

**Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H. R. 7311, With an
Amendment**

**(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a
complete new text)**

117TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7311

To direct the Secretary of State to develop and submit to Congress a strategy and implementation plan outlining United States efforts to counter the malign influence and activities of the Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 31, 2022

Mr. MEEKS (for himself, Mr. McCAUL, Ms. BASS, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of State to develop and submit to Congress a strategy and implementation plan outlining United States efforts to counter the malign influence and activities of the Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Countering Malign
3 Russian Activities in Africa Act”.

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

5 It is the sense of Congress that the United States—

6 (1) should regularly assess the scale and scope
7 of the Russian Federation’s influence and activities
8 in Africa that undermine United States objectives
9 and interests; and

10 (2) determine how—

11 (A) to address and counter such influence
12 and activities effectively, including through ap-
13 propriate United States foreign assistance pro-
14 grams; and

15 (B) to hold accountable the Russian Fed-
16 eration and African governments and their offi-
17 cials who are complicit in aiding such malign
18 influence and activities.

19 **SEC. 3. STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN; REPORT.**

20 (a) STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not
21 later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this
22 Act, the Secretary of State shall develop and submit to
23 the appropriate congressional committees a strategy and
24 implementation plan outlining United States efforts to
25 counter the malign influence and activities of the Russian

1 Federation and its proxies in Africa, including programs
2 and other initiatives designed to—

3 (1) strengthen democratic institutions, improve
4 government transparency and accountability, im-
5 prove standards related to human rights, labor, anti-
6 corruption initiatives, fiscal transparency, monitor
7 natural resources and extractive industries, and
8 other tenets of good governance; and

9 (2) monitor and report on Russian political in-
10 fluence and disinformation operations and the activi-
11 ties of Russian, Russia-connected, or Russian-funded
12 private military contractors in Africa.

13 (b) REPORT.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
15 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and an-
16 nually thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary of State,
17 in consultation with the heads of other relevant Fed-
18 eral departments and agencies as appropriate, shall
19 submit to the appropriate congressional committees
20 a report on the strategy and implementation plan re-
21 quired by subsection (a) and related efforts to
22 counter the malign influence and activities of the
23 Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa.

24 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by para-
25 graph (1) shall include the following:

1 (A) An assessment of the scope and nature
2 of the Russian Federation's malign influence
3 and activities and related diplomatic, economic,
4 and security priorities and strategic objectives
5 of such engagement in Africa, including influ-
6 ence and activities that involve Russian proxies,
7 such as Russian oligarchs, Russian-funded pri-
8 vate military contractors, and other individuals
9 and entities directly or indirectly employed by
10 or financially or politically associated with Rus-
11 sia and its officials, who are involved in or aid
12 activities to, among other things—

13 (i) manipulate African governments
14 and their policies, as well as the public
15 opinions and voting preferences of African
16 populations and diaspora groups, including
17 those in the United States; and

18 (ii) invest in, engage, or otherwise
19 control strategic sectors in Africa, such as
20 mining and other forms of natural resource
21 extraction and exploitation, military basing
22 and other security cooperation agreements,
23 and information and communications tech-
24 nology.

1 (B) A detailed account of United States
2 foreign assistance and other initiatives devel-
3 oped and implemented during the preceding 3
4 fiscal years to address Russia's malign influence
5 and activities in Africa, including the objectives
6 and details of planned programs and initiatives
7 set out in the strategy required by subsection
8 (a).

9 (C) An analysis of policy and pro-
10 grammatic limitations, gaps, and resource re-
11 quirements to effectively counter Russia's ma-
12 lign influence and activities in Africa.

13 (D) An overview of other initiatives and
14 assistance programs funded by other inter-
15 national donors and partner countries to
16 counter Russia's malign influence and activities
17 in Africa.

18 (E) An identification of African govern-
19 ments and government officials, Russian gov-
20 ernment officials, and other individuals and en-
21 tities that have facilitated payments and other
22 prohibited activities that benefit United States-
23 sanctioned individuals and entities tied to Rus-
24 sia, including in violation of the Global
25 Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act

1 (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328;
2 22 U.S.C. 2656 note), the Countering Amer-
3 ica’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (Pub-
4 lic Law 115–44; 22 U.S.C. 9401 et seq.), Exec-
5 utive Order 14024 (86 Fed. Reg. 20249; relat-
6 ing to blocking property with respect to speci-
7 fied harmful foreign activities of the Govern-
8 ment of the Russian Federation), and Executive
9 Order 13848 (83 Fed. Reg. 46843; relating to
10 imposing certain sanctions in the event of for-
11 eign interference in a United States election),
12 and a detailed overview of United States efforts
13 to hold such governments, officials, and other
14 individuals and entities complicit in violating or
15 facilitating the evasion of United States sanc-
16 tions against Russia and its proxies accountable
17 through sanctions or other restrictions.

18 (F) An identification of foreign companies
19 and persons that have provided transportation,
20 logistical, administrative, border crossing, or
21 money transfer services to Russian mercenaries
22 or armed forces operating on behalf of the Rus-
23 sian Government in Libya, and an analysis of
24 whether such entities meet the criteria for im-
25 position of sanctions under section 1(a) of Ex-

1 executive Order 13726 (81 Fed. Reg. 23559; re-
2 lating to blocking property and suspending
3 entry into the United States of persons contrib-
4 uting to the situation in Libya).

5 (3) FORM.—The report required by paragraph
6 (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may
7 include a classified annex.

8 **SEC. 4. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-**
9 **FINED.**

10 In this Act, the term “appropriate congressional com-
11 mittees” means—

12 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
13 House of Representatives; and

14 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the
15 Senate.