403 of the United States Leadership Against  
3 HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (22  
4 U.S.C. 7673) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (b), by striking “2018” and  
6 inserting “2023”; and

7 (2) in subsection (c), in the matter preceding  
8 paragraph (1), by striking “2018” and inserting  
9 “2023”.



Chairman ROYCE. So I now recognize myself to speak on today's business.

So, first, we have the PEPFAR Extension Act, and for many of you who were on the this committee or know the history of the committee, in 2003, Congress and the Bush administration united in an effort to stem the tide of HIV infections that threatened to wipe out a generation of people living in Africa and today PEPFAR has proven highly effective.

It has saved innumerable lives. It has won the U.S. a great deal of good will.

Our committee has held many hearings, briefings—gone to Africa on multiple occasions to conduct oversight over the supply chain for this lifesaving program, and we will be finalizing a report on this important work.

And I want to thank Chairman Smith and Ranking Members Engel and Bass for their dedication to this issue.

Next, we have the Preventing Destabilization of Iraq Act, and this codifies and enhances existing authorities for the President to hold Iran and to hold Iran's militias accountable for their deadly activities in Iraq.

These militias are not only a threat to the Iraqi people, because earlier this month these militias launched mortars at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, if you'll remember.

I want to thank the author, Representative Kinzinger, and Chairman Poe, who has held hearings on this issue on his subcommittee.

Next, I'd like to thank Ranking Member Engel and Chairman McCaul for the Global Fragility and Violence Reduction Act, and this act will allow the U.S. to better coordinate efforts to reduce conflict overseas which has caused unprecedented levels of human displacement.

The bill requires strong monitoring and evaluation so our overseas missions can learn from their past successes and learn from their failures.

And I'd also like to thank Chairman McCaul and Ranking Member Keating for their work on the Trans Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership Act because Boko Haram and ISIS and al-Qaeda affiliates continue to wreak havoc across West Africa. So this legislation will improve U.S. diplomatic development and defense programs to confront these threats.

Next, we have the Stop Organ Trafficking Act. Global scarcity for transplant organs has led to an annual global black market of \$1.2 billion.

Authoritarian states and human traffickers and even ISIS terrorists have profited from this disgusting practice. This bill closes a gap in U.S. law that currently fails to recognize organ trafficking as a form of human trafficking.

Next, we have the U.S.-Mexico Economic Partnership Act. As our neighbor to the south, Mexico is an important trading partner of the United States. So this bill builds on existing programs to increase our educational and professional exchanges between our two countries.

Next, I'd like to thank Chairman Cook for his timely and important resolution on Venezuela. This resolution further affirms Con-

gress' continuing commitment to helping the people of Venezuela in their struggle against the Maduro regime's brutal and destructive rule.

And I also thank Representative Donovan for his resolution that affirms the strong U.S.-Liberia relationship and our commitment to helping the Liberian people promote peace, prosperity, and democracy through the ongoing reconciliation process. This is an issue that I have long been engaged on dating back to the committee's role in pressing for the arrest of the notorious war criminal Charles Taylor and then for his successful prosecution.

Next, we have House Resolution 931. This resolution recognizes the anniversary of the brutal and manufactured famine in Ukraine in the 1930s and it expresses Congress' unwavering support for the Ukrainian people in their continuing struggle to establish a peaceful, democratic, and secure country in which basic human rights are respected.

And, finally, I thank Representative Castro for his resolution which affirms the value of our longstanding alliance with Australia and our mutually beneficial cooperation in a broad range of areas from defense to space.

And I now recognize the ranking member, Eliot Engel of New York, for his opening remarks.

Mr. ENGEL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you for calling this markup, and thank you to all our colleagues for their hard work.

There are 10 good measures before us today and I am pleased to support them all.

First, I'd like to discuss H.R. 5273, the Global Fragility and Violence Reduction Act, which I authored with Representatives Poe, McCaul, Keating, and others. Thank you all and thanks, Mr. Chairman, for bringing this up today.

Global levels of violence are at a 25-year peak, and when a region faces violence the effects are felt far and wide. Economic development backslides, global stability wavers, terrorists thrive, and people flee their homes, creating large-scale refugee and migrant crises.

So it's critical that we work to prevent this violence from happening in the first place. Since September 11th, we have learned a lot about what works and what doesn't when it comes to stabilizing conflicts and preventing violence from breaking out.

Those lessons should shape American policy. That's what this bill does. It establishes an initiative to reduce fragility and violence that will align American engagement with the lessons we have learned.

It will require the State Department, USAID, and the Department of Defense to coordinate their diplomatic, development, and security activities with a focus on 10 priority countries and it requires best practices as we work with partners, measure results, and adapt to changing conditions.

We need to update our Government's policies to prevent violence and I ask all members to join me in supporting the bill.

And when unspeakable violence does occur, we need to properly recognize the perpetrators of those crimes and hold them accountable.

Mr. Donovan's measure, H. Res. 1055, would help do so by reaffirming the historic U.S. relationship with Liberia and calling for the Government of Liberia to hold accountable those who carry out mass violence and atrocities during the country's civil war in the 1990s.

In places where instability leads to terrorism and conflict, it's important that we collaborate with our allies in a united interagency effort.

So I support Mr. McCaul's Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership Act, which strengthens our work across the U.S. Government to assist partners in the Sahel and Maghreb regions of Africa to counter terrorism and violent extremism.

Our partnerships with foreign countries are important for economic development as well, especially when it comes to our neighbors. That brings me to Mr. Cuellar's United States-Mexico Economic Partnership Act.

Mexico is a friend and ally, our third largest trading partner, and a country with which we share extraordinarily close cultural and familial ties.

This bill requires the Secretary of State to expand educational and professional exchange programs with Mexico. It's important that we send a strong message to the Mexican people that the United States Congress will not walk away from them, despite the damage that has been done to its relationship in recent months and years.

I'll turn now to a resolution condemning the dire humanitarian situation in Venezuela sponsored by Representatives Cook and Sires.

The current situation in Venezuela is really just horrendous. President Maduro has turned the country into a full-fledged dictatorship and victimized his citizens.

It's a tragedy which requires world leaders to speak out, but not with the sort of reckless threats and bellicose rhetoric we have heard from the administration.

This measure represents a strong bipartisan message from Congress and I urge all members to support it.

Keeping countries stable is critical, especially in areas where foreign governments are seeking to create disorder.

Mr. Kinzinger and Mr. Suozzi's Preventing Destabilization of Iraq Act works to prevent dangerous outsiders from nefariously interfering in Iraq by slapping sanctions on any foreign person conducting significant destabilizing activities in that country.

Especially at this time in Iraq, it is important that the United States send a clear signal to the Iraqi people and regional actors that what happens in Iraq matters to the United States, that we have an interest, and I thank my colleagues for this bill.

Next, I'll discuss the PEPFAR Extension Act. As the sponsor of the last PEPFAR reauthorization in 2013, I am proud to support the bipartisan bill before us today.

PEPFAR, as the chairman mentioned, is a landmark program dedicated to combating the spread of HIV/AIDS. Thanks to PEPFAR, 14 million men, women, and children are on lifesaving treatment and more than 2 million babies were born HIV-free to

mothers living with HIV. This is remarkable progress and we must keep striving for more.

The PEPFAR Extension Act before us today will help ensure this phenomenal work continues for another 5 years. It's an excellent program with bipartisan support and I urge all members to join me in voting for this measure.

I'd also like to recognize Mr. Castro's resolution affirming U.S.-Australia cooperation on space research and exploration. I support this measure that highlights this important area of international cooperation with one of America's closest friends and allies.

Next, Congressman Sandy Levin's measure that recognizes the 85th anniversary of the 1932 famine in Ukraine—as we watch the Russian occupation in Crimea and aggression against eastern Ukraine, we are reminded that this horrific human tragedy was designed by Stalin to crackdown on Ukrainian resistance to Soviet rule.

With this measure, Congress solemnly remembers the millions of Ukrainians who perished in this genocide. I urge all members to support it.

Another good bill before us today is the STOP Organ Trafficking Act. I want to thank Representative Deutch and Trott for reintroducing this measure, which passed with overwhelming support in the last Congress.

The need for transplant organs throughout the world has led to a gruesome underground trade of organs. It's horrifying and we need to have laws and research directed at solving this. This bill is a step in the right direction. I urge all members to support the measure.

Once again, thank you to all our members. Thank you for your hard work on this committee over the last 2 years. I want to just say at the end of this markup we will have a brief meeting here in the chairman's room with the Prime Minister of Kosovo, and I hope that all members of the committee on both sides will join us for a few minutes to meet with Ramush Haradinaj, the Prime Minister of Kosovo.

So thank you for everything, Mr. Chairman, and I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you.

Paul Cook of California seeks recognition.

Mr. COOK. Chairman Royce, thank you for holding this important markup today.

I am pleased to be joined by Ranking Member Engel, Chairman Emeritus Ros-Lehtinen, and Subcommittee Ranking Member Sires, along with several other members, in sponsoring House Resolution 1006 on Venezuela.

The situation in Venezuela worsens every day with hyperinflation projected to reach an unimaginable 1 million percent by the end of the year.

China and Russia continue bankrolling Venezuela's failed economy and Cuban intelligence agents have enabled Nicolas Maduro to suppress the opposition and illegitimately cling to power.

More than 2.3 million Venezuelans have fled the country, creating a vast regional migration and potential public health crisis as countries have struggled to respond.



This week, President Trump and Vice President Pence affirmed U.S. commitment to supporting the Venezuelan people. The announcement of an additional \$48 million for humanitarian assistance brings total American support to over \$118 million in aid to Western Hemisphere countries responding to the Venezuelan migration crisis.

The additional U.S. sanctions on four members of Nicolas Maduro's inner circle and seizure of \$20 million of private jets are just critical to show the criminality and corruption of the Maduro regime at the expense of the Venezuelan people and emphasize that loyalty to Maduro comes at a steep cost. These efforts build on previous U.S. sanctions as well as those by Canada, the European Union, and Switzerland.

Moving forward, we need to see more actions by the U.S. and countries in the Western Hemisphere. House Resolution 1006 that we are discussing today recognizes and applauds the efforts by the Lima Group, the Organization of American States, as well as the 19 countries that voted in favor of the most recent OAS resolution on Venezuela last June.

Notably, there are another 12 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean who voted against or abstained from voting on that OAS resolution.

Today, there is no excuse for enabling the continuation of tyranny in Venezuela or the corresponding havoc on the region. This resolution affirms the U.S. support for the legitimate National Assembly and Supreme Court and urges countries in the region, especially those 12 who have been reticent to take action, to support democracy in Venezuela, and an investigation under international law into crimes against humanity by the Maduro regime.

Recent leadership by the Governments of Argentina, Colombia, Chile, Peru, Paraguay, and Canada to seek to hold Maduro accountable for his crimes against the Venezuelan people is welcome news and I commend these governments' actions.

In conclusion, the resolution also urges further U.S. sanctions and public diplomacy efforts to expose corruption among Venezuelan officials and greater regional and global coordination on imposing sanctions on Venezuelan officials responsible for the ongoing crisis and it demonstrates the continuing and unwavering support of the U.S. Congress for the people of Venezuela and all efforts to end this crisis and support a return to democracy.

Thank you. I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Cook.

Mr. Joaquin Castro of Texas.

Mr. CASTRO. Thank you, Chairman, and thank you to all the members and everybody who worked on the pieces of legislation in front of us today.

The bills and resolutions considered today on Australia, Ukraine, Venezuela, Liberia, Mexico, Iran, global fragility, Counterterrorism in West Africa, organ trafficking, and HIV/AIDS address important issues in the world.

And I'd first like to thank the committee for considering my resolution that I authored with Congresswoman Elise Stefanik of New York on supporting greater cooperation on space research, exploration and utilization with our Australian allies.

This July, the Australian Government set up their first space program. This year marks 100 years of close cooperation between the United States and Australia, dating back to the First World War where the two countries fought side by side.

The alliance has only deepened in the century that followed to include diplomatic, cultural, and economic cooperation in addition to space exploration.

In fact, Australia played a part in one of America's most notable achievements in space. The first images of Neil Armstrong on the moon were relayed to the American people and the world through radio stations in Australia.

There is value in the United States' deepening cooperation with our allies and partners in exploring space and finding commercial opportunities outside our planet as we seek to improve our understanding of the universe and our place within it and I appreciate the support of my colleagues in this measure and would ask for their support on it.

I would next like to voice my support for the United States-Mexico Economic Partnership Act introduced by Ranking Member Engel and by my colleague from Texas, Henry Cuellar.

At a time when we have a President that's consistently attacked Mexico and Hispanic Americans in our own nation, this bill supports greater educational and economic ties between the United States and Mexico when we need it most.

A friendly productive relationship with our neighbor to the south is vital for the continued prosperity and security of Americans, especially those in communities from border states like mine, Texas.

The programs the bill supports through the 100,000 Strong in the Americas Initiative will help communities on both sides of the border strengthen academic opportunities, commerce, energy infrastructure, and medical care, and I'd like to thank the committee for marking this important measure up.

Next, I'd like to thank Chairman Cook and Ranking Member Sires for introducing the resolution on Venezuela that we are considering today.

The situation in the country is dire with the failed policies of Nicolas Maduro resulting in an economic collapse and the flight of millions of Venezuelan citizens to neighboring countries.

I urge my colleagues on this committee to support this measure and to support efforts by the Organization of American States and our partners in the region to support democracy and fight for democracy in Venezuela.

I also would like to thank the countries in the region, particularly Colombia, that have taken in so many of those that are fleeing the dire circumstances and situation in Venezuela.

All countries, including the United States, have a moral obligation to help those who flee persecution and catastrophe and are in desperation, and I am disappointed that the administration has reduced the number of refugees our country will be taking in this coming year down to 30,000 from an already low 45,000.

We are closing our doors and putting up walls at a time when there are many more people displaced around the world from their homes. In fact, today there are about 70 million around the world who are displaced.

I am proud to support the other measures as well. Thank you, Chairman. I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you.

Mr. Dan Donovan of New York.

Mr. DONOVAN. Thank you, Chairman Royce and Ranking Member Engel, for holding this markup today.

We have many important measures on the calendar and, as always, it's a pleasure to work in a bipartisan manner to tackle tough foreign affairs matters and push toward legislation that will make a difference in the world.

Our schedule this week, both for hearings and this markup, has a heavy emphasis on global human rights. Of all the soaring rhetoric on this topic, our Founding Fathers said it best in the Declaration of Independence:

“We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal and they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

As this committee has seen time and time again, chaos lies in the wake of human rights violations, and when that happens it causes a country and even an entire region and continent to become destabilized.

This then creates a downward spiral of violence. Murder, rape, torture, and the lack of human dignity makes an area ripe for radicalization and leads to the absence of even the most basic sanitary and health services.

This dangerous combination then threatens our security here in the United States. Protecting human rights across the globe is not just morally the right thing to do, but it is also vital to our own national security.

Stopping war crimes before they happen is just as important as ensuring that justice prevails afterwards. Without justice, there cannot be healing for the victims and the cycle of turbulence will start anew.

This is why I am proud to sponsor H.R. 1055, to affirm strong United States-Liberian ties and support for democratic principles and call for full implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations including the establishment of an extraordinary criminal tribunal for Liberia.

My district, Staten Island and south Brooklyn, is home to thousands of Liberians who have fled the turbulence of civil war. My constituents have directly told me how important it is to them that Liberia establish an extraordinary war crimes tribunal.

Liberia itself recommended the establishment of a war crimes tribunal in its own Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Liberia's current President, President George Weah, called for the establishment of a war crimes tribunal in 2004 as a UNICEF goodwill ambassador.

There is time to put this into action. At this very moment, people who have committed unspeakable war crimes hold positions in Liberia's Government.

For example, Senator Prince Y. Johnson is an infamous war lord who tortured and murdered former President Samuel Doe. There

is a video of Johnson's sickening mutilation of President Doe where Johnson is, despicably, sipping on a beer, fanned by an assistant, while Johnson's minions cut off Doe's ear.

With the presence of Johnson and others in the current government, we are seeing Liberia's slow creep backward toward the murderous mayhem of its civil war days.

Liberians are, rightfully, clamoring for justice. Without it, I fear there will be further violence and turbulence, which nobody wants to see.

This is why it is so crucial to call upon Liberia and President Weah to establish a war crimes tribunal.

Thank you, Chairman Royce, my Democratic co-leader, Congressman Hank Johnson, and all of our other co-sponsors for supporting this resolution.

I would also like to thank the staff committee, especially Meg, Sean, and Marie, for their work on this matter. I urge all my colleagues to support this resolution and continue to seek justice across the globe.

Mr. Chairman, I yield the remainder of my time back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Donovan.

Mr. Albio Sires of New Jersey.

Mr. SIRES. I want to start by thanking Chairman Royce and Ranking Member Engel for bringing up these measures today. The 10 bipartisan measures being considered today is a testament to the continued efforts of Chairman Royce and Ranking Member Engel to set aside partisanship and ensure this committee gets things done.

I'd like to speak in support of House Resolution 1006, an important resolution introduced by Chairman Paul Cook. This resolution highlights the deteriorating situation in Venezuela and the regional humanitarian crisis it has caused.

It also reaffirms support for the legitimate National Assembly and urges further regional action to help the Venezuelan people.

The resolution supports the findings of the Organization of American States' panel of experts that states that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the government of Nicolas Maduro has committed crimes against humanity and urges the region to support an investigation under international law.

I would also like to thank the chairman and his staff for working with us on our amendment to highlight Maduro's continued crack-down on political expression.

Deputy Juan Requesens was detained last month as Maduro used an alleged assassination attempt in August as an opportunity to further crack down on his opposition.

He is just one of many who have been detained and disappeared as Maduro tries to further consolidate power.

I want to thank Chairman Royce, Chairman Cook, and Ranking Member Engel for their continued attention to the plight of the Venezuelan people. I support the resolution and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Thank you, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Chairman ROYCE. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen of Florida.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman.

I add my support for all the measures before us today. I'd like to offer some brief remarks on just a few.

First, I am proud to be an original co-sponsor along with you, Mr. Chairman, as well as our ranking member, Mr. Engel, Karen Bass, my fellow co-chair of the HIV/AIDS Caucus, Barbara Lee of Chris Smith's PEPFAR Extension Act.

This important bill would extend this longstanding bipartisan lifesaving program for another 5 years. In 2003, President George W. Bush called on Congress to take action in responding to the global crisis of HIV/AIDS and I am proud that not only did we answer the President's call but this committee took a leading role in the response.

I will never forget standing in the Oval Office as President Bush signed this essential program into law. When PEPFAR began 15 years ago, only 50,000 people in Africa were receiving HIV treatment.

Today, there are over 14 million people receiving HIV treatment globally and over 2 million babies are born HIV-free to HIV-positive women. Amazing.

PEPFAR is truly a shining example of American leadership and what our country can achieve when our branches of government work together in a bipartisan manner.

The United States must continue to lead the global response to HIV/AIDS, build on the strong partnerships that we have built around the world.

It continues to be the largest and most successful humanitarian aid commitment made by any nation in history. I urge all of my colleagues to give it their full support.

We see some of their proud advocates here today in the audience.

Next, I am also proud to be an original co-sponsor of our Western Hemisphere Subcommittee Chairman Paul Cook's House Resolution 1006.

This important resolution condemns the Maduro regime for its role in the deterioration of Venezuela's democratic institutions and for the creation of a humanitarian crisis that grows worse by the day.

Maduro's failed policies have left Venezuelan people malnourished, sick, poor, without food, without basic medical supplies.

The United States and our partners have a responsibility to do everything that we can to ensure humanitarian aid reaches the people of Venezuela and I am glad that this resolution calls not just for more assistance but for greater coordination in the region and beyond.

I commend the administration for allocating funds to help Venezuelan refugees in Colombia and for its continued targeted sanctions against the regime including those this very week against Maduro's inner circle.

Whether it's people like Cilia Flores, Maduro's wife, or Diosdado Cabello, the head of the sham Constituent Assembly, we must continue putting pressure on those responsible and sending a strong message that the U.S. will not sit idly by as the regime continues its repression.

We must also, as this bill does, express our unwavering support for Venezuela's legitimate democratic institutions like its duly

elected National Assembly and the Supreme Court, as well as civil society.

I thank my colleague, Paul Cook, and Albio Sires for their leadership on this resolution and for their tireless support for the people of Venezuela.

I offer my support also for my friend Adam Kinzinger's bill, the Preventing Iran Destabilization Act. This important bill would impose sanctions against a multitude of Iranian militias, proxies, terrorist groups, and other nefarious entities operating in Iraq who are undermining our efforts at stabilization.

As Mr. Kinzinger knows firsthand, Iran's activities in Iraq only benefit one country—Iran.

And finally, I'd like to say just a few words of support of Mr. McCaul's bill, H.R. 6018, the Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership Act. Launched in 2005, this is an important program for building partner country capacity in a critical region of the world.

This bill both codifies the partnership into law while helping to sharpen its focus with some necessary oversight. I offer my full support for this as well as all of your bills.

As always, Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member, I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you. Thank you.

We go now to Mr. David Cicilline from Rhode Island.

Mr. CICILLINE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you to you and to the ranking member of this committee for bringing forth these important bills and resolutions.

While the world is facing the largest refugee crisis in recorded history with 22.5 million refugees worldwide, the Trump administration has cut refugee admissions for 2019 to a record low of 30,000.

In our own hemisphere, conditions in Venezuela have led to the largest migration crisis of its kind in recent Latin American history. According to the United Nations, more than 2.3 million Venezuelans have left their country since 2014.

It's important for the United States to stand with partners in our hemisphere to condemn the actions of the Maduro regime, expose corruption among Venezuelan officials, support democratic actors, and provide humanitarian assistance to the people of Venezuela.

I am proud to support H. Res. 1006 and to be a co-sponsor of this resolution, which condemns the deteriorating situation in Venezuela and the regional humanitarian crisis it has caused and calls on the President to increase support to the Venezuelan people.

H. Res. 1055, which affirms strong United States-Liberia ties and support for democratic principles and calls for full implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations including the establishment of an extraordinary criminal tribunal for Liberia, affirms the U.S. commitment to helping the Liberian people promote peace, prosperity, and democracy through the reconciliation process and supports the efforts of the State Department and USAID in advancing the rule of law, effective governance, and a strong civil society in Liberia.

In March of this year, the United Nations' mission in Liberia successfully completed its mandate to help stabilize and develop Liberia following its civil wars.

I traveled to Liberia in 2013 and saw firsthand the amazing progress achieved by the people of Liberia in cooperation with the United States, the U.N., and the international community.

Under the 2003 comprehensive peace agreement, a Truth and Reconciliation Commission was established to address the widespread atrocities that had been committed.

However, Liberia has yet to hold a single person to account for past abuses. The United States and Liberia share close historical, political, and economic ties and it's right that we should raise our voices alongside the international community to call upon the Liberian Government to establish a process of accountability to ensure that the perpetrators of gross human rights violations and war crimes are brought to justice.

I am proud to support and co-sponsor this measure and encourage my colleagues to do the same.

I am also proud to support H.R. 1567, the United States-Mexico Economic Partnership Act. The United States and Mexico also share a long history of friendship and partnership.

The past and futures of both our nations are intertwined. Today, at a time when divisive rhetoric is easier to come by than a kind word, it's more important than ever to strengthen the ties of friendship and cooperation with our neighbors to the south.

By increasing educational and professional exchanges between our countries, the United States-Mexico economic partnership will help citizens of both nations to build relationships, share knowledge, and create opportunities that will help both countries grow and prosper.

H.R. 6413, the strategy to oppose predatory organ trafficking, is an important step toward—forward in addressing a horrific practice and protecting the most vulnerable.

Human trafficking for organ removal is at once an egregious human rights abuse and a form of human trafficking. Motivated by demand, international criminal organizations have taken the shortage of organs as an easy opportunity to pressure people from countries living in poverty into selling their organs.

By recognizing organ trafficking in the U.S. human trafficking framework and requiring reporting on trafficking of persons for the removal of their organs, this bill shines a light on this nightmarish practice.

And, finally, H.R. 6651, the PEPFAR Extension Act of 2008, I've always been a proud and vocal proponent of PEPFAR and I am glad that it has earned bipartisan support from Congress and multiple administrations.

This program has enabled expanded access to anti-viral therapies for those suffering with HIV and AIDS, which has led to a decrease in deaths from this devastating disease all around the world.

It support more than 14 million people with lifesaving anti-viral treatment and has contributed to the well-being of more than 2.2 million babies born HIV-free to pregnant women living with HIV.

It's critical that the United States continue to play a leadership role in the fight against this disease and that's why I am, once again, proud to support and co-sponsor the extension of PEPFAR in H.R. 6651, the PEPFAR Extension Act of 2008.

I am proud to support all these measures and urge my colleagues to do the same, and yield back the balance of my time.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Cicilline.

Tom Garrett of Virginia.

Mr. GARRETT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thanks to the members and the committee for bringing forth these meaningful pieces of legislation.

I am going to isolate my comments specifically on H. Res. 1006 and Venezuela and take this opportunity to speak to the tragic pattern that we have demonstrated across over 100 years of the failure to learn the lessons taught to us very clearly by history.

Mr. Chairman, this legislation is frustrating only in so far as I wish we could do more—the sense of Congress regarding a tragedy that's literally impacted millions is the right thing to do and I am glad to support it and add my name to it.

And yet, time and again we have watched as individuals have been swept to power—Hugo Chavez and his successor, Nicolas Maduro—under promises to create utopian paradises by virtue of government regulation.

When this government regulation occurs at the expense of free markets, when it occurs vis-a-vis the disincentivization of individual initiative, these promises of fairness manifest themselves in the uniform distribution of poverty and suffering.

Whether Cambodia or Maoist China, whether the former Soviet Union or Cuba, the patterns and outcomes are all the same, and it is many times that I have implored my peers and superiors on this committee to remember the words of Arthur Vandenberg, that politics stop at the water's edge.

So I will leave out American political leaders and their comments on Venezuela over the last going into 20 years. But let me say when luminaries and thought leaders like Michael Moore and Sean Penn join hands with people like Hugo Chavez, when the leader of the British Labour Party, Jeremy Corbyn, suggests that Hugo Chavez and, later, Nicolas Maduro will work to advance the cause of people struggling across Venezuela, what we have seen throughout the course of history is literally the destruction of lives.

Blessed with vast mineral resources, Venezuela, not long ago, was the wealthiest, most prosperous country in Central and Latin America. We now see, literally, millions displaced and a population wherein the average weight loss over the last 365 days is closing on 20 pounds. Maybe I should move there.

Having said that and making light, it's a tragedy that need not repeat itself.

Mr. Chairman, before I came to this body and after I leave it, I will consider myself a historian and some lessons are written large on the pages of history, if we are only willing to listen.

No less a thought luminary than Gandhi once stated that man cannot be made good by law, and while I seek the best for the collective, I believe to my very core that the best of the collective is achieved by empowering the individual.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, it's with some satisfaction that I lend my support to H. Res. 1006 but some disappointment that we seem condemned to repeat the mistakes of the past.

Thank you for your time, and I'd yield back.



Chairman ROYCE. Thank you. We appreciate your observations, Mr. Garrett.

I would say the advantage of the sense of Congress on sanctions and us moving this measure and the discussions we have had in subcommittee and full committee on it have had a desired effect in terms of pressuring the administration, and 2 days ago they did announce sanctions on Venezuela.

But I think your point is well taken and but I did want to make the point that our actions here and our pressures here often have results.

We go now to Tom Suozzi of New York.

Mr. SUOZZI. Chairman Royce and Ranking Member Engel, thank you again for your continued bipartisan work on this committee—the measures put forward here today—another example of the great work this committee has done under your bipartisan leadership.

Iran is continuing to use corruption and violence and their malign influence to manipulate Iraq’s political system. It’s threatening Iraq’s peace and stability and undermining their economic reconstruction.

I’d like to speak today in support of H.R. 4591, which I am co-sponsoring, the Preventing Destabilization of Iraq Act, and I want to thank Representative Kinzinger for his leadership on promoting stability throughout the Middle East.

At the United Nations this week, Iranian President Rouhani spoke against foreign interventions and imposition of “alien wishes of the people of the region.”

In an Atlantic op-ed last year, his Foreign Minister Zarif complained about countries which support “nonstate actors who wreak havoc through terror.” They both might want to look in the mirror.

In Iraq, Iranian-backed militias have committed human rights abuses for years, executing and beating civilians, and looting homes.

These same militias have taken roles to try and influence Iraq’s nascent political system. In Iraq’s recent elections, the IRGC Commander Qasem Soleimani himself has been spending time coercing Shi’ite parties with differing views to form a paramilitary parliamentary majority, one that presumably would be in favor of his agenda.

H.R. 4591 would sanction any foreign person—not just Iranians, but all—conducting significant destabilizing activities in Iraq.

Corruption is endemic and rampant in Iraq’s political system. As a representative government of the will of the people, it is key to long-term stability.

This version of the bill also includes important language from Representative Poe that would require our Government to look into designating two of Tehran’s proxies in Iraq—HHN and AAH—as foreign terrorist organizations.

By 2011, AAH claimed responsibility for thousands of attacks on U.S. and coalition forces. HHN, a hybrid of fighters from AAH and Hezbollah brigades of Iraq, has also played an active role against Americans during the Iraq war and now in Syria’s civil war, boasting a unit in the Golan Heights targeting Israel.

These groups must be called what they are—terrorists.

On a different note, I want to make sure I speak in special support of PEPFAR Extension Act—H.R. 6651. I want to thank co-sponsors Chris Smith and Barbara Lee.

This committee continues to do bipartisan work to promote human life and dignity worldwide by seeking to address acute humanitarian needs and to reduce global poverty.

U.S. goodwill reflects our shared value that all people deserve opportunities to reach their fullest potential and to promote the common good.

PEPFAR is one of the most successful programs demonstrating U.S. leadership. The reauthorization ensures that 10 percent is set aside for some of the most vulnerable among us—orphans and vulnerable children.

These programs provide psychological care and support household economic strengthening, legal protection, education, health and nutrition, and family and community strengthening services.

Strengthening the systems that support vulnerable children and families ensures that children living with the HIV virus receive the support they need and the HIV negative children know their status and remain negative.

Thank you for ensuring that children are protected as part of PEPFAR reauthorization, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Chairman ROYCE. Mr. Chris Smith of New Jersey.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, and thank you for your leadership in bringing all of these bills to the committee and, ultimately, to the floor.

I want to thank you for marking up my bill, H.R. 6651, the PEPFAR Extension Act of 2018—a 5-year extension of a landmark law authored by Chairman Henry Hyde in 2003.

Members who were here at the time might recall that Henry Hyde was eloquent, aggressive, and persuasive, because at that point we knew the pandemic was exploding all over the world, particular in Africa, and that man whose portrait sits to my right, your left—Henry Hyde—was absolutely tenacious in making sure that we acted and we acted promptly with sufficient resources to really get the job done.

I'll never forget his eloquence. He compared the HIV/AIDS pandemic to the Black Death—to the bubonic plague that ravaged all of Europe—and he said, if we don't act who will.

And when we acted, Europe and many other countries began to follow suit and very, very critical masses of money and technical expertise and health interventions began to flow.

First proposed and strongly pushed by President Bush and continued through the Obama administration and into the Trump administration, PEPFAR has been and continues to be an historic sweeping health and humanitarian initiative that has saved the lives of millions, and it is a triumph of bipartisanship.

And let's not forget that the legislation also includes tuberculosis. In my committee we have held hearings just recently about how TB is now the leading infectious disease in the world and with multi-drug resistance making some people incurable—because TB is usually very curable—it is a problem.

So this money continues to be deployed in order to combat that and, of course, malaria, which ravages especially children espe-

cially in hot tropical climates, including and especially in Africa and some parts of Asia, this legislation, again, continues to provide very, very important money to those individuals in health care.

It is estimated that some 16 million lives have been saved—16 million—due to PEPFAR, and 13 countries are on track to control the HIV/AIDS epidemic by 2020.

Consider that when PEPFAR was launched 15 years ago—and I know my good friend and colleague, Ms. Ros-Lehtinen, pointed this out as well—only 50,000 people in Africa had access to any life-saving anti-retroviral treatment, or ARVs. Now, roughly, 14 million men, women, and children are receiving such ongoing treatment because it has to be ongoing in order to be efficacious in treating the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

PEPFAR has also made possible the end of mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS. Some 2.2 million babies have been born HIV-free to HIV-positive mothers.

It used to be the mom had the disease during the child traversing through the birth canal, it was highly likely that that girl or boy would contract the disease as well.

The lives of so many have been enhanced, not just those infected by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, or malaria, but the family members and friends who have their loved ones with them now, today, are thriving because of this Henry Hyde initiative, which was backed so and pushed so strongly by President Bush and, of course, in a bipartisan way.

Our group of bipartisan original sponsors have sought to extend the reauthorization of PEPFAR, as I said in the beginning, for another 5 years.

I want to thank my lead Democratic sponsor Barbara Lee for her commitment to extending PEPFAR as well as to commend the leadership shown by Chairman Royce, Ranking Member Engel, Chairwoman Emeritus Ileana Ros-Lehtinen—and we will miss her—and my distinguished colleague on the Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations Subcommittee, my good friend and colleague, Ranking Member Karen Bass.

Upon consultation with Ms. Lee, we did decide to add an amendment which would explicitly extend programs aimed at supporting orphans and vulnerable children until 2023 as well.

This amendment has the support of a number of organizations including faith-based partners such as Catholic Relief Services and World Vision.

Finally, I also want to single out the extraordinary work of our PEPFAR coordinator, Ambassador Deborah Birx and thank her for her leadership. First serving in the Obama administration and now in the Trump administration, Ambassador Birx has been a model of results-oriented data-driven professionalism.

Her compassionate commitment to those who suffer from HIV/AIDS, TB, and malaria is truly inspiring and remarkable.

On another bill—and I won't speak to them all, just two more, Mr. Chairman, because they are all good. I'd like to thank Mr. Dan Donovan, a valued member of our Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations for his leadership that he has shown with regards to Liberia.

Congressman Donovan spearheaded a hearing which this subcommittee held on the future of democracy and governance in Liberia. He is a great friend of Liberia and of the Liberian-American community.

With House Resolution 1055, Mr. Donovan has again pointed a way forward for Liberia, a country which has emerged from a gruesome civil war in 2003. While it is true that the Special Court for Sierra Leone—we have had David Crane testify here many times at our subcommittee—the lead prosecutor—and they are the ones who convicted Charles Taylor, who never thought he would be held to account and he got 50 years and is now in prison for his horrific crimes in that quest for justice and there is a continued work for Truth and Reconciliation but it is unfinished.

To solidify the progress it has made in Liberia it is important that the report of recommendations issued by that Truth and Reconciliation Commission in 2008 be implemented, including its recommendation for establishing an extraordinary criminal tribunal for Liberia.

This is a key item called for by Mr. Donovan's H. Res. 1055. Liberia is a country with longstanding historical ties with the U.S. and our friendship and common bonds with Liberia are deep and genuine.

Liberia and Liberian Americans have no greater friend, I would say, than our good friend, Dan Donovan. You have been tenacious. Thank you.

Finally, I just want to make a comment on the STOP Organ Trafficking Act and strongly support it. This act amends the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 by adding the involuntary removal and selling of organs as actionable items to be included in the TIP Report and all things that we do vis-a-vis trafficking persons.

Nowhere is there more evidence of this gruesome trade than in the People's Republic of China, and I've held hearings on it on the China Commission, which I also chaired.

In the nearly 20-year effort to eradicate the Falun Gong, the Chinese Communist Party has illegally imprisoned and killed countless Falun Gong practitioners.

Researchers David Kilgour, David Matas, and Ethan Gutmann have conducted detailed investigation and estimated that between 45,000 to 65,000 Falun Gong practitioners were killed, murdered, for their organs, which were then sold for profit. Those estimates may now be even higher.

The Chinese Government continues to insist that accounts of torture, sexual crimes, and arbitrary detention and all of the human rights abuses for which they are known for of Falun Gong practitioners and others are mere rumors. And yet, the evidence points precisely to the opposite.

Mr. Chairman, this bill is an excellent next step in countering this vile trade and will bring us one step closer to ensure that life and human dignity are respected.

However, we should also be calling on the Department of State and the international medical community to do detailed analyses and studies on the trafficking of persons for the purpose of selling

their organs and make every effort to ensure that countries such as China are held accountable.

Again, I want to thank Congressman Trott for his leadership. This is a tremendous bill and deserves the unanimous support of every member of this committee and the House.

Chairman ROYCE. And we go now to Mr. Espaillat of New York.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member Engel. Thank you for continuing your bipartisan work in this committee.

There are a number of important pieces of legislation before this committee and I would like to highlight a few I find to be particularly important.

First, H.R. 1006, condemning the deterioration of the situation in Venezuela, recognizes the humanitarian crisis underway in that country, which has led to terrible food and health shortages, therefore, propelling many Venezuelans to flee to other countries, further adding to the refugee crisis.

In addition, the Maduro administration continues to crack down on the opposition and jail many of its leaders. It is important that we work with our allies to address this crisis and that we further our humanitarian assistance and multilateral sanctions.

The people of Venezuela are starving for food, and so this is fastly becoming a dramatic humanitarian crisis the region, propelled and pushed by the Maduro dictatorship. We must continue to do more to aid the people of Venezuela.

H.R. 1567, the United States-Mexico Partnership Act—this bill, which requires a strategy to further economic cooperation and prioritize educational and professional exchange programs between our country, highlights the crucial relationship between our countries.

This is vital at a time when the relationship between our nations have strained by the administration approach to negotiating with our neighbors.

Mexico continues to be a friendly neighboring country. We must treat it as such. I think this particular resolution furthers that rather than very harsh adversarial language that often puts people apart.

H.R. 4591, the Preventing Iranian Destabilization of Iraq Act, will sanction any person who is meddling in Iraq and causing further deterioration of the situation there.

Iran's region meddling and state-sponsored terrorism must be reined in and we cannot allow for Iran to continue in this fashion.

I strongly support these and the other bills before the committee.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I yield back the remaining part of my time.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you.

We go now to Mr. Ted Poe.

Mr. POE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I am proud to support Mr. Kinzinger's bill, H.R. 4591, the Preventing Destabilization of Iraq Act. Just yesterday, my subcommittee held a hearing on Iran's growing influence in Iraq.

It is my opinion and the opinion of others that Iran is trying to make Iraq a puppet state of Iran. Every witness made it clear the

biggest threat to Iraq's continued stability and sovereignty today is Iran.

On the ground, those who do Tehran's bidding in Iraq are the multitude of Iranian proxy militias operating in the country. They have blood on their hands of Americans, Iraqis, Syrians, and Kurds.

In May, these terrorist criminals won increased power in Iraq's Council of Representatives. We must do everything we can to isolate these terrorist groups—these militias.

They not only directly threaten our soldiers and diplomats but they threaten the very future of a democratic and stable Iraq.

I am glad the committee has included the key components of my Iran Proxies Terrorist Sanction Act and Mr. Kinzinger's bill. This will target two Iraqi militias that act as Iran's foreign legion in Iraq and Syria.

These two groups, known as AAH and HHN, are terrorist groups. They have killed Americans and just last month fired mortars at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad and the U.S. consulate in Barra.

Yet, despite the countless evil acts, they have not been designated as terrorist groups by our State Department. Instead, when my staff visited our Embassy in Baghdad recently these State Department officials scoffed at the proposal to sanction these murdering proxies, saying it would cause the groups to be aggressive against the U.S.

Well, the inaction allowed AAH and HHN and their Iranian masters to gain substantially more political power and then, in spite of the State Department's appeasement and inaction, as I mentioned, recently—soon after my staff visited the Embassy, mortars came into the Embassy from these two groups.

There are even other more prominent Iranian-controlled groups acting in Iraq and I hope this bill send a message to them that we know who they are.

I've also introduced an amendment that names seven individuals in leadership roles in various Iranian-backed proxy militias in Iraq.

The amendment will require the State Department to determine whether they too should be designated as terrorists. These men have sworn allegiance to the Supreme Leader in Iran and have killed and displaced thousands in both Iraq and Syria.

They are enemies of both the United States and the people of Iraq and the free world.

I would also like to commend Mr. Wilson for his amendment to target Afghan and Pakistani mercenary brigades of the IRGC operating in Iraq and Syria.

Taken together, this bill will go a long way toward correcting the history of paralysis and inaction of the United States in dealing with proxies and the attempt of Iran to make Iraq a puppet state.

I also am proud to have worked closely with Ranking Member Engel and Mr. Adam Smith and Mr. McCaul on H.R. 5273. Too often we focus our efforts on trying to end violence without addressing the underlying issues.

This bill is a bold attempt to change that. This bill will set up an initiative that will improve global, regional, and local coordination of efforts to prevent violence and address the root causes of violence.

Importantly, this initiative will improve the effectiveness of U.S. foreign assistance and enshrine rigorous monitoring and evaluation.

The bill will reform our approach to foreign assistance by having all U.S. Government agencies work together. What a novel approach that is.

And I want to thank Ranking Member Engel for his leadership on this issue as well as my colleagues, Mr. Smith and Mr. McCaul.

And lastly, in my comment in this remaining minute, I want to point out again, as been said before, that this committee works on a bipartisan basis—works very well on a bipartisan basis.

Other committees in the House of Representatives should take note of the bipartisanship of most of the legislation that comes out of this committee, and I really want to commend Chairman Royce and Ranking Member Engel on working together on these very important international issues and our committee speaking as one voice.

And lastly, my last comment would be I want to thank Mr. Engel, the ranking member, personally for the time that he has worked with me.

We come from almost two foreign countries—New York and Texas—and I appreciate his patience over the years in dealing with certain issues but talking to me personally, and I want to thank Ranking Member Engel for his long-time involvement in foreign affairs and in service in Congress.

And I'll yield back.

Mr. ENGEL. Would the gentleman yield to me before he—

Mr. POE. Sure I'll yield.

Mr. ENGEL. Yes. I want to thank the gentleman from Texas, who has been an outstanding, a stellar member of this committee.

It's because of people like him and his intellect and his attitude that really has helped make this committee the bipartisan committee that we all strive on both sides of the aisle to make.

I have always said that when it comes to foreign policy, politics and partisanship should stop at the water's edge. The threats that we have to this country are threats to all of us, regardless of political persuasion, and that's what I like so much about this committee.

It's people like the gentleman from Texas who have added so much to this committee and to the dialogue through the years, and I certainly will miss him and I wish him godspeed and only the best.

Thank you. I yield back.

Mr. POE. I thank the gentleman. I'll yield back my time to the chair.

Mr. SMITH [presiding]. Thank you.

The chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas, Michael McCaul.

Mr. MCCAUL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member.

I, too, would like to say what an honor it's been to serve with Congressman Ted Poe, my dear friend and colleague.

We came into Congress together 15 years ago and I am going to miss you on a lot of levels. But you have served your country well, sir, and thank you so much for that.

I'd also like to thank Congressman Smith for his leadership on this PEPFAR extension. Since its inception, the program has provided lifesaving drugs to over 14 million people.

And I was recently at Texas Children's Hospital at an event with the President of Botswana, who basically described how this program and what the doctors at Texas Children's did was saved his country, in his words, from extinction.

It's not very often we get to pass legislation in the Congress and hear that we saved a country from extinction because of a bill that Congress passed.

So, Congressman Smith, thank you for bringing this up again. It's vitally important not only to Africa but to the world that we reauthorize this, and the importance of that program cannot be understated and I applaud the consideration of it again.

Turning my attention, I wanted to highlight two measures that I introduced—the Global Fragility and Violence Reduction Act—which I wrote with Ranking Member Engel, and the Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership Act.

Both of these bills coordinate a whole of government approach to fight global terrorism at its root causes. Too often when global crises emerge the United States commits financial and other resources to immediately address the problem.

While we must continue to tackle such imminent threats, we must do more to prevent threats from emerging in the first place.

Now, this makes me think back to 2001. Prior to 9/11, Afghanistan was not a foreign policy priority of the United States. It was barely on anybody's radar, and so were the Embassies in Africa and the USS Cole and the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center.

But 17 years later, we are still in Afghanistan committing significant resources to rebuilding that country. Afghanistan was what we call a fragile state.

Broadly speaking, these are countries where the government loses legitimacy in the eyes of its people and struggles to govern.

What if we could identify so-called fragile states ahead of time and prevent them from failing? That is why I helped introduce the Global Fragility and Violence Reduction Act.

This bill requires the administration to launch a global initiative to reduce fragility and violence, guiding our efforts to help fragile states down a path toward stability.

The bill also requires the Department of State, in coordination with USAID and the Department of Defense, to identify 10 countries or regions as pilot programs to start this new initiative.

Since each fragile state is different, this initiative is flexible to address the causes of fragility in each case. One area of the world where state fragility and violent extremism currently persists is in north and in west Africa.

Since our operational successes against ISIS and the collapse of the caliphate, many of their fighters have splintered and fled to Africa where other terrorist organizations have flourished.

Today, it is estimated that 10,000 ISIS and al-Qaeda jihadists have already set up camps across the continent, with Boko Haram and others having spread terror for years.



These terrorist organizations pose an immediate threat and we must work with our regional governments to build their capacity to blunt these terrorists.

My bill, which I introduced with my friend, Mr. Keating, authorizes also for the first time the Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership to aid our efforts to help fight these terrorists in Africa.

This program works alongside countries like Chad and Mali and Nigeria to build their capacity, to conduct counter terrorist operations.

This partnership also enhances the ability to monitor, restrain, and interject terrorist movements and strengthen the rule of law.

Furthermore, my bill requires the State Department, USAID, and Defense Department coordinate on a counterterrorism strategy for Africa and deliver that strategy to the Congress.

State fragility and, by extension, violent extremism is a major foreign policy challenge for the United States. But by taking a multifaceted multilayered approach as this bill does, we may be able to avert larger crises.

Now, it's interesting to note—I mentioned 10,000 jihadists in Africa, and prior to 9/11 there were just several hundred al-Qaeda operatives—several hundred—and they pulled off 9/11.

And now, today, while I do believe the threat has gone down with the collapse of the caliphate, the fact that there is still thousands of these jihadists in northern Africa in the Sahel gives me great concern and great pause.

And so with that, I'd like to thank the ranking member and Mr. Keating and all the members of the committee for their support of this legislation.

I yield back.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you.

I'd like to now yield to Joe Wilson, the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. WILSON. And thank you, Acting Chairman Chris Smith.

I am grateful to Chairman Ed Royce and Ranking Member Eliot Engel for holding this markup on issues such as the very significant humanitarian crisis with the failure of socialism in Venezuela led by Congressman Paul Cook and Albio Sires—a bipartisan initiative—remembering the Ukrainian famine of 1932 caused by Soviet repression and extending the President's emergency plan for AIDS relief, and many more.

All of today's legislative actions are worthy of your attention and continue a positive bipartisan tradition of the committee.

I especially want to thank Congressman Adam Kinzinger for introducing the Preventing Iranian Destabilization of Iraq Act of 2018 and the amendment introduced by Congressman Judge Ted Poe.

This bill and amendment would require the President to impose sanctions on Iranian-backed or controlled militias that commit violence and threaten the stability of Iraq.

In addition, this bill requires the Secretary of State to publish the list of armed groups and proxy forces in Iraq receiving assistance from Iran and requires a report by the Department of State if certain specific groups meet terrorist designation parameters.

The United States must not allow Iranian influence to fill the void left by the defeated ISIS in Iraq and Syria. Emboldened and practically funded by the previous administration's failed Iranian nuclear deal, the Iranian militias are posed to incite civil war and turn Iraq into a failed state while also spreading throughout Syria toward the Israeli territory currently threatened by Hezbollah.

Just as Iran has smuggled ballistic missiles to Yemen, Iran has begun to transfer ballistic missiles to these groups in Iraq, according to our extraordinary Ambassador to the United Nations, Nikki Haley.

I have offered an additional amendment that adds two murderous militias to the list of groups identified in H.R. 4591 who are destabilizing Iraq and Syria.

One group draws recruits from Shi'a Pakistanis living in Iran and has engaged in battle with U.S. special forces. The other group comprises Shi'a fighters from Afghanistan.

Both groups are more than proxies. They are distinct brigades of the Islamic Republican Guard Corps—the IRGC Quds Force—and answer directly to Quds Force Commander Soleimani.

Iran is the foremost state sponsor of terrorism and H.R. 4591 allows the President and the Department of State to identify and sanction these groups in order to prevent Iran from inciting civil war and further spreading their malign regional influence.

I urge passage of 4591 as well as the rest of today's meaningful legislation. I yield back the balance of our time as we continue a tribute to Congressman Judge Ted Poe as he is concluding his final year in Congress. Godspeed.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you.

The chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. Kinzinger.

Mr. KINZINGER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

There are so many good bills here and I just want to say thank you to everybody on all sides of the aisle that's worked to bring all these up.

I think of H. Res. 1035, which is U.S. and Liberia related. I've been to Liberia. It's a fantastic country with a lot of challenges. So that's very important.

But I do want to specifically speak on 4591, the Preventing Destabilization of Iraq Act. I am a veteran of Iraq and, specifically, I can tell you I've operated against Iranian forces in Iraq and about a quarter of American casualties during the Iraq war are directly traced and related to Iranian action and technologies.

So they are no innocent nation. When you think about the destabilization they are doing in Syria and the ½ million dead Syrians, many of which are children, thanks mainly to Bashar al-Assad, Iran, and Russia, and so it's time for us to stand up, especially in our ally, Iraq.

This legislation, which I worked on with Mr. Suozzi, would help prevent Iran from spreading their malign influence in the Middle East.

I would also like to briefly thank Chairman Poe, as many have, for working with us to include the important provisions from his bill, the Iranian Proxies Terrorist Sanction Act, and to H.R. 4591 and specifically for Chairman Poe's many years of service to his country.

Following the elections in Iraq earlier this year, we saw Iranian proxies and Iraqis working on behalf of the Iranians attempting to form a coalition government in Baghdad.

As a result, Iranian-backed militias have significantly expanded in Iraq and have not only attacked U.S. forces but have targeted innocent Iraqis as well.

Just earlier this month, we saw the U.S. Embassy compound in Baghdad attacked and new reports are emerging that the Iranian regime has transferred ballistic missiles to these proxies in Iraq.

Not only will this kind of interference destabilize the country but it's creating conditions for the next generation of terror.

While these developments are concerning, I am glad to see that the Iraqi population has been peacefully protesting and demanding an end to political corruption and Iranian meddling in their country.

That's why passing this legislation is so timely. The Preventing Destabilization of Iraq Act would impose sanctions such as freezing assets and travel restrictions on Iranians or any other person who threatens the peace and stability of Iraq.

Passage of this legislation ensures the Iranians are not given a free pass to meddle in yet—again, in the affairs of the Iraqi people. And I have to stress doing nothing only strengthens the Iranians and their proxies.

I think it's important to note that the light of Iranian leadership is dimming and the light of the people of Iran is getting brighter every day. It's just a matter of time until the Iranian people are able to throw off the tyrannical regime of Iran.

I encourage my colleagues to pass this measure and I urge for quick consideration on the House floor.

And Mr. Chairman, with that, I yield back.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you very much, Mr. Kinzinger, and thank you again for your service. You know, I would just note, and I think most on the committee know, that you got the Airman's Medal for saving the life of a young woman who was savagely attacked. You have served with great distinction and so thank you so very much.

Mr. KINZINGER. Thank you.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you. I'd like to now yield to Mr. Fitzpatrick, the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I am proud to speak today in strong support for H. Res. 931, the resolution recognizing the 85th anniversary of the Ukraine famine and genocide.

Between 1932 and 1933, the Ukrainian famine, known as the Holodomor, led to the deaths of millions of innocent Ukrainians—men, women, and children alike.

This famine was perpetrated by Joseph Stalin in an attempt to quash the nation's independence movement and fierce opposition to collectivization.

This resolution serves as a meaningful tribute to honor those who met their demise at the hands of a brutal dictator and a brutal regime.

It also serves as a stark reminder of the horrors of communism and oppression, and a message to the world that we must never go back and that freedom and democracy must be our guide, going forward.

I am proud to stand with the Ukrainian community here at home and abroad in our continued fight against foreign aggression. The spirit of the Ukrainian people is strong and it is resilient, and it is this spirit that will overcome any adversities facing their great country.

I am thankful to my friend from Michigan, Mr. Levin, along with the other co-chairs of our Ukrainian Caucus—Ms. Captor, Mr. Harris, for introducing this honorable resolution, along with myself.

It is a pleasure serving with them to advance the cause of Ukrainian Americans across this country and across the world. We have their back.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE [presiding]. We go to Mr. Steve Chabot of Ohio.

Mr. CHABOT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I want to thank you for your service to this institution. For so many years now you've done a particularly tremendous job as chairman of this committee and thank you for your service. We will not forget. You'll be long remembered here.

I also, as many others have, want to thank Ted Poe for his tremendous work on this committee and in Congress in general as well. You will both be missed tremendously.

As we wrap up this Congress, we have a lot of good bills before us today, and many of our members have already talked about them. I want to focus on just a couple.

First, I am co-sponsor of H. Res. 1006, which condemns the deteriorating situation in Venezuela due to the actions of President Maduro and his socialist party, and I want to thank Chairman Cook for his work on this legislation.

Maduro has uprooted any semblance of democracy from Venezuela and plunged his country into its worst economic crisis ever and many, many people are suffering tremendously as a result of that.

Conditions are so bad that over 2 million Venezuelans have fled their country, creating a humanitarian crisis throughout the region.

Maduro and his cronies are so corrupt and abusive that we have sanctioned 80-some individuals, and it's pretty clear that many of them have committed crimes against humanity.

Venezuela, let's remember, is right in our backyard, so we need to help make sure that this mess gets cleaned up, and sooner rather than later.

Second, I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 931, which recognizes the 85th anniversary of the Ukrainian famine, and I want to thank Mr. Levin for his work on this resolution.

As a co-sponsor of this legislation I think it's vitally important that as the memory of the Soviet Union fades, we must not forget the victims of communism.

The Ukrainian famine was caused by socialist policies and Stalin's deliberate efforts to prevent aid from reaching affected areas.

Communism is and was and always will be evil and we must never forget that, particularly at a time when its running partner, it's cousin—socialism—seems to be getting more and more popular, especially, unfortunately, on many college campuses in this coun-

try. We must never forget that there is a relationship between those two entities.

This resolution is also timely since Vladimir Putin continues to undermine the sovereignty of Ukraine. Like Stalin, he never really recognized Ukraine as an independent country.

The West must not let Putin succeed. The safety of the Ukrainian people and the stability of Europe as a whole requires Putin to understand that he cannot invade other countries with impunity.

Finally—and I want to thank Mr. Kinzinger and Judge Poe for their leadership on the issue of Iranian proxies in Iraq—the Preventing Destabilization of Iraq Act seeks to help meet this challenge.

Iran's hegemonic ambitions and nefarious activity have increasingly become one of our greatest problems in the Middle East, if not the greatest obstacle to bringing stability to that troubled region.

One component of Iran's strategy is to grow its influence: It's the proxy forces in Iraq. These forces not only destabilize the country but also undermine our hard-won gains there.

Tehran cannot be allowed to continue to build its influence and make Iraq a client state. It's high time that we push back harder and harder.

And I know that many people have sacrificed over there including, as was indicated before, people like Mr. Kinzinger who, literally, put their lives on the line there.

So we need to work much harder and I want to thank again the chairman for his leadership on this committee, and I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you.

Are any other members seeking recognition?

Okay. Hearing no further requests for recognition, the question occurs on the items considered en bloc.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, no.

In the opinion of the chair, the ayes have it. The measures considered en bloc, they are agreed to, and without objection, each measure in the en bloc is ordered favorably reported as amended as a single amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Staff is directed to make any technical and conforming changes and the chair is authorized to seek House consideration under suspension of the rules.

And this concludes our business today. I thank Ranking Member Engel, I thank Mr. Schneider for filling in here as ranking member for the end of the hearing, and all of the committee members for their contributions and assistance with today's markup.

The committee stands adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 11:23 a.m., the committee was adjourned.]



# APPENDIX

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MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

**FULL COMMITTEE MARKUP NOTICE**  
**COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS**  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6128

**Edward R. Royce (R-CA), Chairman**

September 27, 2018

**TO: MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

You are respectfully requested to attend an OPEN meeting of the Committee on Foreign Affairs to be held in Room 2172 of the Rayburn House Office Building (and available live on the Committee website at <http://www.ForeignAffairs.house.gov>):

**DATE:** Thursday, September 27, 2018

**TIME:** 10:00 a.m.

**MARKUP OF:** H. Res. 931, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the 85th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933, known as the Holodomor, should serve as a reminder of repressive Soviet policies against the people of Ukraine;

H. Res. 1006, Condemning the deteriorating situation in Venezuela and the regional humanitarian crisis it has caused, affirming support for the legitimate National Assembly and the Supreme Court, and urging further regional action in support of democracy in Venezuela;

H. Res. 1052, Affirming United States-Australia cooperation on space research, exploration, and utilization;

H. Res. 1055, To affirm strong United States-Liberia ties and support for democratic principles, and call for full implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations, including the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal for Liberia;

H.R. 1567, United States-Mexico Economic Partnership Act;

H.R. 4591, Preventing Iranian Destabilization of Iraq Act of 2017;

H.R. 5273, Global Fragility and Violence Reduction Act of 2018;

H.R. 6018, Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership Act of 2018;

H.R. 6413, STOP Organ Trafficking Act; and

H.R. 6651, PEPFAR Extension Act of 2018.

**By Direction of the Chairman**

*The Committee on Foreign Affairs seeks to make its facilities accessible to persons with disabilities. If you are in need of special accommodations, please call 202/225-5921 at least four business days in advance of the event, whenever practicable. Questions with regard to special accommodations in general (including availability of Committee materials in alternative formats and assistive listening devices) may be directed to the Committee.*



COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
MINUTES OF FULL COMMITTEE MARKUP

Day Thursday Date 9/27/2018 Room 2172

Starting Time 10:00AM Ending Time 11:22AM

Recesses 0 (to to) (to to) (to to) (to to) (to to) (to to)

Presiding Member(s)

Chairman Edward R. Royce  
Representative Christopher H. Smith

Check all of the following that apply:

Open Session

Executive (closed) Session

Televised

Electronically Recorded (taped)

Stenographic Record

BILLS FOR MARKUP: (Include bill number(s) and title(s) of legislation.)

See attached.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

See attached.

NON-COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

N/A

STATEMENTS FOR THE RECORD: (List any statements submitted for the record.)

N/A

ACTIONS TAKEN DURING THE MARKUP: (Attach copies of legislation and amendments.)

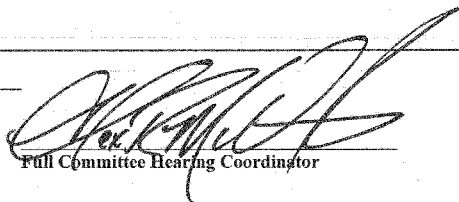
See markup summary.

RECORDED VOTES TAKEN (FOR MARKUP): (Attach final vote tally sheet listing each member.)

Subject	Ycas	Nays	Present	Not Voting
N/A				

TIME SCHEDULED TO RECONVENE \_\_\_\_\_

or  
TIME ADJOURNED 11:22AM



Full Committee Hearing Coordinator

## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

## FULL COMMITTEE MARKUP

<i>PRESENT</i>	<i>MEMBER</i>
X	Edward R. Royce, CA
X	Christopher H. Smith, NJ
X	Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, FL
	Dana Rohrabacher, CA
X	Steve Chabot, OH
X	Joe Wilson, SC
X	Michael T. McCaul, TX
X	Ted Poe, TX
	Darrell Issa, CA
	Tom Marino, PA
X	Mo Brooks, AL
X	Paul Cook, CA
X	Scott Perry, PA
X	Mark Meadows, NC
X	Ted Yoho, FL
X	Adam Kinzinger, IL
X	Lee Zeldin, NY
X	Dan Donovan, NY
	James F. Sensenbrenner, Jr., WI
	Ann Wagner, MO
	Brian J. Mast, FL
X	Brian K. Fitzpatrick, PA
	Francis Rooney, FL
X	Thomas A. Garrett, Jr., VA
	John Curtis, UT

<i>PRESENT</i>	<i>MEMBER</i>
X	Eliot L. Engel, NY
X	Brad Sherman, CA
	Gregory W. Meeks, NY
X	Albio Sires, NJ
X	Gerald E. Connolly, VA
X	Theodore E. Deutch, FL
	Karen Bass, CA
X	William Keating, MA
X	David Cicilline, RI
	Ami Bera, CA
	Lois Frankel, FL
	Tulsi Gabbard, HI
X	Joaquin Castro, TX
X	Robin Kelly, IL
	Brendan Boyle, PA
	Dina Titus, NV
	Norma Torres, CA
X	Brad Schneider, IL
X	Tom Suozzi, NY
X	Adriano Espaillat, NY
X	Ted Lieu, CA

9/27/18 Foreign Affairs Committee Markup Summary

By unanimous consent, the Chair called up the following measures and amendments, previously provided to Members, to be considered *en bloc*:

- 1) H. Res. 931 (Levin), Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the 85th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933, known as the Holodomor, should serve as a reminder of repressive Soviet policies against the people of Ukraine.
- 2) H. Res. 1006 (Cook), Condemning the deteriorating situation in Venezuela and the regional humanitarian crisis it has caused, affirming support for the legitimate National Assembly and the Supreme Court, and urging further regional action in support of democracy in Venezuela;
  - a. Cook 64, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H. Res. 1006; and
    - i. Sires 22, an amendment to Cook 64.
- 3) H. Res. 1052 (Castro), Affirming United States-Australia cooperation on space research, exploration, and utilization.
- 4) H. Res. 1055 (Donovan), To affirm strong United States-Liberia ties and support for democratic principles and call for full implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations, including the establishment of an Extraordinary Criminal Tribunal for Liberia.
- 5) H.R. 1567 (Cuellar), United States-Mexico Economic Partnership Act;
  - a. Castro 104, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 1567.
- 6) H.R. 4591 (Kinzinger), Preventing Iranian Destabilization of Iraq Act of 2017;
  - a. Kinzinger 35, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 4591;
    - i. Poe 114, an amendment to Kinzinger 35; and
    - ii. Wilson 70, an amendment to Kinzinger 35.
- 7) H.R. 5273 (Engel), Global Fragility and Violence Reduction Act of 2018;
  - a. Engel 115, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 5273.
- 8) H.R. 6018 (McCaul), Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership Act of 2018;
  - a. McCaul 109, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 6018; and

i. Meadows 165, an amendment to McCaul 109.

9) H.R. 6413 (Trott), STOP Organ Trafficking Act;

a. Royce 143.

10) H.R. 6651 (Smith), PEPFAR Extension Act of 2018;

a. Smith 113.

The measures considered *en bloc* were agreed to by voice vote.

By unanimous consent, each measure in the *en bloc* was ordered favorably reported, as amended, as a single amendment in the nature of a substitute to the House, and the Chairman was authorized to seek House consideration under suspension of the rules.

The Committee adjourned.