Amendment to H.R. 5300
Offered by Mr. Shreve of Indiana

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert the following:

SEC. __. DISMANTLING FOREIGN SCAM SYNDICATES.

(a) Statement of Policy.—It shall be the policy of the United States to comprehensively combat the transnational organized criminals operating human trafficking compounds primarily in Southeast Asia to perpetrate large-scale online scams against the American people.

(b) Task Force.—

(1) Establishment.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall establish an interagency Task Force responsible for leading a whole-of-government effort to dismantle and shut down transnational criminal syndicates perpetuating mass online scam operations against Americans through the operation of large-scale scam compounds fueled by the forced labor of victims of trafficking in persons.

(2) Responsibilities.—The Task Force shall—

(A) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, develop and submit to the appropriate congressional committees a comprehensive United States Government strategy to shut down online scam centers, prevent their further proliferation, disrupt and dismantle transnational criminal entities and human traffickers involved in operating them, and hold accountable corrupt officials, state, and non-state actors enabling them for the purpose of incentivizing cooperation; and

(B) coordinate and oversee implementation of such strategy.

(3) LEADERSHIP AND COMPOSITION.—The Task Force shall be chaired by the Secretary, shall meet on a regular basis at the call of the Chair, and shall be comprised of the heads of the following entities:

(A) The Department, including the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, and the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons.

(B) The Department of Justice, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(C) The Department of Homeland Security, including the U.S. Secret Service and Homeland Security Investigations.

(D) The Department of the Treasury, including the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, the Office of Foreign Assets Control, and Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.

(4) FURTHER COMPOSITION.—The heads of the following entities are authorized to be members of the Task Force:

(A) The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

(B) The Federal Trade Commission.

(C) The Federal Communications Commission.

(D) Any other department, agency, or entity the President determines to be relevant.

(5) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The intelligence community is authorized to provide support to the Task Force.

(6) SENIOR OFFICIAL.—The Secretary may designate an appropriately senior official within the Department to chair and lead the Task Force, and the

heads of the remaining federal entities may designate appropriately senior officials in their stead.

(7) INFORMATION SHARING.—To ensure proper coordination and effective interagency action, each Federal department or agency represented on the Task Force shall fully share—

(A) all relevant data with such group

(B) all information regarding the department or agency's plans, before and after final agency decisions are made, on all matters relating to actions regarding combating online scams.

(8) CONSULTATION.—The Task Force or representatives thereof shall—

(A) consult quarterly with U.S. state and local law enforcement entities and stakeholder organizations with firsthand expertise in reporting and combatting online scam operations, pig butchering and other kinds of cyberscams, and recovering stolen crypto assets, and incorporate their feedback and recommendations to the maximum extent feasible;

(B) consult regularly with U.S. non-governmental organizations with expertise in countering trafficking in persons or anti-corruption, as appropriate; and

(C) develop partnerships with relevant private sector actors, including banks, social media platforms, online dating apps, telecommunication carriers, cryptocurrency exchanges, internet service providers, app stores, search engines, and search optimization companies, for the purpose of better disrupting the enabling infrastructure of scam compounds, operations, and syndicates.

(9) SUNSET.—The Task Force shall terminate on the date that is sevenb years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) ELEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The strategy required under subsection (b)(2)(A) shall incorporate the following objectives:

(A) Bringing pressure to bear on foreign governments, in coordination with allies and partners to the greatest extent possible, that are complicit in, tolerant of, or uncooperative in combatting online scam operations

(B) Investigating the People's Republic of China's involvement in the origin and perpetuation of online scam operations, including through links between Chinese Communist Party officials and criminal organizations, deepening regional security influence, and selective crackdowns that incentivize the targeting of Americans.

(C) Investigating the Burmese military's involvement in allowing, neglecting, and profiting from online scam operations in Burma, and the importance of resolving the instability and violence in Burma to stop the unfettered operation of scam centers in Burma.

(D) Responding comprehensively to PRC complicity in and instrumentalization of online scam operations.

(E) Reducing the power, influence, and scope of transnational criminal organizations and operations in Southeast Asia.

(F) Building the capacity of trusted foreign law enforcement partners to degrade, disrupt, and shut down online scam centers and prevent their proliferation, including through training in digital forensics, anti-money laundering, and border patrol.

(G) Building the capacity of trusted foreign law enforcement partners to screen for and protect victims of trafficking in persons in a trauma-informed manner, prosecute traffickers, and prevent trafficking into online scam centers, including through public awareness campaigns.

(H) Imposing sanctions or other relevant designations, comprehensively and in coordination with allies and partners to the greatest extent possible, on the perpetrators and enablers of online scams, using relevant transnational organized crime, corruption, human rights, and trafficking in persons authorities.

(I) Advocating for the greylisting or blacklisting, as appropriate, of countries involved in state-sponsored scam operations, including Cambodia, at the Financial Action Task Force.

(J) Harnessing offensive cyber capabilities to degrade online scam centers' operations.

(K) Recovering stolen assets of defrauded United States persons.

(L) Integrating data collection, analysis, and response mechanisms across federal, state, and local agencies, including by assessing if any existing relevant Fusion Centers could be leveraged to combat online scam centers.

(M) Convening a coalition of likeminded foreign allies and partners to combat online scam centers, including through the establishment of similar task forces or working groups, the compilation and sharing of data, and collaboration regarding the indictment of key actors and enablers.

(2) INDICATORS.—The Task Force shall develop measurable indicators of the strategy's success, which may include persons sanctioned, arrest warrants or indictments issued, arrests made, U.S. losses mitigated, and the number of victims of trafficking in persons rescued, and known scam centers reduced, in comparison to the previous year.

(d) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the submission of the strategy, and annually thereafter annually for five years, the Task Force shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes, for the previous year, the following:

(A) A list of all foreign persons sanctioned by the United States for being responsible for, complicit in, or responsible for ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing, online financial scams against American nationals.

(B) For the foreign persons listed in subparagraph (A), an assessment and review of their ongoing involvement in the operation of scam centers, including an identification of entities in particular from within the People's Republic of China that aid or abet such foreign persons.

(C) An estimate of how much money was stolen from American nationals through scams emanating from online scam centers, including as a percentage of the estimated total amount stolen through such scams globally.

(D) An estimate of how many stolen funds were intercepted, seized, or returned.

(E) An estimate of how many victims of trafficking in persons were employed in online scam centers.

(F) An estimate of the total number of people involved in operating or supporting the operation of scam centers.

(G) A list of known online scam centers.

(H) A description of if, where, and how online scam centers and operations have proliferated globally,

(I) Recommendations on the kinds of programs the Department of State should support in order to effectively implement the strategy described in subsection (c), including the level of appropriations such programs would require.

(I) Any other measure the Task Force deems fit to include.

(2) FORM.—Each report submitted pursuant to subparagraph (d) shall be unclassified but may include a classified annex.

(3) CONSULTATION.—The Task Force shall consult regularly with the appropriate congressional committees on its efforts to implement the strategy, including potential updates. Such consultations should include descriptions of the Task Force's periodic consultations with local law enforcement agencies and civil society organizations and any incorporated recommendations, as well as recommendations for strengthening the Task Force's capability to effectively shut down online scam centers, dismantle criminal scam organizations, and recoup sto-

len U.S. assets. Such consultations may take the form of briefings.

(e) Programs to Support Victims of Forced Criminality.—The Secretary may carry out foreign assistance programs, in accordance with 22 U.S.C. 7105(a), to provide trauma-informed care, shelter, reintegration, and support services for victims of trafficking in persons within online scam centers. The Task Force shall ensure such counter trafficking programs are designed and implemented in a manner that prevents revictimization and gains information and evidence critical to understanding online scam centers' operations and prosecuting scammers.