

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 1848
OFFERED BY MR. ISSA OF CALIFORNIA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the
following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Houthi Human Rights
3 Accountability Act”.

4 SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

5 It is the sense of Congress that—

6 (1) Houthi efforts to indoctrinate Yemenis into
7 a violent, anti-Semitic, and extremist worldview are
8 a threat to a Yemeni-led peace process and to re-
9 gional stability; and

10 (2) it is counter to United States policy to pro-
11 vide support to the Houthis in Yemen, including by
12 supporting any efforts by the Houthis to indoctri-
13 nate, coerce, or force Yemenis to conform to their
14 violent, anti-Semitic, and extremist worldview.

15 SEC. 3. REPORT ON HOUTHİ INDOCTRINATION.

16 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
17 ment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to
18 the appropriate congressional committees a report on—

- 1 (1) Houthi efforts to indoctrinate Yemenis into
2 a violent, anti-Semitic, or extremist worldview; and
3 (2) the long-term threat this indoctrination
4 campaign poses to regional stability.

5 **SEC. 4. REPORT ON OBSTACLES TO PROVISION OF HUMANI-**
6 **TARIAN AID IN AREAS OF YEMEN UNDER DE-**
7 **FACTO HOUTHI CONTROL.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
9 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State
10 shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
11 a report on obstacles to the provision of humanitarian aid
12 by international organizations and nongovernmental orga-
13 nizations in areas of Yemen under de-facto Houthi control.

14 (b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report re-
15 quired by subsection (a) shall include the following:

16 (1) An identification of challenges to distribu-
17 tion of humanitarian aid created by Houthi-enforced
18 rules, regulations, and bureaucracy with respect to
19 access, and freedom of movement, and the overall
20 impact on such rules, regulations, and bureaucracy
21 have on the international community's ability to dis-
22 tribute such aid in a manner consistent with basic
23 humanitarian principles.

24 (2) An assessment of attempted Houthi inter-
25 ference in the delivery of humanitarian aid, includ-

1 ing the manipulation or undue influence of bene-
2 ficiary lists or related data for political or military
3 purposes, and the implications of any interference on
4 civilian needs and aid distribution.

5 (3) An evaluation of the Houthis' use of vio-
6 lence and intimidation against humanitarian workers
7 and diplomats, including current and former United
8 States Embassy locally employed staff.

9 (4) An overview of the steps the United States
10 and its partners are taking to ensure humanitarian
11 assistance is delivered unhindered and consistent
12 with basic humanitarian principles, including how
13 United States-supported organizations respond to
14 attempted Houthi diversion or interference.

15 (c) SCOPE.—The report required by subsection (a)
16 shall address the period beginning on January 1, 2020,
17 and ending on the date that is 90 days after date of the
18 enactment of this Act.

19 **SEC. 5. REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES COMMITTED**
20 **BY THE HOUTHIS.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
22 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State
23 shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
24 a report on human rights abuses committed by the

1 Houthis, including gender-based discrimination and vio-
2 lence, including—

- 3 (1) mahram regulations;
- 4 (2) recruitment and use of child soldiers;
- 5 (3) enforced disappearance;
- 6 (4) prolonged and arbitrary detention;
- 7 (5) conduct that amounts to torture; and
- 8 (6) unlawful killing.

9 (b) SCOPE.—The report required by subsection (a)
10 shall address the period beginning on March 1, 2015, and
11 ending on the date that is 90 days after date of the enact-
12 ment of this Act.

13 **SEC. 6. SANCTIONS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE GLOBAL**
14 **MAGNITSKY HUMAN RIGHTS AND ACCOUNT-**
15 **ABILITY ACT.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
17 date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter,
18 the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary
19 of the Treasury, shall submit to the appropriate congres-
20 sional committees a determination on whether foreign per-
21 sons described in subsection (b) meet the criteria for sanc-
22 tions authorized under the Global Magnitsky Human
23 Rights and Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 2656 note) or
24 are responsible for acts that constitute gross violations of
25 internationally recognized human rights as defined in sec-

tion 502B(d)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961
(22 U.S.C. 2304(d)(1)).

(b) PERSONS DESCRIBED.—A foreign person described in this subsection is a foreign person that—

(1) is a member of the Houthis; and

(2) knowingly—

(A) imposes unlawful restrictions on the delivery of humanitarian assistance in Yemen;

or

(B) engages in the human rights abuses described in section 5(a).

**SEC. 7. SANCTIONS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE ROBERT
LEVINSON HOSTAGE TAKING AND ACCOUNT-
ABILITY ACT.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a determination on whether foreign persons described in subsection (b) meet the criteria for sanctions authorized under the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741 et seq.), and Executive Order 14078.

(b) PERSONS DESCRIBED.—A foreign person described in this subsection is a foreign person that—

1 (1) is a member of the Houthis; and

2 (2)(A) is responsible for or is complicit in, or
3 responsible for ordering, controlling, or otherwise di-
4 recting, the hostage-taking of a United States na-
5 tional abroad or the unlawful or wrongful detention
6 of a United States national abroad; or

7 (B) knowingly provides financial, material, or
8 technological support for, or goods or services in
9 support of, an activity described in subparagraph
10 (A).

11 **SEC. 8. SUNSET.**

12 This Act shall terminate on the date that is 5 years
13 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

14 **SEC. 9. DEFINITIONS.**

15 In this Act—

16 (1) the term “appropriate congressional com-
17 mittees” means—

18 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and
19 the Committee on Appropriations of the House
20 of Representatives; and

21 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations
22 and the Committee on Appropriations of the
23 Senate;

24 (2) the term “foreign person” means a person
25 that is not a United States person;

1 (3) the term “Houthis” refers to persons offi-
2 cially known as “Ansarallah”;

3 (4) the term “person” means and individual or
4 entity; and

5 (5) the term “United States person” means—

6 (A) a national of the United States;

7 (B) an alien who is lawfully present in the
8 United States; or

9 (C) an entity organized under the laws of
10 the United States or of any jurisdiction within
11 the United States, including a foreign branch of
12 such an entity.

