

VARIOUS MEASURES

MARKUP

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

**H.R. 1164, H.R. 1415, H.R. 2712, H.R. 3542,
H.R. 3776, H. Res. 336, H. Res. 401, H. Res. 407,
and H. Con. Res. 90**

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VARIOUS MEASURES

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2017

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

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

Chairman ROYCE. The committee will come to order. We will ask the members here to take their seats.

Pursuant to notice, we meet today to mark up several bipartisan measures.

Without objection, all members may have 5 days to submit statements or extraneous materials on today's business.

And, having confirmed that there are not contested amendments beyond the bipartisan amendments circulated to all offices yesterday, the ranking member and I intend to consider today's measures en bloc. And so, without objection, the following items previously provided to members and also in your packets are going to be considered en bloc and are considered as read.

They are: H.R. 1164, the Taylor Force Act, Royce amendment 3 in the nature of a substitute, Connolly amendment 1, and Cicilline amendment 105; H.R. 1415, the End Neglected Tropical Diseases Act, with Smith amendment 58 and Espaillat amendment 66; H.R. 2712, the Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act of 2017, with the DeSantis amendment 61 and the Schneider amendment 53 and Donovan amendment 32; we have H.R. 3542, the Hamas Human Shields Prevention Act, with the Schneider amendment 52; H.R. 3776, the Cyber Diplomacy Act of 2017, with Royce amendment 76 in the nature of a substitute, Schneider amendment 51, Castro amendment 59, and McCaul amendment 75; House Resolution 336, Reaffirming a Strong Commitment to the United States-Mexico Partnership; House Resolution 401, Urging All Nations to Outlaw the Dog and Cat Meat Trade, with the Royce amendment 79 in the nature of a substitute to House Resolution 401; House Resolution 407, Condemning the Persecution of Christians Around the World, Royce amendment 80 in the nature of a substitute; and House Concurrent Resolution 90, Condemning the Ethnic Cleansing of the Rohingya in Burma, and the Engel amendment 64 in the nature of a substitute to House Concurrent Resolution 90.

[The information referred to follows:]

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1164

To condition assistance to the West Bank and Gaza on steps by the
Palestinian Authority to end violence and terrorism against Israeli citizens.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 16, 2017

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

A BILL

To condition assistance to the West Bank and Gaza on
steps by the Palestinian Authority to end violence and
terrorism against Israeli citizens.

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 “Taylor Force Act”.

5 SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO THE WEST BANK 6 AND GAZA.

7 Funds appropriated or otherwise made available for
8 assistance under chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign As-
9 sistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2346 et seq.; relating to
10 the Economic Support Fund) and available for assistance

1 for the West Bank and Gaza may only be made available
2 for such purpose if the Secretary of State certifies to the
3 appropriate congressional committees that the Palestinian
4 Authority—

5 (1) is taking credible steps to end acts of vio-
6 lence against United States and Israeli citizens that
7 are perpetrated by individuals under its jurisdic-
8 tional control, such as the March 2016 attack that
9 killed former United States Army officer Taylor
10 Force, a veteran of the wars in Iraq and Afghani-
11 stan;

12 (2) is publicly condemning such acts of violence
13 and is taking steps to investigate or is cooperating
14 in investigations of such acts to bring the perpetra-
15 tors to justice; and

16 (3) has terminated payments for acts of ter-
17 rorism against United States and Israeli citizens to
18 any individual who has been imprisoned after being
19 fairly tried and convicted for such acts of terrorism
20 and to any individual who died committing such acts
21 of terrorism, including to a family member of such
22 individuals.

23 **SEC. 3. DEFINITION.**

24 In this Act, the term “appropriate congressional com-
25 mittees” means—

4

3

1 (1) the Committee on Appropriations and the
2 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

3 (2) the Committee on Appropriations and the
4 Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-
5 resentatives.

○

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 1164
OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE 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 “Taylor Force Act”.

3 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

4 Congress makes the following findings:

5 (1) The Palestinian Authority’s practice of pay-
6 ing salaries to terrorists serving in Israeli prisons, as
7 well as to the families of deceased terrorists, is an
8 incentive to commit acts of terror.

9 (2) The United States does not provide direct
10 budgetary support to the Palestinian Authority. The
11 United States does pay certain debts held by the
12 Palestinian Authority and funds programs for which
13 the Palestinian Authority would otherwise be respon-
14 sible.

15 (3) The United States Government supports
16 community-based programs in the West Bank and
17 Gaza that provide for basic human needs, such as
18 food, water, health, shelter, protection, education,

1 and livelihoods, and that promote peace and develop-
2 ment.

3 (4) Since fiscal year 2015, annual appropri-
4 ations legislation has mandated the reduction of Eco-
5 nomic Support Fund aid for the Palestinian Author-
6 ity as a result of their payments for acts of ter-
7 rorism including, in fiscal year 2017, a reduction
8 “by an amount the Secretary determines is equiva-
9 lent to the amount expended by the Palestinian Au-
10 thority, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and
11 any successor or affiliated organizations with such
12 entities as payments for acts of terrorism by individ-
13 uals who are imprisoned after being fairly tried and
14 convicted for acts of terrorism and by individuals
15 who died committing acts of terrorism during the
16 previous calendar year”.

17 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

18 Congress—

19 (1) calls on the Palestinian Authority, the Pal-
20 estine Liberation Organization, and any successor or
21 affiliated organizations to stop payments for acts of
22 terrorism by individuals who are imprisoned after
23 being fairly tried and convicted for acts of terrorism
24 and by individuals who died committing acts of ter-

1 rorism and to repeal the laws authorizing such pay-
2 ments;

3 (2) calls on all donor countries providing budg-
4 etary assistance to the Palestinian Authority to
5 cease direct budgetary support until the Palestinian
6 Authority stops all payments incentivizing terror;

7 (3) urges the Palestinian Authority to develop
8 programs to provide essential public services and
9 support to any individual in need within its jurisdic-
10 tional control, rather than to provide payments con-
11 tingent on perpetrating acts of violence;

12 (4) urges the United States Permanent Rep-
13 resentative to the United Nations to use the voice,
14 vote, and influence of the United States at the
15 United Nations to highlight the issue of Palestinian
16 Authority payments for acts of terrorism and to
17 urge other Member States to apply pressure upon
18 the Palestinian Authority to immediately cease such
19 payments; and

20 (5) urges the Department of State to use its bi-
21 lateral and multilateral engagements with all govern-
22 ments and organizations committed to the cause of
23 peace between Israel and the Palestinians to high-
24 light the issue of Palestinian Authority payments for
25 acts of terrorism and to urge such governments and

1 organizations to join the United States in calling on
2 the Palestinian Authority to immediately cease such
3 payments.

4 **SEC. 4. LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO THE WEST BANK**
5 **AND GAZA.**

6 (a) LIMITATION.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal year 2018 and
8 each of the five subsequent fiscal years, funds au-
9 thorized to be appropriated or otherwise made avail-
10 able for assistance under chapter 4 of part II of the
11 Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2346 et
12 seq.; relating to Economic Support Fund) and avail-
13 able for assistance for the West Bank and Gaza that
14 directly benefits the Palestinian Authority may only
15 be made available for such purpose if, except as pro-
16 vided in subsection (d), not later than 30 days after
17 the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180
18 days thereafter, the Secretary of State certifies in
19 writing to the appropriate congressional committees
20 that the Palestinian Authority, the Palestine Libera-
21 tion Organization, and any successor or affiliated or-
22 ganizations—

23 (A) are taking credible steps to end acts of
24 violence against Israeli citizens and United
25 States citizens that are perpetrated or materi-

1 ally assisted by individuals under their jurisdic-
2 tional control, such as the March 2016 attack
3 that killed former United States Army officer
4 Taylor Force, a veteran of the wars in Iraq and
5 Afghanistan;

6 (B) have terminated payments for acts of
7 terrorism against Israeli citizens and United
8 States citizens to any individual, after being
9 fairly tried, who has been imprisoned for such
10 acts of terrorism and to any individual who died
11 committing such acts of terrorism, including to
12 a family member of such individuals;

13 (C) have revoked any law, decree, regula-
14 tion, or document authorizing or implementing
15 a system of compensation for imprisoned indi-
16 viduals that uses the sentence or period of in-
17 carceration of an individual imprisoned for an
18 act of terrorism to determine the level of com-
19 pensation paid, or have taken comparable ac-
20 tion that has the effect of invalidating any such
21 law, decree, regulation, or document; and

22 (D) are publicly condemning such acts of
23 violence and are taking steps to investigate or
24 are cooperating in investigations of such acts to
25 bring the perpetrators to justice.

1 (2) ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATION REQUIRE-
2 MENT.—The Secretary of State shall include in the
3 certification required under paragraph (1) the defi-
4 nition of “acts of terrorism” that the Secretary used
5 for purposes of making the determination in sub-
6 paragraph (B) of such paragraph.

7 (b) EXCEPTION.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
9 the limitation on assistance under subsection (a)
10 shall not apply to—

11 (A) payments made to the East Jerusalem
12 Hospital Network; and

13 (B) assistance for wastewater projects.

14 (2) NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary of State
15 shall notify in writing the appropriate congressional
16 committees not later than 15 days prior to making
17 funds available for assistance under subparagraph
18 (A) or (B) of paragraph (1).

19 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Funds withheld pur-
20 suant to this section—

21 (1) shall be deemed to satisfy any similar with-
22 holding or reduction required under any other provi-
23 sion of law relating to the Palestinian Authority’s
24 payments for acts of terrorism; and

1 (2) shall be in an amount that is not less than
2 the total amount required by such other provision of
3 law.

4 (d) INITIAL USE AND DISPOSITION OF WITHHELD
5 FUNDS.—

6 (1) PERIOD OF AVAILABILITY.—Funds withheld
7 pursuant to this section are authorized to remain
8 available for an additional 2 years from the date on
9 which the availability of such funds would otherwise
10 have expired.

11 (2) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds withheld pursuant
12 to this section may be made available for assistance
13 for the West Bank and Gaza that directly benefits
14 the Palestinian Authority upon a certification by the
15 Secretary of State that the Palestinian Authority,
16 the Palestine Liberation Organization, and any suc-
17 cessor or affiliated organizations have met the condi-
18 tions set forth in subsection (a). Except as provided
19 in paragraph (3), such funds may not be made avail-
20 able for any purpose other than for assistance for
21 the West Bank and Gaza that directly benefits the
22 Palestinian Authority.

23 (3) DISPOSITION OF UNUSED FUNDS.—Begin-
24 ning on the date that is 180 days after the last day
25 on which the initial availability of funds withheld

1 pursuant to this section would otherwise have ex-
2 pired, such funds are authorized to be made avail-
3 able to the Department of State for assistance under
4 chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act
5 of 1961 (22 U.S.C.2346 et seq.; relating to Eco-
6 nomic Support Fund) for purposes other than assist-
7 ance for the West Bank and Gaza.

8 (e) REPORT.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of State is
10 unable to certify in writing to the appropriate con-
11 gressional committees that the Palestinian Author-
12 ity, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and any
13 successor or affiliated organizations have met the
14 conditions described in subsection (a), the Secretary
15 shall, not later than 15 days after the date on which
16 the Secretary is unable to make such certification,
17 submit to the appropriate congressional committees
18 a report that contains the following:

19 (A) The reasons why the Secretary was
20 unable to certify in writing that such organiza-
21 tions have met such requirements.

22 (B) The definition of “acts of terrorism”
23 that the Secretary used for purposes of making
24 the determination in subparagraph (B) of sub-
25 section (a)(1).

1 (C) The total amount of funds to be with-
2 held.

3 (2) FORM.—The report required by this sub-
4 section shall be submitted in unclassified form but
5 may include a classified annex.

6 (f) LIST OF CRITERIA.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 15 days after
8 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
9 of State shall submit to the appropriate congres-
10 sional committees a list of the criteria that the Sec-
11 retary uses to determine whether assistance for the
12 West Bank and Gaza is assistance that directly ben-
13 efits the Palestinian Authority for purposes of car-
14 rying out this section.

15 (2) UPDATE.—The Secretary of State shall
16 submit to the appropriate congressional committees
17 an updated list under paragraph (1) not later than
18 15 days after the date on which the Secretary makes
19 any modification to the list.

20 **SEC. 5. ANNUAL REPORT.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
22 date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter
23 for 6 years, the Secretary of State shall submit to the ap-
24 propriate congressional committees a report including at
25 a minimum the following elements:

1 (1) An estimate of the amount expended by the
2 Palestinian Authority, the Palestine Liberation Or-
3 ganization, and any successor or affiliated organiza-
4 tions during the previous calendar year as payments
5 for acts of terrorism by individuals who are impris-
6 oned for such acts.

7 (2) An estimate of the amount expended by the
8 Palestinian Authority, the Palestine Liberation Or-
9 ganization, and any successor or affiliated organiza-
10 tions during the previous calendar year as payments
11 to the families of deceased individuals who com-
12 mitted an act of terrorism.

13 (3) An overview of Palestinian laws, decrees,
14 regulations, or documents in effect the previous cal-
15 endar year that authorize or implement any pay-
16 ments reported under paragraphs (1) and (2).

17 (4) A description of United States Government
18 policy, efforts, and engagement with the Palestinian
19 Authority in order to confirm the revocation of any
20 law, decree, regulation, or document in effect the
21 previous calendar year that authorizes or implements
22 any payments reported under paragraphs (1) and
23 (2).

24 (5) A description of United States Government
25 policy, efforts, and engagement with other govern-

1 ments, and at the United Nations, to highlight the
2 issue of Palestinian payments for acts of terrorism
3 and to urge other nations to join the United States
4 in calling on the Palestinian Authority to imme-
5 diately cease such payments.

6 (b) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required by sub-
7 section (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may
8 include a classified annex.

9 **SEC. 6. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-**
10 **FINED.**

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

13 (1) the Committee on Appropriations and the
14 Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-
15 resentatives; and

16 (2) the Committee on Appropriations and the
17 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.



**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 1164
OFFERED BY MR. CONNOLLY OF VIRGINIA**

In section 4(b)(1)—

- (1) strike “and” at the end of subparagraph (A);
- (2) strike the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and insert “; and”; and
- (3) add at the end the following:

1 (C) assistance for any other program,
2 project, or activity that provides vaccinations to
3 children.

In section 4(b)(2), strike “subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1)” and insert “subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of paragraph (1)”.



**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 1164
OFFERED BY MR. CICILLINE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Insert after section 4 the following new section (and redesignate subsequent sections accordingly):

1 SEC. 5. INITIAL REPORT.

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the
3 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State
4 shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
5 a report describing those programs, projects, and activities
6 funded by the United States Government that have been
7 or will be suspended by reason of withholding of funds
8 under section 4.

9 (b) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a)
10 shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include
11 a classified annex.



115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1415

To facilitate effective research on and treatment of neglected tropical diseases, including Ebola, through coordinated domestic and international efforts.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 7, 2017

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. MEEKS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Financial Services, 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

A BILL

To facilitate effective research on and treatment of neglected tropical diseases, including Ebola, through coordinated domestic and international efforts.

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 “End Neglected Trop-
5 ical Diseases Act”.

6 SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

7 The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

- Sec. 2. Table of contents.
- Sec. 3. Statement of policy.
- Sec. 4. Findings.
- Sec. 5. Definition.
- Sec. 6. Rule of construction.

TITLE I—FOREIGN AFFAIRS

- Sec. 101. Expansion of United States Agency for International Development's Neglected Tropical Diseases Program.
- Sec. 102. Actions by Department of State.
- Sec. 103. Multilateral development and health institutions.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- Sec. 201. Promoting efforts through interagency working groups and international forums.
- Sec. 202. Report on neglected tropical diseases in the United States.
- Sec. 203. Centers of excellence.
- Sec. 204. Panel on worm infection solutions.

1 SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

2 It is the policy of the United States to support a
 3 broad range of implementation and research and develop-
 4 ment activities that work toward the achievement of cost-
 5 effective and sustainable treatment, control and, where
 6 possible, elimination of neglected tropical diseases, includ-
 7 ing Ebola, for the economic and social well-being for all
 8 people.

9 SEC. 4. FINDINGS.

10 Congress finds the following:

11 (1) The World Health Organization (WHO) has
 12 identified 17 neglected tropical diseases (NTDs).
 13 Approximately two billion people—almost one-third
 14 of the world's population—are at risk of contracting
 15 an NTD, and more than 1.4 billion people are cur-
 16 rently afflicted with one or more NTDs.

1 (2) In 2013, WHO adopted a comprehensive
2 resolution on NTDs recognizing that increased na-
3 tional and international investments in prevention
4 and control of neglected tropical diseases have suc-
5 ceeded in improving health and social well-being in
6 many countries.

7 (3) NTDs have an enormous impact in terms of
8 disease burden and quality of life. NTDs cause the
9 loss of up to 534,000 lives and 57 million disability-
10 adjusted life years each year. NTDs surpass both
11 malaria and tuberculosis in causing greater loss of
12 life-years to disability and premature death. Many
13 NTDs cause disfigurement and disability, leading to
14 stigma, social discrimination, and societal marginali-
15 zation.

16 (4) NTDs create an economic burden of billions
17 of dollars through the loss of productivity and high
18 costs of health care required for treatment. People
19 afflicted by NTDs are less productive than their
20 healthy counterparts. NTDs jeopardize the ability of
21 people to attend work and school, or to produce at
22 full capacity. For example, controlling one NTD,
23 hookworm, in children can result in a 43-percent in-
24 crease in future wage earnings.

1 (5) The social, economic, and health burden of
2 NTDs falls primarily on low- and middle-income
3 countries, where access to safe water, sanitation,
4 and health care is limited. At least 100 countries
5 face two endemic NTD burdens, and 30 countries
6 carry six or more endemic NTDs.

7 (6) NTDs are not confined to the developing
8 world, however. Several NTD outbreaks have been
9 reported in the United States and other developed
10 countries, especially among the poor. In the United
11 States, NTDs disproportionately affect people living
12 in poverty, and especially minorities, including up to
13 2.8 million African-Americans with toxocariasis and
14 300,000 or more people, mostly Hispanic-Americans,
15 with Chagas disease.

16 (7) In 2014, an outbreak of Ebola Virus Dis-
17 eases (Ebola) caused a pandemic that infected more
18 than 20,000 people, including more than 8,000
19 deaths. Although not listed as an NTD by the World
20 Health Organization, Ebola shares the same charac-
21 teristics as other NTDs by affecting people living
22 “under conditions of poverty” and is “concentrated
23 almost exclusively in impoverished populations in the
24 developing world”. Even when the disease had
25 spread to the United States and other developed

1 countries, it was contained and controlled by the
2 well-equipped health systems in those areas.

3 (8) Many NTDs can be controlled, prevented,
4 and even eliminated using low-cost, effective, and
5 feasible solutions. Understanding the economic bur-
6 den of NTDs on productivity and health care costs
7 can help to assure governments and donors that the
8 resources directed toward NTDs represent a good
9 investment.

10 (9) Research and development efforts are imme-
11 diately needed for all NTDs, especially those for
12 which limited or no treatment currently exists.

13 (10) Critical to developing robust NTD control
14 strategies are epidemiological data that identify at-
15 risk populations, ensure appropriate treatment fre-
16 quency, and inform decisions about when treatment
17 can be reduced or stopped.

18 (11) Of the 14 most common NTDs, roughly
19 80 percent of infections are caused by soil-trans-
20 mitted helminths (STH) and schistosomiasis. STH
21 are a group of three parasitic worms (roundworms,
22 whipworms, and hookworms) that afflict more than
23 one billion people worldwide, including 600 million
24 school-age children, of whom more than 300 million
25 suffer from severe morbidity. Schistosomiasis is an-

1 other helminth infection affecting at least 200 mil-
2 lion people in developing countries, but some esti-
3 mates indicate that the true number of people af-
4 fected may be double or even triple that number.

5 (12) The main health problems caused by STH
6 are related to their negative effect on childhood nu-
7 tritional status, which can cause stunting and wast-
8 ing. For example, STH infection may lead to ane-
9 mia, malabsorption of nutrients, loss of appetite,
10 nausea, abdominal pain, diarrhea, and reduced food
11 intake. When such health problems are experienced
12 in early childhood, a peak growth and development
13 period, the mental and physical damage—and loss of
14 future productivity and wage-earning potential—will
15 likely be irreversible. Schistosomiasis causes end-
16 organ damage to the urinary tract, female genital
17 tract, liver and intestines. It also results in chronic
18 health conditions in children.

19 (13) STH and schistosomiasis are also particu-
20 larly detrimental to the health of women of repro-
21 ductive age and pregnant women. Their underlying
22 poor iron status makes these women most suscep-
23 tible to developing anemia. Iron deficiency anemia
24 resulting from hookworm infection during pregnancy
25 has been linked to poor pregnancy outcomes such as

1 prematurity, low birth weight, and impaired lacta-
2 tion. Female genital schistosmiasis may be one of
3 the most common gynecologic conditions in Africa
4 leading to genital pain, itching, and bleeding and
5 markedly increased susceptibility to HIV/AIDS.

6 (14) Fortunately, there is a simple, cost-effec-
7 tive solution to STH and schistosomiasis infections:
8 single-dose deworming pills that can be safely ad-
9 ministered once or twice annually to those at risk.
10 Pharmaceutical companies have committed to donate
11 the drugs needed to treat all at-risk, school-age chil-
12 dren in developing countries. Regular administration
13 of deworming pills reduces morbidity associated with
14 STH and schistosomiasis infections by reducing
15 prevalence and transmission rates.

16 (15) Improved access to water, sanitation, and
17 hygiene (WASH) can also reduce the transmission of
18 NTDs, particularly intestinal worms.

19 (16) The benefits of deworming are immediate
20 and enduring. A rigorous randomized controlled trial
21 has shown school-based deworming treatment to re-
22 duce school absenteeism by 25 percent. School-based
23 deworming also benefits young siblings and other
24 children who live nearby but are too young to be

1 treated, leading to large cognitive improvements
2 equivalent to half a year of schooling.

3 **SEC. 5. DEFINITION.**

4 In this Act, the term “neglected tropical diseases” or
5 “NTDs”—

6 (1) means infections caused by pathogens, in-
7 cluding viruses, bacteria, protozoa, and helminths
8 that disproportionately impact individuals living in
9 extreme poverty, especially in developing countries;
10 and

11 (2) includes—

12 (A) Buruli ulcer (*Mycobacterium Ulcerans*
13 infection);

14 (B) Chagas disease;

15 (C) dengue or severe dengue fever;

16 (D) dracunculiasis (Guinea worm disease);

17 (E) echinococcosis;

18 (F) foodborne trematodiasis;

19 (G) human African trypanosomiasis (sleep-
20 ing sickness);

21 (H) leishmaniasis;

22 (I) leprosy;

23 (J) lymphatic filariasis (elephantiasis);

24 (K) onchocerciasis (river blindness);

25 (L) rabies;

- 1 (M) schistosomiasis;
- 2 (N) soil-transmitted helminthiasis (STH)
- 3 (round worm, whip worm, and hook worm);
- 4 (O) taeniasis/cysticercosis;
- 5 (P) trachoma; and
- 6 (Q) yaws (endemic treponematoses).

7 **SEC. 6. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

8 Nothing in this Act shall be construed to increase au-
 9 thorizations of appropriations for the United States Agen-
 10 cy for International Development or authorizations of ap-
 11 propriations for the Department of Health and Human
 12 Services.

13 **TITLE I—FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

14 **SEC. 101. EXPANSION OF UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR**
 15 **INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT'S NE-**
 16 **GLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES PROGRAM.**

17 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

18 (1) Since fiscal year 2006, the United States
 19 Government has been an essential leading partner in
 20 advancing control and elimination efforts for seven
 21 targeted neglected tropical diseases: lymphatic fila-
 22 riasis (elephantiasis), onchocerciasis (river blind-
 23 ness), schistosomiasis, soil-transmitted helminthiasis
 24 (STH) (round worm, whip worm, and hook worm),
 25 and trachoma. Additional information suggests that

1 such efforts could also produce collateral benefits for
2 at least three other NTDs: foodborne trematodiasis,
3 scabies, and yaws (endemic treponematoses).

4 (2) The United States Agency for International
5 Development's (USAID) Neglected Tropical Dis-
6 eases Program has made important and substantial
7 contributions to the global fight to control and elimi-
8 nate the seven most common NTDs. Leveraging
9 more than \$6.7 billion in donated medicines, USAID
10 has supported the distribution of more than one bil-
11 lion treatments in 25 countries across Africa, Asia,
12 and Latin America and the Caribbean.

13 (3) United States Government leadership has
14 been instrumental in maintaining the global fight
15 against NTDs and is a partner in the London Dec-
16 laration on Neglected Tropical Diseases (2012),
17 which represents a new, coordinated international
18 push to accelerate progress toward eliminating or
19 controlling 10 neglected tropical diseases by 2020.

20 (4) USAID's Neglected Tropical Diseases Pro-
21 gram is a clear example of a successful public-pri-
22 vate partnership between the Government and the
23 private sector and should be judiciously expanded, as
24 practicable and appropriate.

1 (5) While many of the most common NTDs
2 have treatments that are safe, easy to use, and effective,
3 treatment options for NTDs with the highest
4 death rates, including human African trypanosomiasis,
5 visceral leishmaniasis, and Chagas disease, are
6 extremely limited.

7 (6) Since 2014, USAID's Neglected Tropical
8 Diseases Program has been investing in gathering
9 research on treatment for certain NTDs to ensure
10 that promising new breakthrough medicines can be
11 rapidly evaluated, registered, and made available to
12 patients.

13 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress
14 that USAID's Neglected Tropical Diseases Program
15 should—

16 (1) provide integrated drug treatment packages
17 to as many individuals suffering from NTDs or at
18 risk of acquiring NTDs as logistically feasible;

19 (2) better integrate control and treatment tools
20 and approaches for NTDs into complementary development
21 and global health programs by coordinating
22 across multiple sectors, including sectors relating to
23 HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other infectious diseases
24 and development sectors relating to education (including
25 primary and pre-primary education), food

1 and nutrition security, maternal and child health,
2 and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), as
3 practicable and appropriate;

4 (3) establish low-cost, high-impact community
5 and school-based NTD programs to reach large at-
6 risk populations, including school-age children who
7 require treatments for NTDs, with integrated drug
8 treatment packages as feasible;

9 (4) for other NTDs, such as human African
10 trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness), Chagas disease,
11 leishmaniasis, and dengue fever, engage in research
12 and development of new tools and approaches to
13 reach the goals relating to the elimination of NTDs
14 as set forth in the World Health Organization's "Ac-
15 celerating Work to Overcome the Global Impact of
16 Neglected Tropical Diseases: A Roadmap for Imple-
17 mentation" (2012), as opportunities emerge and re-
18 sources allow; and

19 (5) monitor the research on and developments
20 in the prevention and treatment of other NTDs so
21 they can be incorporated into the program, as prac-
22 ticable and appropriate.

23 (c) PROGRAM PRIORITIES.—The Administrator of
24 USAID should incorporate the following priorities into
25 USAID's Neglected Tropical Diseases Program:

1 (1) Planning for and conducting robust moni-
2 toring and evaluation of program investments in
3 order to accurately measure impact, identify and
4 share lessons learned, and inform future NTD con-
5 trol and elimination strategies.

6 (2) Coordinating program activities with
7 USAID development sectors, including development
8 sectors relating to education (including primary and
9 pre-primary education), food and nutrition security,
10 and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), in
11 order to advance the goals of the London Declara-
12 tion on Neglected Tropical Diseases (2012).

13 (3) Including morbidity management in treat-
14 ment plans for high-burden NTDs.

15 (4) Incorporating NTDs that are recognized as
16 high-burden diseases in the Global Burden of Dis-
17 ease Study 2010 into the program as opportunities
18 emerge, to the extent practicable and appropriate.

19 (5) Continuing investments in research and de-
20 velopment for new tools, including diagnostics,
21 drugs, and vaccines, for NTDs to ensure that new
22 discoveries make it through the pipeline and become
23 available to individuals who need them most.

1 **SEC. 102. ACTIONS BY DEPARTMENT OF STATE.**

2 (a) **OFFICE OF THE GLOBAL AIDS COORDINATOR.**—

3 It is the sense of Congress that the Coordinator of United
4 States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Glob-
5 ally should fully consider evolving research on the impact
6 of neglected tropical diseases on efforts to control HIV/
7 AIDS when making future programming decisions, as nec-
8 essary and appropriate.

9 (b) **GLOBAL PROGRAMMING.**—

10 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of State
11 should encourage the Global Fund to take into con-
12 sideration evolving research on the impact of NTDs
13 on efforts to control HIV/AIDS when making pro-
14 gramming decisions, particularly with regard to fe-
15 male genital schistosomiasis, which has been re-
16 vealed as one of the most significant co-factors in
17 the AIDS epidemic in Africa, as necessary and ap-
18 propriate.

19 (2) **GLOBAL FUND.**—In this subsection, the
20 term “Global Fund” means the public-private part-
21 nership known as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS,
22 Tuberculosis and Malaria established pursuant to
23 Article 80 of the Swiss Civil Code.

24 (c) **G-20 COUNTRIES.**—The Secretary of State, act-
25 ing through the Office of Global Health Diplomacy, should
26 encourage G-20 countries, particularly Argentina, Brazil,

1 China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, the Republic of Korea,
2 Saudi Arabia, and South Africa, to significantly increase
3 their role in the control and elimination of NTDs.

4 **SEC. 103. MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH IN-**
5 **STITUTIONS.**

6 (a) CONGRESSIONAL FINDING.—Congress finds that
7 the treatment of high burden neglected tropical diseases,
8 including community and school-based deworming pro-
9 grams, can be a highly cost-effective education interven-
10 tion and schools can serve as an effective delivery mecha-
11 nism for reaching large numbers of children with safe
12 treatment for soil-transmitted helminthiases (STH)
13 (round worm, whip worm, and hook worm) in particular.

14 (b) UNITED NATIONS.—The President should direct
15 the United States permanent representative to the United
16 Nations to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United
17 States to urge the World Health Organization and the
18 United Nations Development Programme to take the ac-
19 tions described in subsection (d).

20 (c) WORLD BANK INSTITUTE.—The President shall
21 direct the United States Executive Director at the Inter-
22 national Bank for Reconstruction and Development to use
23 the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to urge
24 the World Bank Institute to take the actions described
25 in subsection (d).

1 (d) ACTIONS DESCRIBED.—The actions described in
2 this subsection are the following:

3 (1) Ensure the dissemination of best practices
4 and programming on NTDs to governments and
5 make data accessible to practitioners in an open and
6 timely fashion.

7 (2) Highlight impacts of community and school-
8 based deworming programs on children’s health and
9 education, emphasizing the cost-effectiveness of such
10 programs.

11 (3) Encourage governments to implement
12 deworming campaigns at the national level.

13 (4) Designate a portion of grant funds of the
14 institutions to deworming initiatives and cross-sec-
15 toral collaboration with water and sanitation and hy-
16 giene efforts and nutrition or education program-
17 ming.

18 (5) Encourage accurate monitoring and evalua-
19 tion of NTD programs, including deworming pro-
20 grams.

21 (6) Engage governments in cross-border initia-
22 tives for the treatment, control, prevention, and
23 elimination of NTDs, and assist in developing
24 transnational agreements, when necessary.

1 **TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF**
2 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

3 **SEC. 201. PROMOTING EFFORTS THROUGH INTERAGENCY**
4 **WORKING GROUPS AND INTERNATIONAL FO-**
5 **RUMS.**

6 The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall
7 continue to promote the need for robust programs and ac-
8 tivities to diagnose, prevent, control, and treat neglected
9 tropical diseases—

10 (1) through interagency working groups on
11 health; and

12 (2) through relevant international forums on
13 behalf of the United States, including the post-2015
14 United Nations development agenda.

15 **SEC. 202. REPORT ON NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES IN**
16 **THE UNITED STATES.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 12 months after
18 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health
19 and Human Services, acting through relevant agencies of
20 the Department of Health and Human Services, shall sub-
21 mit to the Congress a report on neglected tropical diseases
22 in the United States.

23 (b) CONTENTS.—The report required by this section
24 shall—

- 1 (1) assess the epidemiology of, impact of, and
- 2 appropriate funding required to address, neglected
- 3 tropical diseases in the United States; and
- 4 (2) include the information necessary—
- 5 (A) to guide future health policy with re-
- 6 spect to such diseases;
- 7 (B) to accurately evaluate the current
- 8 state of knowledge concerning such diseases;
- 9 and
- 10 (C) to define gaps in such knowledge.

11 **SEC. 203. CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.**

12 Part P of title III of the Public Health Service Act
13 is amended by inserting after section 399V–6 of such Act
14 (42 U.S.C. 280g–17) the following:

15 **“SEC. 399V–7. NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASE CENTERS OF**
16 **EXCELLENCE.**

17 “(a) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS AND GRANTS.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting
19 through the Director of the Centers for Disease
20 Control and Prevention, may enter into cooperative
21 agreements with, and make grants to, public or pri-
22 vate nonprofit entities to pay all or part of the cost
23 of planning, establishing, or strengthening, and pro-
24 viding basic operating support for, one or more cen-
25 ters of excellence for research into, training in, and

1 development of diagnosis, prevention, control, and
2 treatment methods for neglected tropical diseases,
3 including tools to support elimination.

4 “(2) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a cooper-
5 ative agreement or grant under this section, an enti-
6 ty must—

7 “(A) have demonstrated expertise in re-
8 search on, and or the epidemiology and surveil-
9 lance of, major neglected tropical diseases that
10 are endemic to the United States, such as
11 Chagas disease, dengue, leishmaniasis, West
12 Nile virus, and helminth infections; and

13 “(B) participate in one or more not-for-
14 profit product development partnerships.

15 “(b) POLICIES.—A cooperative agreement or grant
16 under paragraph (1) shall be entered into or awarded in
17 accordance with established policies.

18 “(c) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall ensure
19 that activities under this section are coordinated with
20 similar activities of the Department of Health and Human
21 Services relating to neglected tropical diseases.

22 “(d) USES OF FUNDS.—A cooperative agreement or
23 grant under subsection (a) may be used for—

1 “(1) staffing, administrative, and other basic
2 operating costs, including such patient care costs as
3 are required for research;

4 “(2) clinical training, including training for al-
5 lied health professionals, continuing education for
6 health professionals and allied health professions
7 personnel, and information programs for the public
8 with respect to neglected tropical diseases; and

9 “(3) research and development programs.

10 “(e) PERIOD OF SUPPORT; ADDITIONAL PERIODS.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Support of a center of ex-
12 cellence under this section may be for a period of
13 not more than 5 years.

14 “(2) EXTENSIONS.—The period specified in
15 paragraph (1) may be extended by the Secretary for
16 additional periods of not more than 5 years if—

17 “(A) the operations of the center of excel-
18 lence involved have been reviewed by an appro-
19 priate technical and scientific peer review
20 group; and

21 “(B) such group has recommended to the
22 Secretary that such period should be extended.

23 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 “(1) The term ‘neglected tropical diseases’ has
2 the meaning given to that term in section 5 of the
3 End Neglected Tropical Diseases Act.

4 “(2) The term ‘product development partner-
5 ship’ means a partnership to bring together public
6 and private sector researchers to develop new, or im-
7 prove on current, global health tools, such as drugs,
8 diagnostics, insecticides, vaccines, and vector man-
9 agement strategies—

10 “(A) that are for neglected tropical dis-
11 eases, including Ebola; and

12 “(B) for which there is generally no profit-
13 able market.”.

14 **SEC. 204. PANEL ON WORM INFECTION SOLUTIONS.**

15 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary of Health and
16 Human Services shall establish a panel to conduct an eval-
17 uation of issues relating to worm infections, including po-
18 tential solutions such as deworming medicines (in this sec-
19 tion referred to as the “panel”).

20 (b) **STRATEGIES.**—The panel shall develop rec-
21 ommendations for strategies for solutions with respect
22 to—

23 (1) repeat infections;

24 (2) vector control;

25 (3) clean water solutions;

1 (4) identifying incentives to encourage basic re-
2 search for less toxic, more effective medicines; and

3 (5) improving the success and cost efficiency of
4 current programs in these areas, based on a thor-
5 ough scan of initiatives already underway in both
6 the public and private sectors.

7 (c) APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS.—In addition to
8 representatives from the Centers for Disease Control and
9 Prevention and other relevant agencies working on ne-
10 glected tropical diseases, the Secretary of Health and
11 Human Services shall appoint as members of the panel
12 individuals from the public and private sectors who are
13 knowledgeable about or affected by worm infections, in-
14 cluding—

15 (1) at least 2 representatives of nongovern-
16 mental organizations;

17 (2) at least 2 representatives of private industry
18 involved in the development of de-worming medica-
19 tions;

20 (3) at least 2 representatives from academia;
21 and

22 (4) representatives of industries relating to
23 sanitation, clean water, and vector control.

24 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
25 of the enactment of this Act, the panel shall submit to

1 Congress and the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
2 ices a report on its findings and recommended strategies,
3 including recommendations for such administrative action
4 and legislation as the panel determines to be appropriate.

5 (e) TERMINATION.—The panel shall terminate not
6 later than 6 months after submitting the report required
7 by subsection (d).



AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1415
OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF NEW JERSEY

Page 2, beginning on line 6, strike “, including Ebola,”.

Page 2, beginning on line 7, strike “for all people” and insert “of all people”.

Strike page 4, line 16, through page 5, line 2.

Strike page 6, line 5, through page 7, line 18.

Page 8, line 25, strike “rabies” and insert “scabies”.

Strike title I (page 9, line 13, through page 16, line 24) and insert the following:

1 **TITLE I—FOREIGN AFFAIRS**
2 **SEC. 101. EXPANSION OF UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR**
3 **INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT NEGLECTED**
4 **TROPICAL DISEASES PROGRAM.**
5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:
6 (1) Since fiscal year 2006, the United States
7 Government has been an essential leader in global
8 efforts to control and eliminate seven targeted ne-
9 glected tropical diseases: lymphatic filariasis (ele-

1 phantiasis), onchocerciasis (river blindness), schis-
2 tosomiasis, soil-transmitted helminthiasis (round
3 worm, whip worm, and hook worm), and trachoma.
4 Additional information suggests that such efforts
5 could also produce collateral benefits for at least
6 three other neglected tropical diseases: foodborne
7 trematodiasis, scabies, and yaws (endemic
8 treponematoses).

9 (2) The United States Government is a partner
10 in the London Declaration on Neglected Tropical
11 Diseases (2012), which represents a new, coordi-
12 nated international push to accelerate progress to-
13 ward eliminating or controlling 10 NTDs by 2020.

14 (3) While many of the most common NTDs
15 have safe, easy to use, and effective treatments,
16 treatment options for the NTDs with the highest
17 death rates, including human African
18 trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness), visceral leishma-
19 niasis, and Chagas disease, are extremely limited.

20 (4) The United States Agency for International
21 Development (USAID) Neglected Tropical Diseases
22 Program has made important and substantial con-
23 tributions to the global fight to control and eliminate
24 five of the most common NTDs. Leveraging more
25 than \$15,700,000,000 in donated medicines, USAID

1 has supported the distribution of more than one bil-
2 lion treatments in 31 countries across Africa, Asia,
3 and Latin America and the Caribbean.

4 (5) Since 2014, the USAID Neglected Tropical
5 Diseases Program has been investing in research
6 and development for the treatment of certain NTDs
7 to ensure that promising new breakthrough medi-
8 cines can be rapidly evaluated, registered, and made
9 available to patients.

10 (6) The USAID Neglected Tropical Diseases
11 Program is a clear example of a successful public-
12 private partnership between the Government and the
13 private sector and should be judiciously expanded, as
14 practicable and appropriate.

15 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
16 gress that USAID’s Neglected Tropical Diseases Pro-
17 gram, as in effect on the date of the enactment of this
18 Act, should—

19 (1) provide integrated drug treatment packages
20 to as many individuals suffering from NTDs or at
21 risk of acquiring NTDs as logistically feasible;

22 (2) better integrate NTD control and treatment
23 tools and approaches into complementary develop-
24 ment and global health programs by coordinating, to
25 the extent practicable and appropriate, across mul-

1 tiple sectors, including those relating to HIV/AIDS,
2 malaria, tuberculosis, education, nutrition, other in-
3 fectionous diseases, maternal and child health, and
4 water, sanitation, and hygiene;

5 (3) establish low-cost, high-impact community-
6 and school-based NTD programs to reach large at-
7 risk populations, including school-age children, with
8 integrated drug treatment packages, as feasible;

9 (4) as opportunities emerge and resources
10 allow, engage in research and development of new
11 tools and approaches to reach the goals relating to
12 the elimination of NTDs as set forth by the 2012
13 World Health Organization publication “Accel-
14 erating Work to Overcome the Global Impact of Ne-
15 glected Tropical Diseases: A Roadmap for Imple-
16 mentation”, including for Chagas disease, Guinea
17 worm, human African trypanosomiasis (sleeping
18 sickness), leprosy, and visceral leishmaniasis; and

19 (5) monitor research on and developments in
20 the prevention and treatment of other NTDs so
21 breakthroughs can be incorporated into the USAID
22 Neglected Tropical Diseases Program, as practicable
23 and appropriate.

24 (c) PROGRAM PRIORITIES.—The Administrator of
25 USAID should incorporate the following priorities into the

1 USAID Neglected Tropical Diseases Program (as in effect
2 on the date of the enactment of this Act):

3 (1) Planning for and conducting robust moni-
4 toring and evaluation of program investments in
5 order to accurately measure impact, identify and
6 share lessons learned, and inform future NTD con-
7 trol and elimination strategies.

8 (2) Coordinating program activities with com-
9 plementary USAID development and global health
10 programs, including programs relating to water,
11 sanitation, and hygiene, food and nutrition security,
12 and education (both primary and secondary), in
13 order to advance the goals of the London Declara-
14 tion on Neglected Tropical Diseases (2012).

15 (3) Including morbidity management in treat-
16 ment plans for high-burden NTDs.

17 (4) Incorporating NTDs included in the Global
18 Burden of Disease Study 2010 into the program as
19 opportunities emerge, to the extent practicable and
20 appropriate.

21 (5) Continuing investments in the research and
22 development of new tools and approaches that com-
23 plement existing research investments and ensure
24 that new discoveries make it through the pipeline

1 and become available to individuals who need them
2 most.

3 **SEC. 102. ACTIONS BY DEPARTMENT OF STATE.**

4 (a) OFFICE OF THE GLOBAL AIDS COORDINATOR.—

5 It is the sense of Congress that the Coordinator of United
6 States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Glob-
7 ally should fully consider evolving research on the impact
8 of NTDs on efforts to control HIV/AIDS when making
9 future programming decisions, as necessary and appro-
10 priate.

11 (b) GLOBAL PROGRAMMING.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State
13 should encourage the Global Fund to take into con-
14 sideration evolving research on the impact of NTDs
15 on efforts to control HIV/AIDS when making pro-
16 gramming decisions, particularly with regard to fe-
17 male genital schistosomiasis, which studies suggest
18 may be one of the most significant co-factors in the
19 AIDS epidemic in Africa, as necessary and appro-
20 priate.

21 (2) GLOBAL FUND.—In this subsection, the
22 term “Global Fund” means the public-private part-
23 nership known as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS,
24 Tuberculosis and Malaria established pursuant to
25 Article 80 of the Swiss Civil Code.

1 (c) G-20 COUNTRIES.—The Secretary of State, act-
2 ing through the Office of Global Health Diplomacy, should
3 encourage G-20 countries to significantly increase their
4 role in the control and elimination of NTDs.

5 **SEC. 103. MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH IN-**
6 **STITUTIONS.**

7 (a) CONGRESSIONAL FINDING.—Congress finds that
8 the treatment of NTDs, including community- and school-
9 based deworming programs, can be a highly cost-effective
10 intervention and schools can serve as an effective delivery
11 mechanism for reaching large numbers of children with
12 safe treatment for soil-transmitted helminthiases (round
13 worm, whip worm, and hook worm) in particular.

14 (b) UNITED NATIONS.—The President should direct
15 the United States permanent representative to the United
16 Nations to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United
17 States to urge the World Health Organization and the
18 United Nations Development Programme to—

19 (1) ensure the dissemination of best practices
20 and programming on NTDs to governments and
21 make data accessible to practitioners in an open and
22 timely fashion.

23 (2) highlight impacts of community and school-
24 based deworming programs on children's health and

1 education, emphasizing the cost-effectiveness of such
2 programs.

3 (3) encourage governments to implement
4 deworming campaigns at the national level.

5 (4) consider the designation of a portion of
6 grant funds of the institutions to deworming initia-
7 tives and cross-sectoral collaboration with water,
8 sanitation, and hygiene efforts and nutrition or edu-
9 cation programming, as practicable and appropriate.

10 (5) encourage accurate monitoring and evalua-
11 tion of NTD programs, including deworming pro-
12 grams.

13 (6) engage governments in cross-border initia-
14 tives for the treatment, control, prevention, and
15 elimination of NTDs, and assist in developing
16 transnational agreements, when and where nec-
17 essary.

In section 2 (relating to the table of contents), strike
the item relating to section 101, and insert the following:

Sec. 101. Expansion of United States Agency for International Development
Neglected Tropical Diseases Program.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to facilitate
effective research on and treatment of neglected tropical
diseases through coordinated domestic and international
efforts.”.



AMENDMENT
OFFERED BY MR. ESPAILLAT TO THE AMENDMENT
OFFERED BY MR. SMITH

Page 3, line 21, insert “, including individuals displaced by manmade and natural disasters,” after “acquiring NTDs”.



115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2712

To impose sanctions with respect to foreign support for Palestinian terrorism,
and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 25, 2017

Mr. MAST (for himself, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. POE of Texas, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. DEUTCH, and Mr. SUOZZI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, 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

A BILL

To impose sanctions with respect to foreign support for
Palestinian terrorism, 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 “Palestinian Inter-
5 national Terrorism Support Prevention Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Hamas was designated a Foreign Terrorist
2 Organization (FTO) by the Department of State on
3 October 8, 1997, and was also named a Specially
4 Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT) by the Depart-
5 ment of the Treasury under Executive Order 13224
6 in 2001.

7 (2) Since 1993, Hamas has killed more than
8 400 Israelis and at least 25 United States citizens.

9 (3) Hamas has received significant financial
10 and military support from Qatar. Qatar has hosted
11 multiple senior Hamas officials, including Hamas
12 leader Khaled Mashal since 2012, who has had reg-
13 ular interviews carried on al-Jazeera, a news organi-
14 zation based in Qatar and which receives some fund-
15 ing from members of the country's ruling family. In
16 March 2014, the Department of the Treasury's
17 Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intel-
18 ligence confirmed that "Qatar, a longtime US ally
19 has for many years openly financed Hamas."

20 (4) On May 1, 2017, Hamas held a press con-
21 ference at the Sheraton Doha in Qatar, where it in-
22 troduced a "Document of General Principles and
23 Policies". While this document was meant to convey
24 a more moderate face to the world by referencing
25 the 1967 borders, Hamas' document, which neither

1 abrogates nor replaces the founding charter, still
2 calls for a continuation of terrorism to destroy
3 Israel.

4 (5) In addition to receiving support from Iran,
5 Hamas receives a significant amount of aid from
6 other sources. In March 2011, Israeli authorities
7 boarded a cargo vessel and seized numerous weap-
8 ons, including anti-ship missiles, appearing to have
9 Iranian origin and to be destined for the Hamas-
10 controlled Gaza Strip. In 2012, Hamas fired Ira-
11 nian-engineered Fajr 5 missiles from Gaza into
12 Israel. In March 2014, the Israeli Defense Forces
13 intercepted a Panamanian cargo vessel reportedly
14 carrying Iranian M-302 rockets and other “ad-
15 vanced weaponry intended for terrorist organizations
16 operating in the Gaza Strip shipped by Iran”. In
17 2014, Hamas reportedly fired hundreds of Iranian
18 missiles into Israel.

19 (6) Despite tensions due to a divide on the Syr-
20 ian civil war, Hamas and Iran appear to be con-
21 tinuing their partnership. In 2015, Iran reportedly
22 transferred “tens of millions” of dollars to Hamas.
23 Hamas Deputy Political Director Mousa Abu
24 Marzook stated in a TV interview, “The support of-
25 fered by Iran to the Palestinian resistance

1 [Hamas]—be it in logistics, training or funds—is
2 unmatched and beyond the capabilities of other
3 countries.”.

4 (7) It is currently unclear exactly how much fi-
5 nancial support Hamas receives from Iran; however,
6 in a February 2017 interview, Khaled al-Qaddumi,
7 Hamas’ representative in Iran, stated, “[I]n terms
8 of financial and political support—and even military
9 support—Iran’s offerings have not stopped.”.

10 (8) Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) was des-
11 ignated an Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) by
12 the Department of State on October 8, 1997, and
13 was also named a Specially Designated Global Ter-
14 rorist (SDGT) by the Department of the Treasury
15 under Executive Order 13224 in 2005.

16 (9) Palestinian Islamic Jihad has claimed credit
17 for multiple terrorist attacks in Israel, including an
18 attack that killed New Jersey student, Alisa Flatow.

19 (10) Palestinian Islamic Jihad receives consid-
20 erable support from Iran, including training, weap-
21 ons, and cash. According to press reports, Iran pro-
22 vides approximately \$70,000,000 to Palestinian Is-
23 lamic Jihad as an annual budget. In 2012, Pales-
24 tinian Islamic Jihad fired Iranian-engineered Fajr 5
25 missiles from Gaza into Israel.

1 (11) Support for Palestinian terrorism is an im-
2 pediment to a two-state solution and reduces the
3 likelihood of a lasting, sustainable peace between
4 Israelis and Palestinians.

5 (b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the policy
6 of the United States to prevent Hamas, the Palestinian
7 Islamic Jihad, or any affiliate or successor thereof from
8 accessing its international support networks.

9 **SEC. 3. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO FOR-**
10 **EIGN PERSONS AND AGENCIES AND INSTRU-**
11 **MENTALITIES OF FOREIGN STATES SUP-**
12 **PORTING HAMAS, THE PALESTINIAN ISLAMIC**
13 **JIHAD, OR ANY AFFILIATE OR SUCCESSOR**
14 **THEREOF.**

15 (a) IDENTIFICATION.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days
17 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and an-
18 nually thereafter for a period not to exceed 3 years,
19 the President shall submit to the appropriate con-
20 gressional committees a report that identifies each
21 foreign person or agency or instrumentality of a for-
22 eign state that the President determines—

23 (Δ) assists in, sponsors, or provides finan-
24 cial, material, or technological support for, or

1 financial or other services to or in support of,
2 any person described in paragraph (2); or

3 (B) has, directly or indirectly, knowingly
4 and materially engaged in a significant trans-
5 action with any person described in paragraph
6 (2).

7 (2) PERSON DESCRIBED.—A person described
8 in this paragraph is a foreign person that—

9 (A) is a senior member of Hamas, the Pal-
10 estinian Islamic Jihad, or any affiliate or suc-
11 cessor thereof;

12 (B) is a senior member of an entity that
13 has, or whose members have, directly or indi-
14 rectly supported the terrorist activities of
15 Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, or any
16 affiliate or successor thereof by knowingly en-
17 gaging in a significant transaction with, or pro-
18 viding material support to Hamas, the Pal-
19 estinian Islamic Jihad, or any affiliate or suc-
20 cessor thereof, or any person described in sub-
21 paragraph (A); or

22 (C) has, directly or indirectly, supported
23 the terrorist activities of Hamas, the Pal-
24 estinian Islamic Jihad, or any affiliate or suc-
25 cessor thereof by knowingly materially assisting,

1 sponsoring, or providing significant financial,
2 material, or technological support for, or goods
3 or services to or in support of, Hamas, the Pal-
4 estinian Islamic Jihad, or any affiliate or suc-
5 cessor thereof, or any person described in sub-
6 paragraph (A) or (B).

7 (3) FORM OF REPORT.—Each report required
8 under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassi-
9 fied form, but may contain a classified annex.

10 (4) EXCEPTION.—

11 (A) IN GENERAL.—The President shall not
12 be required to identify a foreign person or an
13 agency or instrumentality of a foreign state in
14 a report pursuant to paragraph (1)(B) if—

15 (i) the foreign person or agency or in-
16 strumentality of a foreign state notifies the
17 United States Government in advance that
18 it proposes to engage in a significant
19 transaction as described in paragraph
20 (1)(B); and

21 (ii) the President determines and noti-
22 fies the appropriate congressional commit-
23 tees in a classified form not less than 15
24 days prior to the foreign person or agency
25 or instrumentality of a foreign state engag-

1 ing in the significant transaction that the
2 significant transaction is in the national
3 interests of the United States.

4 (B) NON-APPLICABILITY.—Subparagraph

5 (A) shall not apply with respect to—

6 (i) an agency or instrumentality of a
7 foreign state which the Secretary of State
8 determines has repeatedly provided support
9 for acts of international terrorism pursu-
10 ant to section 6(j) of the Export Adminis-
11 tration Act of 1979 (as continued in effect
12 pursuant to the International Emergency
13 Economic Powers Act), section 40 of the
14 Arms Export Control Act, section 620A of
15 the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, or any
16 other provision of law; or

17 (ii) any significant transaction de-
18 scribed in paragraph (1)(B) that involves,
19 directly or indirectly, a foreign state de-
20 scribed in clause (i).

21 (b) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose
23 two or more of the sanctions described in paragraph

24 (2) with respect to a foreign person or an agency or

1 instrumentality of a foreign state identified pursuant
2 to subsection (a).

3 (2) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions re-
4 ferred to in paragraph (1) are the following:

5 (A) The President may direct the Export-
6 Import Bank of the United States not to give
7 approval to the issuance of any guarantee, in-
8 surance, extension of credit, or participation in
9 the extension of credit in connection with the
10 export of any goods or services to the foreign
11 person or agency or instrumentality of the for-
12 eign state, and the Export-Import Bank of the
13 United States shall comply with any such direc-
14 tion.

15 (B) No sales of any defense articles, de-
16 fense services, or design and construction serv-
17 ices under the Arms Export Control Act (22
18 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.) may be made to the for-
19 eign person or agency or instrumentality of the
20 foreign state.

21 (C) No licenses for export of any item on
22 the United States Munitions List that include
23 the foreign person or agency or instrumentality
24 of the foreign state as a party to the license
25 may be granted.

1 (D) No exports may be permitted to the
2 foreign person or agency or instrumentality of
3 the foreign state of any goods or technologies
4 controlled for national security reasons under
5 the Export Administration Regulations, except
6 that such prohibition shall not apply to any
7 transaction subject to the reporting require-
8 ments of title V of the National Security Act of
9 1947 (50 U.S.C. 413 et seq.; relating to con-
10 gressional oversight of intelligence activities).

11 (E) The President shall prohibit any
12 United States financial institution from making
13 loans or providing any credit or financing total-
14 ing more than \$10,000,000 to the foreign per-
15 son or agency or instrumentality of the foreign
16 state, except that this subparagraph shall not
17 apply—

18 (i) to any transaction subject to the
19 reporting requirements of title V of the
20 National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C.
21 413 et seq.; relating to congressional over-
22 sight of intelligence activities);

23 (ii) to the provision of medicines,
24 medical equipment, and humanitarian as-
25 sistance; or

1 (iii) to any credit, credit guarantee, or
2 financial assistance provided by the De-
3 partment of Agriculture to support the
4 purchase of food or other agricultural com-
5 modities.

6 (F)(i) The President may exercise of all
7 powers granted to the President by the Inter-
8 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50
9 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) (except that the require-
10 ments of section 202 of such Act (50 U.S.C.
11 1701) shall not apply) to the extent necessary
12 to block and prohibit all transactions in all
13 property and interests in property of a foreign
14 person or agency or instrumentality of the for-
15 eign state if such property and interests in
16 property are in the United States, come within
17 the United States, or are or come within the
18 possession or control of a United States person.

19 (ii) The penalties provided for in sub-
20 sections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the Inter-
21 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50
22 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a person that
23 knowingly violates, attempts to violate, con-
24 spires to violate, or causes a violation of regula-
25 tions promulgated under section 501(a) to carry

1 out clause (i) to the same extent that such pen-
2 alties apply to a person that knowingly commits
3 an unlawful act described in section 206(a) of
4 that Act.

5 (iii) The President may exercise all au-
6 thorities provided to the President under sec-
7 tions 203 and 205 of the International Emer-
8 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702
9 and 1704) for purposes of carrying out clause
10 (i).

11 (3) EXCEPTION.—The President shall not be
12 required to apply sanctions with respect to a foreign
13 person or an agency or instrumentality of a foreign
14 state identified pursuant to subsection (a) if the
15 President certifies in writing to the appropriate con-
16 gressional committees that—

17 (A) the foreign person or agency or instru-
18 mentality of the foreign state—

19 (i) is no longer carrying out activities
20 or transactions for which the sanctions
21 were imposed pursuant to this subsection;
22 or

23 (ii) has taken and is continuing to
24 take significant verifiable steps toward ter-
25 minating the activities or transactions for

1 which the sanctions were imposed pursuant
2 to this subsection; and

3 (B) the President has received reliable as-
4 surances from the foreign person or agency or
5 instrumentality of the foreign state that it will
6 not carry out any activities or transactions for
7 which sanctions may be imposed pursuant to
8 this subsection in the future.

9 (c) WAIVER.—The President may waive the applica-
10 tion of subsection (b) with respect to a foreign person or
11 agency or instrumentality of a foreign state for a period
12 of not more than 120 days, and may renew that waiver
13 for additional periods of not more than 120 days, if the
14 President—

15 (1) determines that the waiver is vital to the
16 national security of the United States; and

17 (2) not less than 7 days before the waiver or
18 the renewal of the waiver, as the case may be, takes
19 effect, briefs the appropriate congressional commit-
20 tees on the waiver and the reason for the waiver.

21 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The authority to im-
22 pose sanctions under subsection (b) with respect to a for-
23 eign person or an agency or instrumentality of a foreign
24 state identified pursuant to subsection (a) is in addition
25 to the authority to impose sanctions under any other pro-

1 vision of law with respect to foreign persons or agencies
2 or instrumentalities of foreign states that directly or indi-
3 rectly support international terrorism.

4 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) FOREIGN STATE.—The term “foreign state”
6 has the meaning given such term in section 1603(a)
7 of title 28, United States Code.

8 (2) AGENCY OR INSTRUMENTALITY.—The term
9 “agency or instrumentality” has the meaning given
10 such term in section 1603(b) of title 28, United
11 States Code.

12 (f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect
13 on the date of the enactment of this Act and apply with
14 respect to activities and transactions described in sub-
15 section (a) that are carried out on or after such date of
16 enactment.

17 **SEC. 4. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO FOR-**
18 **EIGN GOVERNMENTS THAT PROVIDE MATE-**
19 **RIAL SUPPORT TO HAMAS, THE PALESTINIAN**
20 **ISLAMIC JIHAD, OR ANY AFFILIATE OR SUC-**
21 **CESSOR THEREOF.**

22 (a) IDENTIFICATION.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days
24 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and
25 every 180 days thereafter, the President shall sub-

1 mit to the appropriate congressional committees a
2 report that identifies the following:

3 (A) Each government of a foreign coun-
4 try—

5 (i) with respect to which the Secretary
6 of State determines has repeatedly pro-
7 vided support for acts of international ter-
8 rorism pursuant to section 6(j) of the Ex-
9 port Administration Act of 1979 (as con-
10 tinued in effect pursuant to the Inter-
11 national Emergency Economic Powers
12 Act), section 40 of the Arms Export Con-
13 trol Act, section 620A of the Foreign As-
14 sistance Act of 1961, or any other provi-
15 sion of law; and

16 (ii) with respect to which the Presi-
17 dent determines has provided direct or in-
18 direct material support to Hamas, the Pal-
19 estinian Islamic Jihad, or any affiliate or
20 successor thereof.

21 (B) Each government of a foreign country
22 that—

23 (i) is not identified under subpara-
24 graph (A); and

1 (ii) the President determines engaged
2 in a significant transaction so as to con-
3 tribute knowingly and materially to the ef-
4 forts by the government of a foreign coun-
5 try described in subparagraph (A)(i) to
6 provide direct or indirect material support
7 to Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad,
8 or any affiliate or successor thereof.

9 (2) FORM OF REPORT.—Each report submitted
10 under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassi-
11 fied form but may contain a classified annex.

12 (b) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose
14 the following sanctions with respect to each govern-
15 ment of a foreign country identified pursuant to sub-
16 paragraph (A) or (B) of subsection (a)(1):

17 (A) The United States Government shall
18 suspend, for a period of one year, United States
19 assistance to the government of the foreign
20 country.

21 (B) The Secretary of the Treasury shall
22 instruct the United States Executive Director
23 to each appropriate international financial insti-
24 tution to oppose, and vote against, for a period
25 of one year, the extension by such institution of

1 any loan or financial or technical assistance to
2 the government of the foreign country.

3 (C) No item on the United States Muni-
4 tions List (established pursuant to section 38 of
5 the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C.
6 2778)) or the Commerce Control List set forth
7 in Supplement No. 1 to part 774 of title 15,
8 Code of Federal Regulations, may be exported
9 to the government of the foreign country for a
10 period of one year.

11 (2) EXCEPTIONS.—The President shall not be
12 required to apply sanctions with respect to the gov-
13 ernment of a foreign country pursuant to paragraph
14 (1)—

15 (A) with respect to materials intended to
16 be used by United States military or civilian
17 personnel at military facilities in the country; or

18 (B) if the application of such sanctions
19 would prevent the United States from meeting
20 the terms of any status of forces agreement to
21 which the United States is a party.

22 (c) IMPOSITION OF ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS WITH
23 RESPECT TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS IDENTIFIED
24 UNDER SUBSECTION (a)(1)(A).—The President shall im-
25 pose the following additional sanctions with respect to

1 each government of a foreign country identified pursuant
2 to subsection (a)(1)(A):

3 (1) The President shall, pursuant to such regu-
4 lations as the President may prescribe, prohibit any
5 transactions in foreign exchange that are subject to
6 the jurisdiction of the United States and in which
7 the government of the foreign country has any inter-
8 est.

9 (2) The President shall, pursuant to such regu-
10 lations as the President may prescribe, prohibit any
11 transfers of credit or payments between one or more
12 financial institutions or by, through, or to any finan-
13 cial institution, to the extent that such transfers or
14 payments are subject to the jurisdiction of the
15 United States and involve any interest of the govern-
16 ment of the foreign country.

17 (d) WAIVER.—The President may waive, on a case-
18 by-case basis, the application of subsection (b) or (c) with
19 respect to the government of a foreign country for a period
20 of not more than 180 days, and may renew that waiver
21 for additional periods of not more than 180 days, if the
22 President—

23 (1) determines that the waiver is vital to the
24 national security of the United States; and

1 (2) not less than 7 days before the waiver or
2 the renewal of the waiver, as the case may be, takes
3 effect, submits a report to the appropriate congres-
4 sional committees on the waiver and the reason for
5 the waiver.

6 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The authority to im-
7 pose sanctions under subsection (b) or (c) with respect to
8 each government of a foreign country identified pursuant
9 to subparagraph (A) or (B) of subsection (a)(1) is in addi-
10 tion to the authority to impose sanctions under any other
11 provision of law with respect to governments of foreign
12 countries that provide material support to foreign terrorist
13 organizations.

14 (f) TERMINATION.—The President may terminate
15 any sanctions imposed with respect to the government of
16 a foreign country pursuant to subsection (b) or (c) if the
17 President determines and notifies the appropriate congres-
18 sional committees that the government of the foreign
19 country is no longer carrying out activities or transactions
20 for which the sanctions were imposed and has provided
21 assurances to the United States Government that it will
22 not carry out the activities or transactions in the future.

23 (g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect
24 on the date of the enactment of this Act and apply with
25 respect to activities and transactions described in subpara-

1 graph (A) or (B) of subsection (a)(1) that are carried out
 2 on or after such date of enactment.

3 **SEC. 5. REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES**
 4 **TO DISRUPT GLOBAL FUNDRAISING, FINANC-**
 5 **ING, AND MONEY LAUNDERING ACTIVITIES**
 6 **OF HAMAS, THE PALESTINIAN ISLAMIC**
 7 **JIHAD, OR ANY AFFILIATE OR SUCCESSOR**
 8 **THEREOF.**

9 (a) REPORT.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
 11 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
 12 President shall submit to the appropriate congres-
 13 sional committees a report that includes—

14 (A) a list of foreign countries that support
 15 Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, or any
 16 affiliate or successor thereof, or in which
 17 Hamas maintains important portions of its fi-
 18 nancial networks;

19 (B) with respect to each foreign country on
 20 the list required by subparagraph (A)—

21 (i) an assessment of whether the gov-
 22 ernment of the country is taking adequate
 23 measures to freeze the assets of Hamas,
 24 the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, or any affil-

1 iate or successor thereof within the terri-
2 tory of the country; and

3 (ii) in the case of a country the gov-
4 ernment of which is not taking adequate
5 measures to freeze the assets of Hamas—

6 (I) an assessment of the reasons
7 that government is not taking ade-
8 quate measures to freeze those assets;
9 and

10 (II) a description of measures
11 being taken by the United States Gov-
12 ernment to encourage that govern-
13 ment to freeze those assets;

14 (C) a list of foreign countries in which
15 Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, or any
16 affiliate or successor thereof, conducts signifi-
17 cant fundraising, financing, or money laun-
18 dering activities;

19 (D) with respect to each foreign country
20 on the list required by subparagraph (C)—

21 (i) an assessment of whether the gov-
22 ernment of the country is taking adequate
23 measures to disrupt the fundraising, fi-
24 nancing, or money laundering activities of
25 Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, or

1 any affiliate or successor thereof within the
2 territory of the country; and

3 (ii) in the case of a country the gov-
4 ernment of which is not taking adequate
5 measures to disrupt those activities—

6 (I) an assessment of the reasons
7 that government is not taking ade-
8 quate measures to disrupt those ac-
9 tivities; and

10 (II) a description of measures
11 being taken by the United States Gov-
12 ernment to encourage that govern-
13 ment to improve measures to disrupt
14 those activities; and

15 (E) a list of foreign countries from which
16 Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, or any
17 affiliate or successor thereof, acquires surveil-
18 lance equipment, electronic monitoring equip-
19 ment, or other means to inhibit communication
20 or political expression in Gaza.

21 (2) FORM.—The report required by paragraph
22 (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form to the
23 greatest extent possible, and may contain a classified
24 annex.

1 (b) BRIEFING.—Not later than 90 days after the date
2 of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days there-
3 after for a period not to exceed 3 years, the Secretary of
4 State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the heads of
5 other applicable Federal departments and agencies (or
6 their designees) shall provide to the appropriate congres-
7 sional committees a briefing on the disposition of the as-
8 sets and activities of Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic
9 Jihad, or any successor or affiliate thereof related to fund-
10 raising, financing, and money laundering worldwide.

11 (c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “appro-
12 priate congressional committees” means—

13 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the
14 Committee on Financial Services, and the Perma-
15 nent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House
16 of Representatives; and

17 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the
18 Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-
19 fairs, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of
20 the Senate.

21 **SEC. 6. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.**

22 (a) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act
23 shall be construed to apply to the authorized intelligence
24 activities of the United States.

25 (b) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall, not
2 later than 90 days after the date of the enactment
3 of this Act, promulgate regulations as are necessary
4 for the implementation of this Act.

5 (2) NOTIFICATION OF CONGRESS.—Not less
6 than 10 days prior to the promulgation of regula-
7 tions under paragraph (1), the President shall notify
8 the appropriate congressional committees of the pro-
9 posed regulations and the provisions of this Act that
10 the regulations are implementing.

11 (c) TERMINATION.—This Act shall terminate begin-
12 ning—

13 (1) 30 days after the date on which the Presi-
14 dent certifies to the appropriate congressional com-
15 mittees that Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic
16 Jihad (or any successor or affiliate thereof)—

17 (A) is no longer designated as a foreign
18 terrorist organization pursuant to section 219
19 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
20 U.S.C. 1189);

21 (B) is no longer listed in the Annex to Ex-
22 ecutive Order No. 13224 (September 23, 2001;
23 relating to blocking property and prohibiting
24 transactions with persons who commit, threaten
25 to commit, or support terrorism); and

1 (C) meets the criteria described in para-
2 graphs (1) through (4) of section 9 of the Pal-
3 estinian Anti-Terrorism Act of 2006 (22 U.S.C.
4 2378b note); or
5 (2) 5 years after the date of the enactment of
6 this Act,
7 whichever occurs earlier.

8 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

9 Except as otherwise provided, in this Act:

10 (1) ADMITTED.—The term “admitted” has the
11 meaning given such term in section 101(a)(13)(A) of
12 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
13 1101(a)(13)(A)).

14 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
15 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
16 mittees” means the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
17 the House of Representatives and the Committee on
18 Foreign Relations of the Senate.

19 (3) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign per-
20 son” means—

21 (A) an individual who is not a United
22 States person; or

23 (B) a corporation, partnership, or other
24 nongovernmental entity which is not a United
25 States person.

1 (4) MATERIAL SUPPORT.—The term “material
2 support” has the meaning given the term “material
3 support or resources” in section 2339A of title 18,
4 United States Code.

5 (5) PERSON.—The term “person” means—

6 (A) a natural person;

7 (B) a corporation, business association,
8 partnership, society, trust, financial institution,
9 insurer, underwriter, guarantor, and any other
10 business organization, any other nongovern-
11 mental entity, organization, or group, and any
12 governmental entity operating as a business en-
13 terprise; and

14 (C) any successor to any entity described
15 in subparagraph (B).

16 (6) SIGNIFICANT TRANSACTION.—The term
17 “significant transaction” has the meaning given
18 such term in section 566.404 of title 31, Code of
19 Federal Regulations.

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

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

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

○

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2712
OFFERED BY MR. DESANTIS OF FLORIDA

Page 8, after line 20, insert the following:

1 (5) ADDITIONAL DETERMINATION TO BE IN-
2 CLUDED IN REPORT.—
3 (A) IN GENERAL.—For each agency or in-
4 strumentally of a foreign state that is identified
5 in a report under paragraph (1)—
6 (i) the Secretary of State shall include
7 in the report a determination as to whether
8 or not the government of the foreign state,
9 on or after the date of the enactment of
10 this Act, acting through such agency or in-
11 strumentality has repeatedly provided sup-
12 port for acts of international terrorism
13 pursuant to section 6(j) of the Export Ad-
14 ministration Act of 1979 (as continued in
15 effect pursuant to the International Emer-
16 gency Economic Powers Act), section 40 of
17 the Arms Export Control Act, section
18 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of
19 1961, or any other provision of law; and

1 (ii) if the determination of the Sec-
2 retary of State under subparagraph (A) is
3 that the government of the foreign state
4 has not repeatedly provided support for
5 such acts of international terrorism, the
6 Secretary of State shall include in the re-
7 port a justification for such determination.

8 (B) FORM.—Each determination required
9 under subparagraph (A) shall be submitted in
10 unclassified form, but may contain a classified
11 annex.



AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2712
OFFERED BY MR. SCHNEIDER OF ILLINOIS

Page 2, after line 8, insert the following (and redesignate subsequent paragraphs accordingly):

1 (3) Hamas has created an extensive under-
2 ground tunnel network, which is used not only to
3 smuggle weapons, money, and supplies into Gaza,
4 but also as rocket launching sites, weapons caches,
5 bunkers, and to conduct terrorist attacks.

Page 4, after line 18, insert the following (and redesignate subsequent paragraphs accordingly):

6 (11) The Palestinian Islamic Jihad, as a means
7 to conduct terrorist attacks, has dug underground
8 tunnels from Gaza that run near to and penetrate
9 Israel.



AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2712
OFFERED BY MR. DONOVAN OF NEW YORK

Page 2, strike line 9 and all that follows through line 19 and insert the following:

1 (3) In March 2014, the Department of the
 2 Treasury's Under Secretary for Terrorism and Fi-
 3 nancial Intelligence stated that, "Qatar, a longtime
 4 US ally has for many years openly financed
 5 Hamas.". Qatar had hosted multiple senior Hamas
 6 officials, including Hamas leader Khaled Mashal
 7 who, prior to being replaced by Gaza-based Ismail
 8 Haniyah, had regular interviews carried on al-
 9 Jazeera. In early 2016, it was reported that senior
 10 Hamas terrorist Saleh al-Arouri, who was named
 11 Hamas' deputy leader in October 2017 and was the
 12 reported mastermind of the kidnapping and murder
 13 of three Israeli teens in June 2014, moved to Qatar
 14 after leaving Turkey. In June 2017, it was reported
 15 that the Qatari government expelled Arouri, and
 16 Hamas terrorist Musa Dudin, who was also resident
 17 in Qatar until that point.

Page 20, line 14, strike "(A)" and insert "(A)(i)".

Page 20, after line 18, insert the following:

Page 22, line 20, strike the period at the end and insert “; and”.

(F) an assessment on the status of the implementation of the US-Qatar Counterterrorism Memorandum of Understanding signed in Doha on July 11, 2017, and any other memorandum of understanding that resulted from the Riyadh Declaration agreed to by the United States and other Gulf Cooperation Council governments in May 2017, including—

15 (i) the extent to which all countries in
16 the Gulf Cooperation Council, including

1 Qatar, participate in initiatives of the Ter-
2 rorist Financing Targeting Center; and
3 (ii) the extent to which the Terrorist
4 Financing Targeting Center has been uti-
5 lized to address financial support for
6 Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, or
7 any affiliate or successor thereof, coming
8 from the foreign countries listed under
9 subparagraph (A) or (C).



115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3542

To impose sanctions against Hamas for gross violations of internationally recognized human rights by reason of the use of civilians as human shields, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 28, 2017

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. ROSELEHTINEN, and Mr. DEUTCH) 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

A BILL

To impose sanctions against Hamas for gross violations of internationally recognized human rights by reason of the use of civilians as human shields, 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 “Hamas Human Shields
5 Prevention Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Human shields are civilians, prisoners of
2 war, and other noncombatants whose presence is de-
3 signed to protect combatants and military objects
4 from attack, and the use of human shields violates
5 international law.

6 (2) Throughout the 2006–2007 takeover of
7 Gaza by Hamas, the organization engaged in sum-
8 mary executions and torture, and put the lives of ci-
9 vilians at constant risk.

10 (3) Since that 2006–2007 takeover of Gaza,
11 Hamas forces have repeatedly fired rockets at the
12 Israeli Defense Forces and at Israeli civilian areas,
13 from civilian areas predominantly occupied by Pal-
14 estinians including hospitals, mosques, and schools,
15 putting Palestinian lives at constant risk.

16 (4) It is common practice for the Israeli De-
17 fense Forces to drop aerial leaflets, make announce-
18 ments over radio, place phone calls, and send text
19 messages warning of a coming military strike before
20 targeting terrorists operating near Palestinian civil-
21 ian areas.

22 (5) Hamas leaders routinely discourage Pales-
23 tinian civilians from heeding these warnings, in-
24 structing them to remain in their homes, and, in

1 some cases, force civilians to gather on the roofs of
2 their homes to act as human shields.

3 (6) In 2010, Hamas forced children to work as
4 laborers in the tunnel networks between Gaza and
5 Egypt.

6 (7) On June 9, 2017, the United Nations Relief
7 and Works Agency announced it had discovered
8 Hamas tunnels under two of its schools in the Gaza
9 Strip, adding it was “unacceptable that students and
10 staff are placed at risk in such a way.”

11 (8) Hamas was designated as a foreign terrorist
12 organization by the Secretary of State on October 8,
13 1997.

14 (9) In addition to Hamas, other foreign ter-
15 rorist organizations, such as the Islamic State, al-
16 Qa’ida, and al-Shabaab, typically use civilians as
17 human shields.

18 (10) Congress has repeatedly condemned the
19 use of human shields by Hamas and other foreign
20 terrorist organizations.

21 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

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

23 (1) officially and publicly condemn the use of
24 human shields by Hamas as an act of terrorism and

1 a violation of human rights and international hu-
2 manitarian law; and

3 (2) take effective action against those engaging
4 in, supporting, facilitating, or enabling the use of
5 human shields.

6 **SEC. 4. UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL.**

7 The President should direct the United States Per-
8 manent Representative to the United Nations to use the
9 voice, vote, and influence of the United States at the
10 United Nations Security Council to secure support for a
11 resolution that would impose multilateral sanctions
12 against Hamas for the use of human shields.

13 **SEC. 5. SANCTIONS ON FOREIGN PERSONS RESPONSIBLE**
14 **FOR GROSS VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATION-**
15 **ALLY RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose the
17 sanctions described in subsection (b) with respect to the
18 following:

19 (1) Each foreign person that the President de-
20 termines, based on credible evidence—

21 (A) is a member of Hamas or is acting on
22 behalf of Hamas; and

23 (B) is responsible for, complicit in, or re-
24 sponsible for ordering, controlling, or otherwise
25 directing the use of human shields by Hamas.

1 (2) Each foreign person and each agency or in-
2 strumentality of a foreign state that the President
3 determines has—

4 (A) directly or indirectly, significantly fa-
5 cilitated any act described in paragraph (1)(B)
6 with respect to the use of human shields by
7 Hamas;

8 (B) provided material support to a person
9 listed under paragraph (1); or

10 (C) attempted to so facilitate or so support
11 such acts or persons.

12 (b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions de-
13 scribed in this subsection are the following:

14 (1) BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—The President
15 shall exercise all of the powers granted to the Presi-
16 dent under the International Emergency Economic
17 Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent
18 necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in
19 property and interests in property of the foreign per-
20 son if such property and interests in property are in
21 the United States, come within the United States, or
22 are or come within the possession or control of a
23 United States person.

24 (2) ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMISSION,
25 OR PAROLE.—

1 (A) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—An
2 alien who the Secretary of State or the Sec-
3 retary of Homeland Security (or a designee of
4 either such Secretaries) knows, or has reason to
5 believe, meets any of the criteria described in
6 subsection (a) is—

7 (i) inadmissible to the United States;

8 (ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other
9 documentation to enter the United States;
10 and

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

16 (B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—The
17 issuing consular officer, the Secretary of State,
18 or the Secretary of Homeland Security (or a
19 designee of either such Secretaries) shall revoke
20 any visa or other entry documentation issued to
21 an alien who meets any of the criteria described
22 in subsection (a) regardless of when issued. A
23 revocation under this subparagraph shall take
24 effect immediately and shall automatically can-

1 cel any other valid visa or entry documentation
2 that is in the possession of such alien.

3 (c) WAIVER.—The President may, on a case-by-case
4 basis, waive the application of a sanction under this sec-
5 tion with respect to a person or an agency or instrumen-
6 tality of a foreign state for a 120-day period if the Presi-
7 dent certifies to the appropriate congressional committees,
8 not less than 15 days before the start of such 120-day
9 period, that such waiver is vital to the national security
10 interest of the United States.

11 (d) PENALTIES.—The penalties provided for in sub-
12 sections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International
13 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) shall
14 apply to any person that violates, attempts to violate, con-
15 spires to violate, or causes a violation of any regulation
16 promulgated to carry out this section to the same extent
17 that such penalties apply to a person that knowingly com-
18 mits an unlawful act described in section 206(a) of such
19 Act.

20 (e) REGULATIONS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President may exercise
22 all authorities provided to the President under sec-
23 tions 203 and 205 of the International Emergency
24 Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704)
25 for purposes of carrying out this section.

1 (2) ISSUANCE OF REGULATIONS.—Not later
2 than 180 days after the date of the enactment of
3 this Act, the President shall prescribe such regula-
4 tions as may be necessary to implement this section.

5 (3) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—Not later
6 than 10 days before the promulgation of a regula-
7 tion under paragraph (2), the President shall brief
8 the appropriate congressional committees on the pro-
9 posed regulation and the provisions of this section
10 implemented by such regulation.

11 (f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
12 tion may be construed—

13 (1) to limit the authorities of the President pur-
14 suant to the International Emergency Economic
15 Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) or any other
16 relevant provision of law; or

17 (2) to apply with respect to any activity subject
18 to the reporting requirements under title V of the
19 National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et
20 seq.), or to any authorized intelligence activities of
21 the United States.

22 **SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.**

23 In this Act:

24 (1) ADMITTED; ALIEN.—The terms “admitted”
25 and “alien” have the meanings given such terms in

1 section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act
2 (8 U.S.C. 1101).

3 (2) AGENCY OR INSTRUMENTALITY OF A FOR-
4 EIGN STATE.—The term “agency or instrumentality
5 of a foreign state” has the meaning given such term
6 in section 1603(b) of title 28, United States Code.

7 (3) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
8 TEES.—In this section, the term “appropriate con-
9 gressional committees” means—

10 (A) the Committee on Financial Services
11 and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
12 House of Representatives; and

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

16 (4) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign per-
17 son” means—

18 (A) an individual who is not a United
19 States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for
20 permanent residence to the United States; or

21 (B) an entity that is not a United States
22 person.

23 (5) HAMAS.—The term “Hamas” means—

24 (A) the entity known as Hamas and des-
25 ignated by the Secretary of State as foreign ter-

1 rorist organization pursuant to section 219 of
2 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
3 1189); or

4 (B) any person identified as an agent, in-
5 strumentality, or affiliate of Hamas on the list
6 of specially designated nationals and blocked
7 persons maintained by the Office of Foreign
8 Asset Control of the Department of Treasury,
9 the property or interests in property of which
10 are blocked pursuant to the International
11 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C.
12 1701 et seq.).

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

15 (A) a United States citizen or an alien law-
16 fully admitted for permanent residence to the
17 United States; or

18 (B) an entity organized under the laws of
19 the United States or of any jurisdiction within
20 the United States, including a foreign branch of
21 such an entity.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3542
OFFERED BY MR. SCHNEIDER OF ILLINOIS

Page 3, after line 5, insert the following:

- 1 (7) Hamas intentionally uses civilians as human
- 2 shields by placing its underground tunnel network in
- 3 densely populated areas and near schools, hospitals,
- 4 and mosques.

Page 3, line 8, strike “Hamas tunnels” and insert
“a Hamas tunnel”.



115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3776

To support United States international cyber diplomacy, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2017

Mr. ROYCE of California (for himself, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. YOHIO, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To support United States international cyber diplomacy, 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 “Cyber Diplomacy Act
5 of 2017”.

6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The stated goal of the United States Inter-
9 national Strategy for Cyberspace, launched on May

1 16, 2011, is to “work internationally to promote an
2 open, interoperable, secure, and reliable information
3 and communications infrastructure that supports
4 international trade and commerce, strengthens inter-
5 national security, and fosters free expression and in-
6 novation . . . in which norms of responsible behav-
7 ior guide States’ actions, sustain partnerships, and
8 support the rule of law in cyberspace.”.

9 (2) The Group of Governmental Experts (GGE)
10 on Developments in the Field of Information and
11 Telecommunications in the Context of International
12 Security, established by the United Nations General
13 Assembly, concluded in its June 24, 2013, report
14 “that State sovereignty and the international norms
15 and principles that flow from it apply to States’ con-
16 duct of [information and communications technology
17 or ICT] related activities and to their jurisdiction
18 over ICT infrastructure with their territory.”.

19 (3) On January 13, 2015, China, Kazakhstan,
20 Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan pro-
21 posed a troubling international code of conduct for
22 information security which defines responsible State
23 behavior in cyberspace to include “curbing the dis-
24 semination of information” and the “right to inde-
25 pendent control of information and communications

1 technology” when a country’s political security is
2 threatened.

3 (4) The July 22, 2015, GGE consensus report
4 found that, “norms of responsible State behavior can
5 reduce risks to international peace, security and sta-
6 bility.”.

7 (5) On September 25, 2015, the United States
8 and China announced a commitment “that neither
9 country’s government will conduct or knowingly sup-
10 port cyber-enabled theft of intellectual property, in-
11 cluding trade secrets or other confidential business
12 information, with the intent of providing competitive
13 advantages to companies or commercial sectors.”.

14 (6) At the Antalya Summit from November 15–
15 16, 2015, the Group of 20 (G20) Leaders’ Commu-
16 nique affirmed the applicability of international law
17 to State behavior in cyberspace, called on States to
18 refrain from cyber-enabled theft of intellectual prop-
19 erty for commercial gain, and endorsed the view that
20 all States should abide by norms of responsible be-
21 havior.

22 (7) The March 2016 Department of State
23 International Cyberspace Policy Strategy noted that,
24 “the Department of State anticipates a continued in-

1 crease and expansion of our cyber-focused diplomatic
2 efforts for the foreseeable future.”.

3 (8) On December 1, 2016, the Commission on
4 Enhancing National Cybersecurity established within
5 the Department of Commerce recommended “the
6 President should appoint an Ambassador for Cyber-
7 security to lead U.S. engagement with the inter-
8 national community on cybersecurity strategies,
9 standards, and practices.”.

10 (9) The 2017 Group of 7 (G7) Declaration on
11 Responsible States Behavior in Cyberspace recog-
12 nized on April 11, 2017, “the urgent necessity of in-
13 creased international cooperation to promote secu-
14 rity and stability in cyberspace . . . consisting of
15 the applicability of existing international law to
16 State behavior in cyberspace, the promotion of vol-
17 untary, non-binding norms of responsible State be-
18 havior during peacetime” and reaffirmed “that the
19 same rights that people have offline must also be
20 protected online.”.

21 (10) In testimony before the Select Committee
22 on Intelligence of the Senate on May 11, 2017, the
23 Director of National Intelligence identified six cyber
24 threat actors, including Russia for “efforts to influ-
25 ence the 2016 US election”; China, for “actively tar-

1 geting the US Government, its allies, and US com-
2 panies for cyber espionage”; Iran for “leverage[ing]
3 cyber espionage, propaganda, and attacks to support
4 its security priorities, influence events and foreign
5 perceptions, and counter threats”; North Korea for
6 “previously conduct[ing] cyber-attacks against US
7 commercial entities—specifically, Sony Pictures En-
8 tertainment in 2014”; terrorists, who “use the Inter-
9 net to organize, recruit, spread propaganda, raise
10 funds, collect intelligence, inspire action by followers,
11 and coordinate operations”; and criminals who “are
12 also developing and using sophisticated cyber tools
13 for a variety of purposes including theft, extortion,
14 and facilitation of other criminal activities”.

15 (11) On May 11, 2017, President Trump issued
16 Presidential Executive Order 13800 on Strength-
17 ening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and In-
18 frastructure which designated the Secretary of State
19 to develop an engagement strategy for international
20 cooperation in cybersecurity, and noted that “the
21 United States is especially dependent on a globally
22 secure and resilient internet and must work with al-
23 lies and other partners” toward maintaining “the
24 policy of the executive branch to promote an open,
25 interoperable, reliable, and secure internet that fos-

1 ters efficiency, innovation, communication, and eco-
2 nomic prosperity, while respecting privacy and
3 guarding against deception, fraud, and theft.”.

4 **SEC. 3. UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL CYBERSPACE**
5 **POLICY.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Congress declares that it is the
7 policy of the United States to work internationally with
8 allies and other partners to promote an open, interoper-
9 able, reliable, unfettered, and secure internet governed by
10 the multistakeholder model which promotes human rights,
11 democracy, and rule of law, including freedom of expres-
12 sion, innovation, communication, and economic prosperity,
13 while respecting privacy and guarding against deception,
14 fraud, and theft.

15 (b) IMPLEMENTATION.—In implementing the policy
16 described in subsection (a), the President, in consultation
17 with outside actors, including technology companies, non-
18 governmental organizations, and security researchers,
19 shall pursue the following objectives in the conduct of bi-
20 lateral and multilateral relations:

21 (1) Clarifying the applicability of international
22 laws and norms, including the law of armed conflict,
23 to the use of ICT.

24 (2) Clarifying that countries that fall victim to
25 malicious cyber activities have the right to take pro-

1 portionate countermeasures under international law,
2 provided such measures do not violate a funda-
3 mental human right or peremptory norm.

4 (3) Reducing and limiting the risk of escalation
5 and retaliation in cyberspace, such as massive de-
6 nial-of-service attacks, damage to critical infrastruc-
7 ture, or other malicious cyber activity that impairs
8 the use and operation of critical infrastructure that
9 provides services to the public.

10 (4) Cooperating with like-minded democratic
11 countries that share common values and cyberspace
12 policies with the United States, including respect for
13 human rights, democracy, and rule of law, to ad-
14 vance such values and policies internationally.

15 (5) Securing and implementing commitments
16 on responsible country behavior in cyberspace based
17 upon accepted norms, including the following:

18 (A) Countries should not conduct or know-
19 ingly support cyber-enabled theft of intellectual
20 property, including trade secrets or other con-
21 fidential business information, with the intent
22 of providing competitive advantages to compa-
23 nies or commercial sectors.

24 (B) Countries should cooperate in devel-
25 oping and applying measures to increase sta-

1 bility and security in the use of ICTs and to
2 prevent ICT practices that are acknowledged to
3 be harmful or that may pose threats to inter-
4 national peace and security.

5 (C) Countries should take all appropriate
6 and reasonable efforts to keep their territories
7 clear of intentionally wrongful acts using ICTs
8 in violation of international commitments.

9 (D) Countries should not conduct or know-
10 ingly support ICT activity that, contrary to
11 international law, intentionally damages or oth-
12 erwise impairs the use and operation of critical
13 infrastructure, and should take appropriate
14 measures to protect their critical infrastructure
15 from ICT threats.

16 (E) Countries should not conduct or know-
17 ingly support malicious international activity
18 that, contrary to international law, harms the
19 information systems of authorized emergency
20 response teams (sometimes known as “com-
21 puter emergency response teams” or “cyberse-
22 curity incident response teams”) or related pri-
23 vate sector companies of another country.

24 (F) Countries should identify economic
25 drivers and incentives to promote securely-de-

1 signed ICT products and to develop policy and
2 legal frameworks to promote the development of
3 secure internet architecture.

4 (G) Countries should respond to appro-
5 priate requests for assistance to mitigate mali-
6 cious ICT activity aimed at the critical infra-
7 structure of another country emanating from
8 their territory.

9 (H) Countries should not restrict cross-
10 border data flows or require local storage or
11 processing of data.

12 (I) Countries should protect the exercise of
13 human rights and fundamental freedoms on the
14 Internet and commit to the principle that the
15 human rights that people have offline enjoy the
16 same protections online.

17 **SEC. 4. DEPARTMENT OF STATE RESPONSIBILITIES.**

18 (a) OFFICE OF CYBER ISSUES.—Section 1 of the
19 State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22
20 U.S.C. 2651a) is amended—

21 (1) by redesignating subsection (g) as sub-
22 section (h); and

23 (2) by inserting after subsection (f) the fol-
24 lowing new subsection:

25 “(g) OFFICE OF CYBER ISSUES.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established an Of-
2 fice of Cyber Issues (in this subsection referred to
3 as the ‘Office’). The head of the Office shall have
4 the rank and status of ambassador and be appointed
5 by the President, by and with the advice and consent
6 of the Senate.

7 “(2) DUTIES.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The head of the Of-
9 fice shall perform such duties and exercise such
10 powers as the Secretary of State shall prescribe,
11 including implementing the policy of the United
12 States described in section 3 of the Cyber Di-
13 plomacy Act of 2017.

14 “(B) DUTIES DESCRIBED.—The principal
15 duties of the head of the Office shall be to—

16 “(i) serve as the principal cyber-policy
17 official within the senior management of
18 the Department of State and advisor to
19 the Secretary of State for cyber issues;

20 “(ii) lead the Department of State’s
21 diplomatic cyberspace efforts generally, in-
22 cluding relating to international cybersecu-
23 rity, internet access, internet freedom, dig-
24 ital economy, cybercrime, deterrence and
25 international responses to cyber threats;

1 “(iii) promote an open, interoperable,
2 reliable, unfettered, and secure information
3 and communications technology infrastruc-
4 ture globally;

5 “(iv) represent the Secretary of State
6 in interagency efforts to develop and ad-
7 vance the United States international
8 cyberspace policy;

9 “(v) coordinate cyberspace efforts and
10 other relevant functions within the Depart-
11 ment of State, and with other components
12 of the United States Government, includ-
13 ing—

14 “(I) the Department of Com-
15 merce;

16 “(II) the Department of Defense;

17 “(III) the Department of Energy;

18 “(IV) the Department of Home-
19 land Security;

20 “(V) the Department of Justice;

21 “(VI) the Department of the
22 Treasury;

23 “(VII) the Intelligence Commu-
24 nity; and

1 “(VIII) the National Security
2 Council; and

3 “(vi) act as liaison to public and pri-
4 vate sector entities on relevant cyberspace
5 issues.

6 “(3) QUALIFICATIONS.—The head of the Office
7 should be an individual of demonstrated competency
8 in the field of—

9 “(A) cybersecurity and other relevant cyber
10 issues; and

11 “(B) international diplomacy.

12 “(4) ORGANIZATIONAL PLACEMENT.—The head
13 of the Office shall report to the Under Secretary for
14 Political Affairs or official holding a higher position
15 in the Department of State.

16 “(5) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
17 this subsection may be construed as precluding—

18 “(A) the Office from being elevated to a
19 Bureau of the Department of State; and

20 “(B) the head of the Office from being ele-
21 vated to an Assistant Secretary, if such an As-
22 sistant Secretary position does not increase the
23 number of Assistant Secretary positions at the
24 Department above the number authorized under
25 subsection (c)(1).”.

1 (b) UNITED NATIONS.—The Permanent Representa-
2 tive of the United States to the United Nations shall use
3 the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to op-
4 pose any measure that is inconsistent with the United
5 States international cyberspace policy described in section
6 3.

7 **SEC. 5. INTERNATIONAL CYBERSPACE EXECUTIVE AR-**
8 **RANGEMENTS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President is encouraged to
10 enter into executive arrangements with foreign govern-
11 ments that support the United States international cyber-
12 space policy described in section 3.

13 (b) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—The formal or in-
14 formal text of any executive arrangement entered into by
15 the United States under subsection (a) shall be trans-
16 mitted to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House
17 of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Rela-
18 tions of the Senate not later than five days after such ar-
19 rangement is signed or otherwise agreed to, together with
20 an explanation of such arrangement, its purpose, how such
21 arrangement is consistent with the United States inter-
22 national cyberspace policy described in section 3, and how
23 such arrangement will be implemented.

24 (c) STATUS REPORT.—Not later than one year after
25 the formal or informal text of an executive arrangement

1 is submitted to Congress pursuant to subsection (b) and
2 annually thereafter for seven years, or until such an ar-
3 rangement has been discontinued, the Secretary of State
4 shall report to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
5 House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign
6 Relations of the Senate on the status of such arrangement,
7 including an evidence-based assessment of whether all par-
8 ties to such arrangement have fulfilled their commitments
9 under such arrangement, whether the stated purpose of
10 such arrangement is being achieved, and whether such ar-
11 rangement positively impacts building of cyber norms
12 internationally. Each such report shall include metrics to
13 support its findings.

14 (d) EXISTING EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS.—Not
15 later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this
16 Act, the President shall satisfy the requirements of sub-
17 section (c) for the following executive arrangements al-
18 ready in effect:

19 (1) The arrangement announced between the
20 United States and Japan on April 25, 2014.

21 (2) The arrangement announced between the
22 United States and the United Kingdom on January
23 16, 2015.

24 (3) The arrangement announced between the
25 United States and China on September 25, 2015.

1 (4) The arrangement announced between the
2 United States and Korea on October 16, 2015.

3 (5) The arrangement announced between the
4 United States and Australia on January 19, 2016.

5 (6) The arrangement announced between the
6 United States and India on June 7, 2016.

7 (7) The arrangement announced between the
8 United States and Argentina on April 27, 2017.

9 (8) The arrangement announced between the
10 United States and Kenya on June 22, 2017.

11 (9) The arrangement announced between the
12 United States and Israel on June 26, 2017.

13 (10) Any other similar bilateral or multilateral
14 arrangement announced before the date of the en-
15 actment of this Act.

16 **SEC. 6. INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY FOR CYBERSPACE.**

17 (a) **STRATEGY REQUIRED.**—Not later than one year
18 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
19 of State, in coordination with the heads of other relevant
20 Federal departments and agencies, shall produce a strat-
21 egy relating to United States international policy with re-
22 gard to cyberspace.

23 (b) **ELEMENTS.**—The strategy required under sub-
24 section (a) shall include the following:

1 (1) A review of actions and activities under-
2 taken to support the United States international
3 cyberspace policy described in section 3.

4 (2) A plan of action to guide the diplomacy of
5 the Department of State with regard to foreign
6 countries, including conducting bilateral and multi-
7 lateral activities to develop the norms of responsible
8 international behavior in cyberspace, and status re-
9 view of existing efforts in multilateral fora to obtain
10 agreements on international norms in cyberspace.

11 (3) A review of alternative concepts with regard
12 to international norms in cyberspace offered by for-
13 eign countries.

14 (4) A detailed description of new and evolving
15 threats to United States national security in cyber-
16 space from foreign countries, State-sponsored actors,
17 and private actors to Federal and private sector in-
18 frastructure of the United States, intellectual prop-
19 erty in the United States, and the privacy of citizens
20 of the United States.

21 (5) A review of policy tools available to the
22 President to deter and de-escalate tensions with for-
23 eign countries, State-sponsored actors, and private
24 actors regarding threats in cyberspace, and to what

1 degree such tools have been used and whether or not
2 such tools have been effective.

3 (6) A review of resources required to conduct
4 activities to build responsible norms of international
5 cyber behavior.

6 (7) A clarification of the applicability of inter-
7 national laws and norms, including the law of armed
8 conflict, to the use of ICT.

9 (8) A clarification that countries that fall victim
10 to malicious cyber activities have the right to take
11 proportionate countermeasures under international
12 law.

13 (c) FORM OF STRATEGY.—

14 (1) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The strategy re-
15 quired under subsection (a) shall be available to the
16 public in unclassified form, including through publi-
17 cation in the Federal Register.

18 (2) CLASSIFIED ANNEX.—

19 (A) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of
20 State determines that such is appropriate, the
21 strategy required under subsection (a) may in-
22 clude a classified annex consistent with United
23 States national security interests.

24 (B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
25 this subsection may be construed as authorizing

1 the public disclosure of an unclassified annex
2 under subparagraph (A).

3 (d) BRIEFING.—Not later than 30 days after the pro-
4 duction of the strategy required under subsection (a), the
5 Secretary of State shall brief the Committee on Foreign
6 Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Com-
7 mittee on Foreign Relations of the Senate on such strat-
8 egy, including any material contained in a classified
9 annex.

10 (e) UPDATES.—The strategy required under sub-
11 section (a) shall be updated—

12 (1) not later than 90 days after there has been
13 any material change to United States policy as de-
14 scribed in such strategy; and

15 (2) not later than one year after each inaugura-
16 tion of a new President.

17 (f) PREEXISTING REQUIREMENT.—Upon the produc-
18 tion and publication of the report required under section
19 3(c) of the Presidential Executive Order 13800 on
20 Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and
21 Critical Infrastructure on May 11, 2017, such report shall
22 be considered as satisfying the requirement under sub-
23 section (a) of this section.

1 **SEC. 7. ANNUAL COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS**
2 **PRACTICES.**

3 (a) REPORT RELATING TO ECONOMIC ASSIST-
4 ANCE.—Section 116 of the Foreign Assistance Act of
5 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151n) is amended by adding at the end
6 the following new subsection:

7 “(h)(1) The report required by subsection (d) shall
8 include an assessment of freedom of expression with re-
9 spect to electronic information in each foreign country.
10 Such assessment shall consist of the following:

11 “(A) An assessment of the general extent to
12 which internet access is available to and used by citi-
13 zens in each country.

14 “(B) An assessment of the extent to which gov-
15 ernment authorities in each country attempt to fil-
16 ter, censor, or otherwise block or remove nonviolent
17 expression of political or religious opinion or belief
18 via the internet, including electronic mail, as well as
19 a description of the means by which such authorities
20 attempt to block or remove protected speech.

21 “(C) An assessment of the extent to which gov-
22 ernment authorities in each country have persecuted,
23 prosecuted, or otherwise punished an individual or
24 group for the nonviolent expression of political, reli-
25 gious, or ideological opinion or belief via the inter-
26 net, including electronic mail.

1 “(D) An assessment of the extent to which gov-
2 ernment authorities in each country have sought to
3 collect, request, obtain, or disclose the personally
4 identifiable information of a person in connection
5 with such person’s nonviolent expression of political,
6 religious, or ideological opinion, belief, or commu-
7 nication that would be protected by the International
8 Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

9 “(E) An assessment of the extent to which wire
10 communications and electronic communications are
11 monitored without regard to the principles of pri-
12 vacy, human rights, democracy, and rule of law.

13 “(2) In compiling data and making assessments for
14 the purposes of paragraph (1), United States diplomatic
15 personnel shall consult with human rights organizations,
16 technology and internet companies, and other appropriate
17 nongovernmental organizations.

18 “(3) In this subsection—

19 “(A) the term ‘electronic communication’ has
20 the meaning given such term in section 2510 of title
21 18, United States Code;

22 “(B) the term ‘internet’ has the meaning given
23 such term in section 231(e)(3) of the Communica-
24 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 231(e)(3));

1 “(C) the term ‘personally identifiable informa-
2 tion’ means data in a form that identifies a par-
3 ticular person; and

4 “(D) the term ‘wire communication’ has the
5 meaning given such term in section 2510 of title 18,
6 United States Code.”.

7 (b) REPORT RELATING TO SECURITY ASSISTANCE.—
8 Section 502B of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22
9 U.S.C. 2304) is amended—

10 (1) by redesignating the second subsection (i)
11 (relating to child marriage status) as subsection (j);
12 and

13 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
14 section:

15 “(k)(1) The report required by subsection (b) shall
16 include an assessment of freedom of expression with re-
17 spect to electronic information in each foreign country.
18 Such assessment shall consist of the following:

19 “(A) An assessment of the general extent to
20 which internet access is available to and used by citi-
21 zens in each country.

22 “(B) An assessment of the extent to which gov-
23 ernment authorities in each country attempt to fil-
24 ter, censor, or otherwise block or remove nonviolent
25 expression of political or religious opinion or belief

1 via the internet, as well as a description of the
2 means by which such authorities attempt to block or
3 remove such expression.

4 “(C) An assessment of the extent to which gov-
5 ernment authorities in each country have persecuted,
6 prosecuted, or otherwise punished an individual or
7 group for the peaceful expression of political, reli-
8 gious, or ideological opinion or belief via the inter-
9 net.

10 “(D) An assessment of the extent to which gov-
11 ernment authorities in each country have sought to
12 collect, request, obtain, or disclose personally identi-
13 fiable information, or other information that could
14 be used to classify individuals into a historically dis-
15 criminated category based on a person’s nonviolent
16 expression of political, religious, or ideological opin-
17 ion or belief, including without limitation commu-
18 nication that would be protected by the International
19 Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

20 “(E) An assessment of the extent to which wire
21 communications and electronic communications are
22 monitored without regard to the principles of pri-
23 vacy, human rights, democracy, and rule of law.

24 “(2) In compiling data and making assessments for
25 the purposes of paragraph (1), United States diplomatic

1 personnel shall consult with human rights organizations,
2 technology and internet companies, and other appropriate
3 nongovernmental organizations.

4 “(3) In this subsection—

5 “(A) the term ‘electronic communication’ has
6 the meaning given such term in section 2510 of title
7 18, United States Code;

8 “(B) the term ‘internet’ has the meaning given
9 such term in section 231(e)(3) of the Communica-
10 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 231(e)(3));

11 “(C) the term ‘personally identifiable informa-
12 tion’ means data in a form that identifies a par-
13 ticular person; and

14 “(D) the term ‘wire communication’ has the
15 meaning given such term in section 2510 of title 18,
16 United States Code.”.

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 3776
OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE 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 “Cyber Diplomacy Act
3 of 2017”.

4 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) The stated goal of the United States Inter-
7 national Strategy for Cyberspace, launched on May
8 16, 2011, is to “work internationally to promote an
9 open, interoperable, secure, and reliable information
10 and communications infrastructure that supports
11 international trade and commerce, strengthens inter-
12 national security, and fosters free expression and in-
13 novation . . . in which norms of responsible behav-
14 ior guide States’ actions, sustain partnerships, and
15 support the rule of law in cyberspace.”.

16 (2) The Group of Governmental Experts (GGE)
17 on Developments in the Field of Information and
18 Telecommunications in the Context of International

1 Security, established by the United Nations General
2 Assembly, concluded in its June 24, 2013, report
3 “that State sovereignty and the international norms
4 and principles that flow from it apply to States’ con-
5 duct of [information and communications technology
6 or ICT] related activities and to their jurisdiction
7 over ICT infrastructure with their territory.”.

8 (3) On January 13, 2015, China, Kazakhstan,
9 Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan pro-
10 posed a troubling international code of conduct for
11 information security which defines responsible State
12 behavior in cyberspace to include “curbing the dis-
13 semination of information” and the “right to inde-
14 pendent control of information and communications
15 technology” when a country’s political security is
16 threatened.

17 (4) The July 22, 2015, GGE consensus report
18 found that, “norms of responsible State behavior can
19 reduce risks to international peace, security and sta-
20 bility.”.

21 (5) On September 25, 2015, the United States
22 and China announced a commitment “that neither
23 country’s government will conduct or knowingly sup-
24 port cyber-enabled theft of intellectual property, in-
25 cluding trade secrets or other confidential business

1 information, with the intent of providing competitive
2 advantages to companies or commercial sectors.”.

3 (6) At the Antalya Summit from November 15–
4 16, 2015, the Group of 20 (G20) Leaders’ Commu-
5 nique affirmed the applicability of international law
6 to State behavior in cyberspace, called on States to
7 refrain from cyber-enabled theft of intellectual prop-
8 erty for commercial gain, and endorsed the view that
9 all States should abide by norms of responsible be-
10 havior.

11 (7) The March 2016 Department of State
12 International Cyberspace Policy Strategy noted that,
13 “the Department of State anticipates a continued in-
14 crease and expansion of our cyber-focused diplomatic
15 efforts for the foreseeable future.”.

16 (8) On December 1, 2016, the Commission on
17 Enhancing National Cybersecurity established within
18 the Department of Commerce recommended “the
19 President should appoint an Ambassador for Cyber-
20 security to lead U.S. engagement with the inter-
21 national community on cybersecurity strategies,
22 standards, and practices.”.

23 (9) The 2017 Group of 7 (G7) Declaration on
24 Responsible States Behavior in Cyberspace recog-
25 nized on April 11, 2017, “the urgent necessity of in-

1 creased international cooperation to promote secu-
2 rity and stability in cyberspace . . . consisting of
3 the applicability of existing international law to
4 State behavior in cyberspace, the promotion of vol-
5 untary, non-binding norms of responsible State be-
6 havior during peacetime” and reaffirmed “that the
7 same rights that people have offline must also be
8 protected online.”.

9 (10) In testimony before the Select Committee
10 on Intelligence of the Senate on May 11, 2017, the
11 Director of National Intelligence identified six cyber
12 threat actors, including Russia for “efforts to influ-
13 ence the 2016 US election”; China, for “actively tar-
14 geting the US Government, its allies, and US com-
15 panies for cyber espionage”; Iran for “leverage[ing]
16 cyber espionage, propaganda, and attacks to support
17 its security priorities, influence events and foreign
18 perceptions, and counter threats”; North Korea for
19 “previously conduct[ing] cyber-attacks against US
20 commercial entities—specifically, Sony Pictures En-
21 tertainment in 2014”; terrorists, who “use the Inter-
22 net to organize, recruit, spread propaganda, raise
23 funds, collect intelligence, inspire action by followers,
24 and coordinate operations”; and criminals who “are
25 also developing and using sophisticated cyber tools

1 for a variety of purposes including theft, extortion,
2 and facilitation of other criminal activities”.

3 (11) On May 11, 2017, President Trump issued
4 Presidential Executive Order 13800 on Strength-
5 ening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and In-
6 frastructure which designated the Secretary of State
7 to lead an interagency effort to develop strategic op-
8 tions for the President to deter adversaries from
9 cyber threats and an engagement strategy for inter-
10 national cooperation in cybersecurity, noting that
11 “the United States is especially dependent on a glob-
12 ally secure and resilient internet and must work with
13 allies and other partners” toward maintaining “the
14 policy of the executive branch to promote an open,
15 interoperable, reliable, and secure internet that fos-
16 ters efficiency, innovation, communication, and eco-
17 nomic prosperity, while respecting privacy and
18 guarding against deception, fraud, and theft.”.

19 **SEC. 3. UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL CYBERSPACE**
20 **POLICY.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Congress declares that it is the
22 policy of the United States to work internationally with
23 allies and other partners to promote an open, interoper-
24 able, reliable, unfettered, and secure internet governed by
25 the multistakeholder model which promotes human rights,

1 democracy, and rule of law, including freedom of expres-
2 sion, innovation, communication, and economic prosperity,
3 while respecting privacy and guarding against deception,
4 fraud, and theft.

5 (b) IMPLEMENTATION.—In implementing the policy
6 described in subsection (a), the President, in consultation
7 with outside actors, including technology companies, non-
8 governmental organizations, security researchers, and
9 other relevant stakeholders, shall pursue the following ob-
10 jectives in the conduct of bilateral and multilateral rela-
11 tions:

12 (1) Clarifying the applicability of international
13 laws and norms, including the law of armed conflict,
14 to the use of ICT.

15 (2) Clarifying that countries that fall victim to
16 malicious cyber activities have the right to take pro-
17 portionate countermeasures under international law,
18 provided such measures do not violate a funda-
19 mental human right or peremptory norm.

20 (3) Reducing and limiting the risk of escalation
21 and retaliation in cyberspace, such as massive de-
22 nial-of-service attacks, damage to critical infrastruc-
23 ture, or other malicious cyber activity that impairs
24 the use and operation of critical infrastructure that
25 provides services to the public.

1 (4) Cooperating with like-minded democratic
2 countries that share common values and cyberspace
3 policies with the United States, including respect for
4 human rights, democracy, and rule of law, to ad-
5 vance such values and policies internationally.

6 (5) Securing and implementing commitments
7 on responsible country behavior in cyberspace based
8 upon accepted norms, including the following:

9 (A) Countries should not conduct or know-
10 ingly support cyber-enabled theft of intellectual
11 property, including trade secrets or other con-
12 fidential business information, with the intent
13 of providing competitive advantages to compa-
14 nies or commercial sectors.

15 (B) Countries should cooperate in devel-
16 oping and applying measures to increase sta-
17 bility and security in the use of ICTs and to
18 prevent ICT practices that are acknowledged to
19 be harmful or that may pose threats to inter-
20 national peace and security.

21 (C) Countries should take all appropriate
22 and reasonable efforts to keep their territories
23 clear of intentionally wrongful acts using ICTs
24 in violation of international commitments.

1 (D) Countries should not conduct or know-
2 ingly support ICT activity that, contrary to
3 international law, intentionally damages or oth-
4 erwise impairs the use and operation of critical
5 infrastructure, and should take appropriate
6 measures to protect their critical infrastructure
7 from ICT threats.

8 (E) Countries should not conduct or know-
9 ingly support malicious international activity
10 that, contrary to international law, harms the
11 information systems of authorized emergency
12 response teams (sometimes known as “com-
13 puter emergency response teams” or “cyberse-
14 curity incident response teams”) or related pri-
15 vate sector companies of another country.

16 (F) Countries should identify economic
17 drivers and incentives to promote securely-de-
18 signed ICT products and to develop policy and
19 legal frameworks to promote the development of
20 secure internet architecture.

21 (G) Countries should respond to appro-
22 priate requests for assistance to mitigate mali-
23 cious ICT activity aimed at the critical infra-
24 structure of another country emanating from
25 their territory.

1 (H) Countries should not restrict cross-
2 border data flows or require local storage or
3 processing of data.

4 (I) Countries should protect the exercise of
5 human rights and fundamental freedoms on the
6 Internet and commit to the principle that the
7 human rights that people have offline enjoy the
8 same protections online.

9 **SEC. 4. DEPARTMENT OF STATE RESPONSIBILITIES.**

10 (a) OFFICE OF CYBER ISSUES.—Section 1 of the
11 State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22
12 U.S.C. 2651a) is amended—

13 (1) by redesignating subsection (g) as sub-
14 section (h); and

15 (2) by inserting after subsection (f) the fol-
16 lowing new subsection:

17 “(g) OFFICE OF CYBER ISSUES.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established an Of-
19 fice of Cyber Issues (in this subsection referred to
20 as the ‘Office’). The head of the Office shall have
21 the rank and status of ambassador and be appointed
22 by the President, by and with the advice and consent
23 of the Senate.

24 “(2) DUTIES.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The head of the Of-
2 fice shall perform such duties and exercise such
3 powers as the Secretary of State shall prescribe,
4 including implementing the policy of the United
5 States described in section 3 of the Cyber Di-
6 plomacy Act of 2017.

7 “(B) DUTIES DESCRIBED.—The principal
8 duties of the head of the Office shall be to—

9 “(i) serve as the principal cyber-policy
10 official within the senior management of
11 the Department of State and advisor to
12 the Secretary of State for cyber issues;

13 “(ii) lead the Department of State’s
14 diplomatic cyberspace efforts generally, in-
15 cluding relating to international cybersecu-
16 rity, internet access, internet freedom, dig-
17 ital economy, cybercrime, deterrence and
18 international responses to cyber threats;

19 “(iii) promote an open, interoperable,
20 reliable, unfettered, and secure information
21 and communications technology infrastruc-
22 ture globally;

23 “(iv) represent the Secretary of State
24 in interagency efforts to develop and ad-

1 vance the United States international
2 cyberspace policy;

3 “(v) coordinate cyberspace efforts and
4 other relevant functions within the Depart-
5 ment of State, and with other components
6 of the United States Government; and

7 “(vi) act as liaison to public and pri-
8 vate sector entities on relevant cyberspace
9 issues.

10 “(3) QUALIFICATIONS.—The head of the Office
11 should be an individual of demonstrated competency
12 in the field of—

13 “(A) cybersecurity and other relevant cyber
14 issues; and

15 “(B) international diplomacy.

16 “(4) ORGANIZATIONAL PLACEMENT.—The head
17 of the Office shall report to the Under Secretary for
18 Political Affairs or official holding a higher position
19 in the Department of State.

20 “(5) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
21 this subsection may be construed as precluding—

22 “(A) the Office from being elevated to a
23 Bureau of the Department of State; and

24 “(B) the head of the Office from being ele-
25 vated to an Assistant Secretary, if such an As-

1 sistant Secretary position does not increase the
2 number of Assistant Secretary positions at the
3 Department above the number authorized under
4 subsection (c)(1).”.

5 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
6 gress that the Office of Cyber Issues established under
7 section 1(g) of the State Department Basic Authorities
8 Act of 1956 (as amended by subsection (a) of this section)
9 should be a Bureau of the Department of State headed
10 by an Assistant Secretary, subject to the rule of construc-
11 tion specified in paragraph (5)(B) of such section 1(g).

12 (c) UNITED NATIONS.—The Permanent Representa-
13 tive of the United States to the United Nations shall use
14 the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to op-
15 pose any measure that is inconsistent with the United
16 States international cyberspace policy described in section
17 3.

18 **SEC. 5. INTERNATIONAL CYBERSPACE EXECUTIVE AR-**
19 **RANGEMENTS.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President is encouraged to
21 enter into executive arrangements with foreign govern-
22 ments that support the United States international cyber-
23 space policy described in section 3.

24 (b) TRANSMISSION TO CONGRESS.—The text of any
25 executive arrangement (including the text of any oral ar-

1 rangement, which shall be reduced to writing) entered into
2 by the United States under subsection (a) shall be trans-
3 mitted to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House
4 of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Rela-
5 tions of the Senate not later than five days after such ar-
6 rangement is signed or otherwise agreed to, together with
7 an explanation of such arrangement, its purpose, how such
8 arrangement is consistent with the United States inter-
9 national cyberspace policy described in section 3, and how
10 such arrangement will be implemented.

11 (c) STATUS REPORT.—Not later than one year after
12 the text of an executive arrangement is transmitted to
13 Congress pursuant to subsection (b) and annually there-
14 after for seven years, or until such an arrangement has
15 been discontinued, the President shall report to the Com-
16 mittee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives
17 and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate
18 on the status of such arrangement, including an evidence-
19 based assessment of whether all parties to such arrange-
20 ment have fulfilled their commitments under such ar-
21 rangement, whether the stated purpose of such arrange-
22 ment is being achieved, and whether such arrangement
23 positively impacts building of cyber norms internationally.
24 Each such report shall include metrics to support its find-
25 ings.

1 (d) EXISTING EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS.—Not
2 later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this
3 Act, the President shall satisfy the requirements of sub-
4 section (c) for the following executive arrangements al-
5 ready in effect:

6 (1) The arrangement announced between the
7 United States and Japan on April 25, 2014.

8 (2) The arrangement announced between the
9 United States and the United Kingdom on January
10 16, 2015.

11 (3) The arrangement announced between the
12 United States and China on September 25, 2015.

13 (4) The arrangement announced between the
14 United States and Korea on October 16, 2015.

15 (5) The arrangement announced between the
16 United States and Australia on January 19, 2016.

17 (6) The arrangement announced between the
18 United States and India on June 7, 2016.

19 (7) The arrangement announced between the
20 United States and Argentina on April 27, 2017.

21 (8) The arrangement announced between the
22 United States and Kenya on June 22, 2017.

23 (9) The arrangement announced between the
24 United States and Israel on June 26, 2017.

1 (10) Any other similar bilateral or multilateral
2 arrangement announced before the date of the en-
3 actment of this Act.

4 **SEC. 6. INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY FOR CYBERSPACE.**

5 (a) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than one year
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
7 of State, in coordination with the heads of other relevant
8 Federal departments and agencies, shall produce a strat-
9 egy relating to United States international policy with re-
10 gard to cyberspace.

11 (b) ELEMENTS.—The strategy required under sub-
12 section (a) shall include the following:

13 (1) A review of actions and activities under-
14 taken to support the United States international
15 cyberspace policy described in section 3.

16 (2) A plan of action to guide the diplomacy of
17 the Department of State with regard to foreign
18 countries, including conducting bilateral and multi-
19 lateral activities to develop the norms of responsible
20 international behavior in cyberspace, and status re-
21 view of existing efforts in multilateral fora to obtain
22 agreements on international norms in cyberspace.

23 (3) A review of alternative concepts with regard
24 to international norms in cyberspace offered by for-
25 eign countries.

1 (4) A detailed description of new and evolving
2 threats to United States national security in cyber-
3 space from foreign countries, State-sponsored actors,
4 and private actors to Federal and private sector in-
5 frastructure of the United States, intellectual prop-
6 erty in the United States, and the privacy of citizens
7 of the United States.

8 (5) A review of policy tools available to the
9 President to deter and de-escalate tensions with for-
10 eign countries, State-sponsored actors, and private
11 actors regarding threats in cyberspace, and to what
12 degree such tools have been used and whether or not
13 such tools have been effective.

14 (6) A review of resources required to conduct
15 activities to build responsible norms of international
16 cyber behavior.

17 (7) A clarification of the applicability of inter-
18 national laws and norms, including the law of armed
19 conflict, to the use of ICT.

20 (8) A clarification that countries that fall victim
21 to malicious cyber activities have the right to take
22 proportionate countermeasures under international
23 law.

24 (c) FORM OF STRATEGY.—

1 (1) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The strategy re-
2 quired under subsection (a) shall be available to the
3 public in unclassified form, including through publi-
4 cation in the Federal Register.

5 (2) CLASSIFIED ANNEX.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of
7 State determines that such is appropriate, the
8 strategy required under subsection (a) may in-
9 clude a classified annex consistent with United
10 States national security interests.

11 (B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
12 this subsection may be construed as authorizing
13 the public disclosure of an unclassified annex
14 under subparagraph (A).

15 (d) BRIEFING.—Not later than 30 days after the pro-
16 duction of the strategy required under subsection (a), the
17 Secretary of State shall brief the Committee on Foreign
18 Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Com-
19 mittee on Foreign Relations of the Senate on such strat-
20 egy, including any material contained in a classified
21 annex.

22 (e) UPDATES.—The strategy required under sub-
23 section (a) shall be updated—

1 (1) not later than 90 days after there has been
2 any material change to United States policy as de-
3 scribed in such strategy; and

4 (2) not later than one year after each inaugura-
5 tion of a new President.

6 (f) PREEXISTING REQUIREMENT.—Upon the produc-
7 tion and publication of the report required under section
8 3(e) of the Presidential Executive Order 13800 on
9 Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and
10 Critical Infrastructure on May 11, 2017, such report shall
11 be considered as satisfying the requirement under sub-
12 section (a) of this section.

13 **SEC. 7. ANNUAL COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS**
14 **PRACTICES.**

15 (a) REPORT RELATING TO ECONOMIC ASSIST-
16 ANCE.—Section 116 of the Foreign Assistance Act of
17 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151n) is amended by adding at the end
18 the following new subsection:

19 “(h)(1) The report required by subsection (d) shall
20 include an assessment of freedom of expression with re-
21 spect to electronic information in each foreign country.
22 Such assessment shall consist of the following:

23 “(A) An assessment of the extent to which gov-
24 ernment authorities in each country inappropriately
25 attempt to filter, censor, or otherwise block or re-

1 move nonviolent expression of political or religious
2 opinion or belief via the internet, including electronic
3 mail, as well as a description of the means by which
4 such authorities attempt to block or remove such ex-
5 pression.

6 “(B) An assessment of the extent to which gov-
7 ernment authorities in each country have persecuted
8 or otherwise punished an individual or group for the
9 nonviolent expression of political, religious, or ideo-
10 logical opinion or belief via the internet, including
11 electronic mail.

12 “(C) An assessment of the extent to which gov-
13 ernment authorities in each country have sought to
14 inappropriately collect, request, obtain, or disclose
15 personally identifiable information of a person in
16 connection with such person’s nonviolent expression
17 of political, religious, or ideological opinion or belief,
18 including expression that would be protected by the
19 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

20 “(D) An assessment of the extent to which wire
21 communications and electronic communications are
22 monitored without regard to the principles of pri-
23 vacy, human rights, democracy, and rule of law.

24 “(2) In compiling data and making assessments for
25 the purposes of paragraph (1), United States diplomatic

1 personnel shall consult with human rights organizations,
2 technology and internet companies, and other appropriate
3 nongovernmental organizations.

4 “(3) In this subsection—

5 “(A) the term ‘electronic communication’ has
6 the meaning given such term in section 2510 of title
7 18, United States Code;

8 “(B) the term ‘internet’ has the meaning given
9 such term in section 231(e)(3) of the Communica-
10 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 231(e)(3));

11 “(C) the term ‘personally identifiable informa-
12 tion’ means data in a form that identifies a par-
13 ticular person; and

14 “(D) the term ‘wire communication’ has the
15 meaning given such term in section 2510 of title 18,
16 United States Code.”.

17 (b) REPORT RELATING TO SECURITY ASSISTANCE.—
18 Section 502B of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22
19 U.S.C. 2304) is amended—

20 (1) by redesignating the second subsection (i)
21 (relating to child marriage status) as subsection (j);
22 and

23 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
24 section:

1 “(k)(1) The report required by subsection (b) shall
2 include an assessment of freedom of expression with re-
3 spect to electronic information in each foreign country.
4 Such assessment shall consist of the following:

5 “(A) An assessment of the extent to which gov-
6 ernment authorities in each country inappropriately
7 attempt to filter, censor, or otherwise block or re-
8 move nonviolent expression of political or religious
9 opinion or belief via the internet, including electronic
10 mail, as well as a description of the means by which
11 such authorities attempt to block or remove such ex-
12 pression.

13 “(B) An assessment of the extent to which gov-
14 ernment authorities in each country have persecuted
15 or otherwise punished an individual or group for the
16 nonviolent expression of political, religious, or ideo-
17 logical opinion or belief via the internet, including
18 electronic mail.

19 “(C) An assessment of the extent to which gov-
20 ernment authorities in each country have sought to
21 inappropriately collect, request, obtain, or disclose
22 personally identifiable information of a person in
23 connection with such person’s nonviolent expression
24 of political, religious, or ideological opinion or belief,

1 including expression that would be protected by the
2 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

3 “(D) An assessment of the extent to which wire
4 communications and electronic communications are
5 monitored without regard to the principles of pri-
6 vacy, human rights, democracy, and rule of law.

7 “(2) In compiling data and making assessments for
8 the purposes of paragraph (1), United States diplomatic
9 personnel shall consult with human rights organizations,
10 technology and internet companies, and other appropriate
11 nongovernmental organizations.

12 “(3) In this subsection—

13 “(A) the term ‘electronic communication’ has
14 the meaning given such term in section 2510 of title
15 18, United States Code;

16 “(B) the term ‘internet’ has the meaning given
17 such term in section 231(e)(3) of the Communica-
18 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 231(c)(3));

19 “(C) the term ‘personally identifiable informa-
20 tion’ means data in a form that identifies a par-
21 ticular person; and

22 “(D) the term ‘wire communication’ has the
23 meaning given such term in section 2510 of title 18,
24 United States Code.”.



**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 3776
OFFERED BY MR. SCHNEIDER OF ILLINOIS**

Page 13, line 21, insert “and if not, what steps the United States has taken or plans to take to ensure all such commitments are fulfilled” after “rangement”.



**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 3776
OFFERED BY MR. CASTRO OF TEXAS**

In paragraph (8) of section 6(b), insert before the period at the end the following: “, including exercising the right to collective and individual self-defense”.

In subsection (b) of section 6, add at the end the following:

- 1 (9) A plan of action to guide the diplomacy of
- 2 the Department of State with regard to existing mu-
- 3 tual defense agreements, including the inclusion in
- 4 such agreements of information relating to the appli-
- 5 cability of malicious cyber activities in triggering
- 6 mutual defense obligations.



**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 3776
OFFERED BY MR. McCAUL OF TEXAS**

Page 11, line 6, insert “, including countering terrorists’ use of cyberspace,” after “functions”.



115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 336

Reaffirming a strong commitment to the United States-Mexico partnership.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 18, 2017

Mr. ENGEL (for himself, Mr. McCAUL, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. TORRES, Mr. SIREs, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. POLIS, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. HURD, Mr. VALADAO, Ms. MCSALLY, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, and Mr. POE of Texas) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Reaffirming a strong commitment to the United States-Mexico partnership.

Whereas shared cultural ties, values, and beliefs connect the citizens of the United States and Mexico and have long been the foundation from which the friendly, bilateral relationship has flourished;

Whereas the United States and Mexico have benefited from a bilateral, mutually beneficial partnership focused on advancing the economic and security interests of both countries;

Whereas it is in the national interests of the United States and Mexico to continue deepening economic cooperation and security cooperation;

Whereas consecutive United States and Mexican administrations have increased bilateral defense and law enforcement cooperation on counterterrorism and counter-narcotics issues, including the illicit trafficking of weapons, money, people, and drugs across the United States southern border;

Whereas cooperation with Mexico during the administration of President Peña Nieto has led to the extradition of more than 270 individuals facing criminal charges in the United States;

Whereas, the January 19, 2017, extradition of drug kingpin Joaquin “El Chapo” Guzman to New York was a major victory for both countries that would not have been possible without a robust United States-Mexico security partnership;

Whereas the Mérida Initiative was established in 2007 and enabled a new level of security cooperation between the United States and Mexico on a range of issues including efforts to combat transnational organized crime and promote justice reform;

Whereas the United States and Mexico have begun cooperation to address the trafficking and production of heroin and fentanyl threatening the lives of citizens in both countries;

Whereas the United States has provided almost \$2.8 billion in security assistance to Mexico through the Mérida Initiative between fiscal year 2008 and fiscal year 2017;

Whereas the United States and Mexico enjoy close diplomatic cooperation and Mexico has consistently voted with the United States at the United Nations on challenges related to Syria, North Korea, and Ukraine;

Whereas the United States and Mexico have closely collaborated at the Organization of American States (OAS) on issues related to Venezuela, where Mexico has played a leading role;

Whereas Mexico is an important security and defense partner to the United States, and regularly participates in training activities in coordination with United States Northern Command (NORTHCOM) and the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD); and

Whereas the United States and Mexico launched the High Level Economic Dialogue on September 20, 2013, to help advance United States-Mexico economic and commercial priorities to promote mutual economic growth, job creation, educational exchanges and innovation, and global competitiveness: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) reaffirms its strong commitment to a
3 United States-Mexico partnership based on mutual
4 respect and the promotion of shared democratic val-
5 ues and principles;

6 (2) supports continued bilateral cooperation
7 through the High Level Economic Dialogue on
8 issues related to the economic well-being and secu-
9 rity of both countries;

10 (3) encourages continued security cooperation
11 between the United States and Mexican law enforce-
12 ment agencies and militaries, including on violence

1 reduction in Mexico, counterterrorism and the in-
2 creased trafficking of heroin and fentanyl;

3 (4) supports continued engagement with Mexico
4 to tackle regional issues and work together in inter-
5 national fora, including the United Nations and the
6 Organization of American States; and

7 (5) supports efforts by the Government of Mex-
8 ico to strengthen the rule of law, reduce corruption,
9 and advance civil and human rights.

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 401

Urging China, South Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, India, and all nations to outlaw the dog and cat meat trade and to enforce existing laws against the trade.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 22, 2017

Mr. HASTINGS (for himself and Mr. BUCHANAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Urging China, South Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, India, and all nations to outlaw the dog and cat meat trade and to enforce existing laws against the trade.

Whereas Humane Society International, Animals Asia Foundation, and others estimate that 30,000,000 dogs and a great number of cats die annually across Asia for the dog and cat meat trade;

Whereas these organizations have exposed the extreme suffering of dogs and cats at slaughterhouses and on transportation trucks, suffering that would breach anti-cruelty laws in the United States and other countries and is an affront to public morality in all countries where it occurs;

Whereas Humane Society International, Animals Asia Foundation and Chinese media reports have found that a considerable number of the dogs and cats in the dog and cat meat trade are stolen pets still wearing collars when they reach the slaughterhouses, in addition to stray dogs and cats who are captured for slaughter;

Whereas many dogs and cats die during transport to slaughterhouses after days or weeks crammed into small cages on the back of vehicles, without food or water, and others suffer illness and injury during transport, such as broken bones;

Whereas Humane Society International and Animals Asia Foundation have found that dogs and cats who reach the slaughterhouses are typically killed with shocking brutality, without any regard for humane treatment, in South Korea, China, and other countries;

Whereas British, Chinese, Vietnamese, Filipino, and Indonesian scientists and government agencies have found that the dog and cat meat trade of capturing, transporting, slaughtering, and butchering of dogs and cats, and the consumption of dog and cat meat, poses health risks such as rabies infection to the traders, slaughterhouse workers, and consumers;

Whereas the World Health Organization reports that a majority of deaths caused by rabies infections happen in Asia and Africa, and the rabies virus is found in dogs traded for human consumption in the Philippines and other countries;

Whereas Chinese reports and court verdicts show that dog meat traders also sell meat from dogs and cats who have died of poisoning, contributing to the food safety risks;

Whereas the dog and cat meat trade breaches food safety laws and regulations of some of these countries, which have policies that include bans on processing or selling meat from animals who have died of illnesses or unknown causes;

Whereas China's "one certificate for one dog policy", introduced by China's Ministry of Agriculture in a 2013 directive to prevent the transmission of animal diseases across provincial boundaries, is routinely flouted by dog transporters who are required to have a vaccination and quarantine certificate for each dog and cat shipped across provincial boundaries but rarely possess such paperwork, as many of the animals are reportedly stolen pets;

Whereas millions of citizens in these countries have expressed support for law-making and law enforcement against the dog and cat meat trade, such as the more than 8,600,000 Chinese people who have so far expressed their support in an online poll for a March 2016 legislative proposal to ban trade in both dog and cat meat, making the proposal the most popular of all 142 legislative proposals made available for online voting in China in 2016;

Whereas the majority of people in these countries do not consume dog or cat meat and dog and cat meat is not a part of mainstream Asian culinary practice, as demonstrated, for example, by a June 2016 poll commissioned by China's Beijing Animal Welfare Association, which found that 69.5 percent of Chinese surveyed had never eaten dog meat and that it was a very rare food choice for the remainder;

Whereas activists in such countries as China, South Korea, the Philippines, and Thailand have led public protests against the dog and cat meat trade, pulled over trucks

crammed with dogs and cats on their way to slaughterhouses, and worked to rehabilitate, shelter, and adopt dogs and cats rescued from the trade;

Whereas Korea Animal Rights Advocates hosted the International Conference to End the Dog Meat Industry of Korea on August 5, 2016;

Whereas pet-keeping has risen in India, the Philippines, China, and other countries with a dog and cat meat trade, and opposition to the dog and cat meat trade has grown within those countries as pet-keeping encourages compassion for animals;

Whereas 11,000,000 people around the world have called upon the Government of China to end the annual Yulin dog meat festival and outlaw the dog meat trade; and

Whereas the practice of dog and cat meat consumption is greatest in but not limited to Asia, and occurs to a limited degree in other regions of the world: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) calls for an end to the dog and cat meat in-

3 dustry because it—

4 (A) is responsible for extreme animal cru-

5 elty;

6 (B) involves the theft of companion ani-

7 mals;

8 (C) is opposed by many Asian people; and

1 (D) poses food safety risks and threatens
2 public health for citizens and international visi-
3 tors in these countries;

4 (2) urges the Governments of China, South
5 Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, Indo-
6 nesia, Cambodia, Laos, India, and all other nations
7 that have a dog or cat meat trade to adopt and en-
8 force laws banning the dog and cat meat trade, as
9 part of anti-cruelty laws or otherwise;

10 (3) urges the Governments of China, South
11 Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, Indo-
12 nesia, Cambodia, Laos, India, and all other nations
13 to increase efforts to prevent any leather or fur by-
14 products of the dog and cat meat trade from enter-
15 ing international markets;

16 (4) encourages the Governments of China,
17 South Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines,
18 Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, India, and all other na-
19 tions to use their food safety laws to crack down on
20 the sale of dog and cat meat, a product that is out-
21 side most countries' food safety regulatory mecha-
22 nisms;

23 (5) affirms the commitment of the United
24 States to the protection of animals and to advancing

1 the progress of animal protection around the world;
2 and

3 (6) urges executive branch officials to include
4 the dog and cat meat trade on the agenda for dis-
5 cussion with the officials of countries that have a
6 dog or cat meat industry.

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H. RES. 401
OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE OF CALIFORNIA**

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas the consumption of dog meat has occurred in every corner of the world including in Asia;

Whereas established dog meat markets still exist in Asia;

Whereas the Humane Society International, Animals Asia Foundation, and others estimate that 30,000,000 dogs and 10,000,000 cats die annually across Asia for the trade in dog and cat meat;

Whereas it is estimated as many as 200,000 live dogs are trafficked each year from Thailand across the Mekong River to Vietnam, where dog meat is considered a delicacy;

Whereas cat meat, known locally as “little tiger”, is also a delicacy in Vietnam and, although officially banned, is widely available in specialty restaurants;

Whereas due to a traditional belief that high adrenaline levels produce tender meat and increase supposed health benefits, dogs killed for their meat may be first intentionally subjected to extreme fear and suffering through hanging or bludgeoning;

Whereas there appears to be little scientific evidence to support traditional claims of the health benefits of consuming dog meat;

Whereas there have been reports of abuse, poor living conditions, and cruel slaughtering techniques with respect to dogs and cats farmed for their meat;

Whereas many dogs and cats die during transport to slaughterhouses, after days or weeks crammed into small cages on the back of vehicles without food or water, and others suffer from illness or injury during such transport;

Whereas in February 2015, Vietnamese authorities impounded a truck in Hanoi smuggling three tons of live cats from China that were intended for the illegal cat meat trade, but then buried thousands of the seized cats—many, reportedly, while alive—claiming a desire to avoid the spread of disease;

Whereas the extreme suffering of dogs and cats at such slaughterhouses and on such transportation trucks would breach anti-cruelty laws in the United States, such as the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.) and the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act (7 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.);

Whereas many government officials, civil society advocates, and activists are working to end the dog and cat meat trade on anti-cruelty and public health grounds, and the governments of Singapore, Taiwan, and Hong Kong have passed laws banning the slaughter of dogs for meat consumption;

Whereas Chinese activists have claimed that stolen pets are sometimes used in the dog meat market in China;

Whereas Chinese dog transporters reportedly routinely flout regulations such as the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture Veterinary Bureau Circular No. 16 (2013), which requires dogs to be quarantined and issued a quarantine

certificate before being transported across provincial boundaries;

Whereas the World Health Organization has linked the dog meat industry to human outbreaks of trichinellosis, cholera, and rabies, although consumption of dog meat alone has not been confirmed to spread rabies to humans;

Whereas those involved in the dog meat industry are at an increased health risk for zoonotic diseases, which can transfer from dogs to humans through infectious material such as saliva;

Whereas the spread of such diseases may be exacerbated by unsanitary conditions of slaughter and by the sale of dog meat at open-air markets and restaurants; and

Whereas Betsy Miranda, Asia Coordinator for the Global Alliance for Rabies Control, said in June 2013 that the spread of disease through the dog meat trade was “rampant” across Southeast Asia, and that “The risk that the animals are in poor health and not vaccinated is very high. If they move across borders they risk carrying the disease across large distances”: Now, therefore, be it

Strike all after the resolved text and insert the following:

- 1 That the House of Representatives—
- 2 (1) calls for an end to the dog and cat meat
- 3 trade on cruelty and public health grounds;
- 4 (2) urges all nations to outlaw the dog and cat
- 5 meat trade and enforce existing laws against such
- 6 trade; and

- 1 (3) affirms the commitment of the United
2 States to the protection of animals and to advancing
3 the progress of animal protection around the world.

Amend the title so as to read: “A resolution urging
all nations to outlaw the dog and cat meat trade and to
enforce existing laws against such trade.”.



115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 407

Condemning the persecution of Christians around the world.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 26, 2017

Mr. GROTHLMAN (for himself, Mr. BABIN, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. YOHO, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. GAETZ, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. PERRY, Mr. PASO, Mr. DUNN, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. ROSS, and Mr. SIMPSON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Condemning the persecution of Christians around the world.

Whereas the persecution of Christians is a global problem, occurring in countries across the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and the Americas;

Whereas Christians face persecution not only from Islamic extremist groups, like the Islamic State and Boko Haram, but also from other religious extremist groups and from officials at all levels of government;

Whereas such persecution ranges from social harassment and discrimination to physical violence, imprisonment, torture, enslavement, rape, and death;

Whereas Christianity is one of the most persecuted religions in the world;

Whereas over 200,000,000 Christians experience persecution across the globe;

Whereas the majority of persecuted Christians live in the Middle East;

Whereas Christianity is not a Western imposition on historically Islamic countries in the Middle East because the Middle East has been a home to Christians since the first century A.D.;

Whereas the Christian population in the Middle East has significantly decreased over the past few decades as a result of persecution, displacement, and genocide;

Whereas Christians in Syria and Iraq have been facing genocide for many years;

Whereas the Christian population in Iraq decreased from 1,400,000 people in 2003 to just 275,000 people in 2016, as a result of displacement and genocide caused by religious extremism;

Whereas many Syrian Christians have been displaced, and those unable to escape have been subject to imprisonment, torture, enslavement, and execution by the Islamic State;

Whereas Christian holy sites in Syria have been destroyed by the Islamic State;

Whereas in Iran, Christian converts have been banned from attending church services during the Christmas season, in an effort to limit the spread of Christianity;

Whereas in 2016, approximately 200 Christians were arrested in Iran for their faith;

Whereas in Saudi Arabia, Christians must practice their faith in secrecy because churches are not allowed, and makeshift churches in homes are raided;

Whereas Christians in Saudi Arabia face imprisonment, torture, and deportation;

Whereas in Afghanistan, where Islam is viewed as a unifying faith, Christian converts are often murdered or sent to a mental hospital after their families learn of their new faith;

Whereas Christians in Pakistan face constant accusation of blasphemy, punishable by death, and convictions and sentences for blasphemy are given despite little or no evidence of blasphemy;

Whereas in 2016, approximately 600 Christian churches were attacked in Pakistan;

Whereas Coptic Christians in Egypt have faced persecution for over 50 years, and on April 9, 2017, Palm Sunday, 44 people were killed in bomb attacks by the Islamic State on Coptic churches;

Whereas the Islamic State has claimed responsibility for the attack on a bus on May 26, 2017, in which 29 Coptic Christians were killed while traveling to a monastery in Minya, Egypt;

Whereas since the fall of the Gaddafi regime, persecution of Christians in Libya has significantly increased;

Whereas Christians in Nigeria have been massacred by Islamic extremist groups like Boko Haram and the Fulani;

Whereas in January 2017, Fulani militants raided a Christian village in Nigeria, killing six police officers and four civilians;

Whereas Christian converts in Somalia often face public execution;

Whereas in 2017, a mob of 100 men attacked a Christian church in Uganda, beating and raping members of the congregation;

Whereas Christian persecution has been on the rise in Asia, primarily due to religious nationalism;

Whereas in May 2017, a Christian governor in Indonesia was found guilty of blasphemy and sentenced to two years in prison for “distorting” a Koranic teaching during a campaign speech;

Whereas in Bangladesh, hundreds of Christians are being forced off their property, and legal action rarely results in the favor of a Christian party;

Whereas communist regimes have a strong history of oppressing and persecuting Christians;

Whereas since 2013, in the Zhejiang Province of China, crosses have been removed from over 1,500 churches as part of that province’s anti-cross campaign;

Whereas in China, members of churches that are not registered with the government face imprisonment and torture;

Whereas in North Korea, the practice of Christianity is prohibited and Christians are forced to hide their faith from the government;

Whereas if caught, Christians in North Korea are forced into harsh labor camps, where approximately 70,000 Christians are imprisoned in 2017;

Whereas in November 2016, Vietnam adopted a new “Law on Belief and Religion” that limits the right to religious freedom for over 8,000,000 Christians in that country;

Whereas in Mexico, Christians and Christian church leaders are killed by drug cartels for speaking out against organized crime and corruption;

Whereas although the Colombian government respects the right to religious freedom, Christians from indigenous communities often face imprisonment because of their faith;

Whereas religious discrimination, including the persecution of Christians, is a global human rights problem; and

Whereas the right to religious freedom is a universal right recognized by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) condemns the persecution of Christians
3 around the world;

4 (2) calls on discriminatory regimes to cease
5 their persecution of Christians and religious minori-
6 ties; and

7 (3) urges the President and the heads of the
8 governments of all democratic countries around the
9 world to uphold the right to religious freedom and
10 condemn the global persecution of Christians.

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H. RES. 407
OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE OF CALIFORNIA**

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) found that religious persecution is not confined to a particular region or regime and reaffirmed the commitment of the United States that religious freedom, which is the freedom of thought and conscience and the right to practice theistic and non-theistic beliefs, is the right of every individual and should never be arbitrarily abridged by any government;

Whereas the persecution of Christians is a global problem, occurring in countries across Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and the Americas;

Whereas Christians face persecution not only from Islamic extremist groups, like the Islamic State and Boko Haram, but also from other religious extremist groups and from officials at all levels of government;

Whereas the Middle East has been a home to Christians since the first century A.D., but the Christian population in the Middle East has significantly decreased over the past few decades as a result of persecution, displacement, and genocide;

Whereas such persecution ranges from social harassment and discrimination to physical violence, imprisonment, torture, enslavement, rape, and death;

Whereas Christians in Syria and Iraq have faced assault, torture, imprisonment, enslavement, and execution in a genocidal campaign by the Islamic State;

Whereas according to 2017 reports from international non-governmental organizations, the Christian population in Iraq decreased from 1,400,000 people in 2003 to just 275,000 people in 2016, as a result of displacement and genocide caused by religious extremism;

Whereas Christian holy sites in Syria have been destroyed by the Islamic State;

Whereas in 2016, approximately 200 Christians in Iran were arrested, while others have been beaten, tortured, subjected to feigned public executions, and even sentenced to death for their faith, and at least 90 remain in illegal detention;

Whereas in Saudi Arabia, Christians as well as other religious minorities face imprisonment, torture, and deportation and must practice their faith in secrecy because their houses of worship are not allowed;

Whereas on April 9, 2017, Palm Sunday, 44 people were killed in bomb attacks by the Islamic State on Coptic churches in Egypt;

Whereas the Islamic State has also claimed responsibility for the attack on a bus on May 26, 2017, in which 29 Coptic Christians were killed while traveling to a monastery in Minya, Egypt;

Whereas since the fall of the Gaddafi regime, Libya has served as a haven for militant Islamist extremist groups, like the Islamic State, which has resulted in more violent forms of Christian persecution;

Whereas the Islamic State claimed responsibility for the killing of 51 Coptic Christians in Libya in February and March of 2015;

Whereas Christian migrants from northern Africa traveling through Libya on their way to Europe have been abducted, trafficked, and forced to convert to Islam at the hands of the Islamic State;

Whereas in Afghanistan there are reports that converts to Christianity have been murdered or sent to mental hospitals;

Whereas Christians in Pakistan face accusations of blasphemy, punishable by death, and convictions and sentences for blasphemy are given despite little or no evidence;

Whereas according to Open Doors USA, approximately 600 Christian churches were attacked in Pakistan in 2016;

Whereas both Christians and Muslims in Nigeria have been massacred by Islamic extremist groups like Boko Haram;

Whereas Christian converts in Somalia often face public execution;

Whereas in 2017, a mob of 100 men attacked a Christian church in Uganda, beating and raping members of the congregation;

Whereas in May 2017, a Christian governor in Indonesia was found guilty of blasphemy and sentenced to two years in prison, in what was widely seen as a challenge to religious pluralism in Indonesia;

Whereas communist regimes have a strong history of oppressing and persecuting Christians as well as other religious minorities;

Whereas since 2013, in the Zhejiang Province of China, crosses have been removed from over 1,500 churches as part of that province's anti-cross campaign;

Whereas in China, members of Christian churches, as well as other religious minorities, that are not registered with the government face increased persecution from the Chinese state, including the risk of imprisonment and torture;

Whereas in North Korea, the practice of Christianity is prohibited and if caught, Christians are sent to forced labor camps;

Whereas in November 2016, Vietnam adopted a new "Law on Belief and Religion" that falls dramatically short of internationally accepted standards for human rights and curtails the right to religious freedom for over 8,000,000 Christians in that country;

Whereas in Mexico and Colombia, Christian church leaders have been assaulted, threatened, and in some cases killed by transnational criminal organizations and paramilitary armed groups attempting to intimidate and silence them;

Whereas religious discrimination, including the persecution of Christians, is a global human rights problem; and

Whereas the right to religious freedom is a universal right recognized by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: Now, therefore, be it

Strike all after the resolved text and insert the following:

That the House of Representatives—

- (1) condemns all violations of religious freedom and affirms that religious freedom is a fundamental

right of every individual that should never be arbitrarily abridged by any government;

1 (2) condemns the persecution of Christians
2 around the world;

3 (3) calls on discriminatory countries to cease
4 their persecution of Christians and religious minorities
5 and combat religious persecution carried out by
6 extremist non-state actors; and

7 (4) urges the President and the heads of the
8 governments of all countries around the world to uphold
9 the right to religious freedom and condemn the
10 global persecution of Christians and other religious
11 minorities.



115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 90

Condemning ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya and calling for an end to the attacks in and an immediate restoration of humanitarian access to the state of Rakhine in Burma.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 7, 2017

Mr. CROWLEY (for himself and Mr. CHABOT) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Condemning ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya and calling for an end to the attacks in and an immediate restoration of humanitarian access to the state of Rakhine in Burma.

Whereas, on August 25, 2017, the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army carried out attacks on Government positions in the state of Rakhine in Burma (“Rakhine State”);

Whereas in recent decades the Rohingya people have lost, with the support of the Burmese Government, a range of civil and political rights, including citizenship, and face barriers today such that they are mostly stateless peoples;

Whereas since the August 25 attacks, Burma’s military and security forces, as well as private mobs, have carried out

attacks resulting in over 600,000 Rohingya fleeing to Bangladesh;

Whereas Amnesty International described the attacks by stating that “Myanmar security forces are setting northern Rakhine State ablaze in a targeted campaign to push the Rohingya people out of Myanmar.”;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council has called for an end to the violence and attacks;

Whereas the United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights has said that the response by the military is “grossly disproportionate” and a “textbook example of ethnic cleansing”;

Whereas Secretary of State Rex Tillerson has said, “This violence must stop, this persecution must stop”;

Whereas under Burma’s military-drafted constitution, the country’s military and security services are not subject to civilian rule and only Burma’s Commander-in-Chief, Min Aung Hlaing, can command troops to cease attacks impacting civilians in Rakhine State;

Whereas Burma’s civilian Government, led by Aung San Suu Kyi, has not taken necessary steps to address the violence and should take further measures;

Whereas the international community had high hopes for Burma’s elected Government and expected that elected officials take action to prevent violence and secure rights;

Whereas the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State (“Rakhine Commission”) examined, beginning in 2016, the underlying tensions in Rakhine State and made a series of recommendations including a wide range of suggestions and policy changes dealing with humanitarian aid, citizenship, reconciliation, and peace;

Whereas the Rakhine Commission stated, “While Myanmar has every right to defend its own territory, a highly militarised response is unlikely to bring peace to the area. What is needed is a calibrated approach—one that combines political, developmental, security and human rights responses to ensure that violence does not escalate and inter-communal tensions are kept under control.”; and

Whereas the United States is providing an initial \$32,000,000 in humanitarian assistance to address the urgent needs of Rohingya fleeing violence from Rakhine State into Bangladesh, as well as the needs of internally displaced persons in Rakhine State and host communities in Bangladesh; Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That Congress—

3 (1) condemns the attacks against civilians by
4 Burma’s security services and calls on Burma’s
5 Commander-in-Chief, Min Aung Hlaing, to imme-
6 diately end all attacks against civilians in the state
7 of Rakhine in Burma;

8 (2) expresses deepest appreciation to the Gov-
9 ernment of Bangladesh for providing refuge to those
10 fleeing violence and attacks;

11 (3) condemns the attacks by the Arakan
12 Rohingya Salvation Army, but warns that these at-
13 tacks do not justify the unrestrained response that
14 has resulted in severe human rights violations, mur-

1 derous ethnic cleansing, and atrocities against civil-
2 ians;

3 (4) calls on Burma's Government, led by Aung
4 San Suu Kyi, and the Burmese military and security
5 forces to work constructively to implement the rec-
6 ommendations of the Advisory Commission on
7 Rakhine State, including those relating to justice,
8 reconciliation, humanitarian aid, and citizenship;

9 (5) calls on Burma's Government and its mili-
10 tary and security services to allow unimpeded hu-
11 manitarian access to refugees and internally dis-
12 placed persons;

13 (6) urges support and access for the United
14 Nations Fact Finding Mission to Burma;

15 (7) calls on Burma's military and Government
16 to allow refugees to voluntarily return to Burma
17 without undue restriction and to change laws and
18 policies that have contributed to insecurity in the
19 state of Rakhine; and

20 (8) calls on the President to impose sanctions
21 on those responsible for human rights abuses, in-
22 cluding members of Burma's military and security
23 services.

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H. CON. RES. 90
OFFERED BY MR. ENGEL OF NEW YORK**

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas on August 25, 2017, the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army carried out attacks on Government positions in the state of Rakhine in Burma (“Rakhine State”);

Whereas in recent decades the Rohingya people have lost, through systematic discrimination by Burmese national, state and local authorities, a range of civil and political rights, including citizenship, and face barriers today such that they are mostly stateless peoples;

Whereas since the August 25 attacks, Burma’s military and security forces, as well as private mobs, have carried out attacks resulting in over 600,000 Rohingya fleeing to Bangladesh;

Whereas Amnesty International described the attacks by stating that “Myanmar security forces are setting northern Rakhine State ablaze in a targeted campaign to push the Rohingya people out of Myanmar.”;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council has called for an end to the violence and attacks;

Whereas the United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights has said that the response by the military is “grossly disproportionate” and a “textbook example of ethnic cleansing”;

Whereas Secretary of State Rex Tillerson has said, “This violence must stop, this persecution must stop”;

Whereas under Burma’s military-drafted constitution, the country’s military and security services are not subject to civilian rule and only Burma’s Commander-in-Chief, Min Aung Hlaing, can command troops to cease attacks impacting civilians in Rakhine State;

Whereas Burma’s civilian Government, led by Aung San Suu Kyi, has not yet taken necessary steps to address the violence and should take further measures, including to address the pervasive problem of hate speech;

Whereas the United States acknowledges the democratic transition underway in Burma, maintains hope for further genuine democratic reforms, and expects Burma’s elected officials to take action to prevent violence and secure rights;

Whereas the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State (“Rakhine Commission”) examined, beginning in 2016, the underlying tensions in Rakhine State and made a series of recommendations including a wide range of suggestions and policy changes dealing with humanitarian aid, citizenship, reconciliation, and peace;

Whereas the Rakhine Commission stated, “While Myanmar has every right to defend its own territory, a highly militarized response is unlikely to bring peace to the area. What is needed is a calibrated approach – one that combines political, developmental, security and human rights responses to ensure that violence does not escalate and inter-communal tensions are kept under control.”;

Whereas the United Nations estimates that \$434,000,000 in humanitarian assistance will be needed to provide life-

sustaining support to 1,200,000 people, both refugees and host communities, in the first few months of this crisis; and

Whereas the United States is providing an initial \$32,000,000 in humanitarian assistance to address the urgent needs of Rohingya fleeing violence from Rakhine State into Bangladesh, as well as the needs of internally displaced persons in Rakhine State and host communities in Bangladesh: Now, therefore, be it

Strike all after the resolved text and insert the following:

That Congress—

(1) condemns the attacks against civilians by Burma's military and security forces and calls on Burma's Commander-in-Chief, Min Aung Hlaing, to immediately end all attacks against civilians in the state of Rakhine in Burma;

(2) expresses deepest appreciation to the Government of Bangladesh for providing refuge to those fleeing violence and attacks;

(3) condemns the attacks by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army and the violence in Rakhine and Rohingya communities, but warns that these attacks do not justify the unrestrained response by Burmese military and security forces that has resulted in severe human rights violations, mur-

derous ethnic cleansing, and atrocities against civilians;

(4) calls on Burma's Government, led by Aung San Suu Kyi, and the Burmese military and security forces to work constructively to implement the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State, including those relating to justice, reconciliation, humanitarian aid, and citizenship;

(5) calls on Burma's Government and its military and security services to allow unimpeded humanitarian access to refugees and internally displaced persons;

(6) urges support and access for the United Nations Fact Finding Mission to Burma;

(7) calls on Burma's military and Government to allow refugees to voluntarily return to Burma in a manner consistent with internationally recognized principles of human rights and refugee protection and to change laws and policies that have contributed to insecurity in the state of Rakhine; and

(8) calls on the President of the United States to impose sanctions on members of the Burmese military and security forces who are responsible for human rights abuses.

Amend the title so as to read: “A resolution condemning ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya and calling for an end to the violence in and an immediate restoration of humanitarian access to the state of Rakhine in Burma.”.



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

Today, we consider the Taylor Force Act. And let me start by thanking Congressman Doug Lamborn over here in the front row and Congressman Lee Zeldin for their leadership on this important legislation. And I also want to thank our ranking member, Eliot Engel, for collaborating with me on this bipartisan text that we are taking up today.

This bill is named in honor of a courageous and patriotic young American, Taylor Force, whose life was tragically cut short when he was murdered by a Palestinian terrorist. He was murdered in Israel. Since 2003, it has been Palestinian law to reward Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails with a monthly paycheck. Palestinian leadership also pays the families of Palestinian prisoners and suicide bombers.

These policies incentivize terrorism. With this legislation, we are forcing the PA to choose between U.S. assistance and these morally reprehensible policies. And I am pleased to see this measure move forward in both Chambers with so much support.

We also consider two measures targeting the dangerous Iranian proxy, Hamas. And I want to thank Congressman Mast for his leadership on H.R. 2712. This is the Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act.

Iran and Hezbollah are clearly working to extend their influence over Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad in the Gaza Strip through increased financial and military aid. It is precisely Iranian support that has enabled Hamas to maintain power in the Gaza Strip for the past decade. Iran is also why Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad have thousands of missiles and rockets and continue digging tunnels. And those tunnels are for terror. We were recently in one of those tunnels. One that Eliot Engel and I were in came up underneath an elementary school. And these are on the border with Israel.

While we work to address Iran's support for Hamas, we must also ensure U.S. partners in the region do not host or aid Hamas terrorists. And, to that end, this bill has already had an effect. When the bill was introduced, Qatar was hosting senior Hamas terrorist Saleh al-Aroui after he was expelled in 2016 from Turkey. Two weeks after this legislation was introduced, he, along with other Hamas terrorists, were expelled from Qatar.

I want to thank Congressman Joe Wilson for authoring H.R. 3542, the Hamas Human Shields Prevention Act. Hamas not only regards Israeli civilians—not only targets them with kidnapping, but it also carries out indiscriminate rocket attacks. The terrorist group also shows a callous disregard for the lives of Palestinians it supposedly represents by using them as human shields during times of conflict in direct violation of international law. This legislation holds Hamas and its sponsor, Iran, accountable for this monstrous practice.

Next, we have H.R. 3776. This is the Cyber Diplomacy Act, which establishes U.S.-international cyberspace policy. The U.S. is increasingly under attack by foreign actors, and these actors are online. Now, more than ever, we need a high-ranking cyber diplomat at the State Department to prioritize these efforts and to work with foreign governments. This bipartisan bill will help counter foreign threats on the internet, and it is also going to help promote human rights abroad and will create new jobs, new economic growth, here at home.

We consider H.R. 1415, the End Neglected Tropical Diseases Act, which seeks to improve the effectiveness of USAID's existing program to treat, control, and eliminate neglected tropical diseases. These diseases impact over 1 billion people worldwide, including many here at home. And I want to thank Mr. Smith for his work on this important bill.

Next, we will consider House Concurrent Resolution 90, which condemns the ethnic cleansing of the Muslim Rohingya in Burma. In recent months, we have seen the horrific stories of young mothers torn from their burning homes, drowned children, mass executions. Many consider the Rohingya the most persecuted minority on Earth. Importantly, this resolution builds on our recent hearing by not only calling for an end to all violence but also for the military and Government of Burma to allow refugees to return back to their homes. And I thank Congressman Crowley, and I thank Ranking Member Engel for their good work on this measure.

Our members have long advocated for the religious freedom of all minorities, and today, we consider another measure to further this important work. House Resolution 407 highlights the persecution of Christian communities around the globe. Christians, in a number of countries, face oppression, assault, imprisonment, torture, death for their faith. This resolution reaffirms the U.S. commitment to combat violations of religious freedom wherever they occur and calls on all countries to end the persecution of Christians, whether such persecution is State-sponsored or incited by local factions or part of a deliberate campaign, like terrorist organizations, such as Boko Haram and the Islamic State.

House Resolution 336 reaffirms Congress' commitment to the U.S.-Mexico partnership. There is bipartisan recognition that we need to continue working with Mexico in areas ranging from security cooperation to economic collaboration to promoting shared democratic values and principles. And as we grapple with the deadly opioid crisis, it is critical that the U.S.-Mexico partnership remains strong so that we can confront the transnational criminal organizations that terrorize Mexico and that poison America's youth.

I thank Ranking Member Engel, and I thank Chairman McCaul for their work on this measure.

And, finally, we have House Resolution 401. Protecting the world's animals has been one of the priorities for this committee, and I am proud to have sponsored legislation to this end. Today, we continue that work with House Resolution 401. This was authored by Representative Hastings. It has tremendous bipartisan support. It has over 100 cosponsors. The consumption of dog meat has occurred in every corner of the world, and established dog meat markets still exist in Asia, which presents serious animal cruelty and public health concerns. The resolution urges all nations now to abolish the dog and cat meat trade and to enforce the existing laws against such trade.

I now recognize the ranking member for his remarks.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Chairman, thank you for calling this markup. We are taking up a number of good measures, and I am glad to support them all.

I will start with the resolution I authored with Mr. McCaul of Texas underscoring the importance of a U.S.-Mexico partnership based on mutual respect. We have seen many highs and lows in this bilateral relationship over the last century. In recent years, things have been headed in the right direction, closer ties on a range of issues from security to economic cooperation. But, in my view, things have gotten off track. I worry that we are going to squander the good progress we have made unless we change course.

Mexico is an important partner. It is a partnership we want to see thrive. This measure puts us on record reiterating just how important this relationship is. I am grateful to you, Mr. Chairman, for bringing it up today, and I ask all members to support it.

And now I will turn to three measures dealing with Israel's security. The first is a measure designed to push the Palestinian Authority to stop the so-called martyr payments which incentivize terrorist activity. We have had a lot of debate in Congress about the right way to do that. I believe the approach we are taking today strikes just the right balance. I was glad to work with Chairman Royce to ensure this legislation would not have unintended consequences, such as targeting humanitarian and democracy assistance or security cooperation. And the chairman and I worked very closely together to come out with a really good bill.

And we have two measures aimed at curbing the violence of the terrorist group Hamas, which is a threat to Israel's citizens and security across the region. I also want to thank Representatives Wilson and Moulton for their leadership in authorizing the Hamas Human Shields Prevention Act. The use of human shields is a disgusting and cowardly practice, and it will never lead to peace. This bill would use new sanctions to crack down on anyone supporting or taking part in this horrific practice.

Moving on, I am glad to support the Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act from Representatives Mast and Gottheimer. This bill is intended to send a message to foreign governments that they ought to stop funding Hamas. Once they have stopped funding Hamas, we will maintain pressure to keep it that way. But this bill is not the United States taking sides in the Gulf

conflict. My vote for this legislation today is not a vote of approval of any actions that pit one side against another. The breakdown in relationships in the Gulf has not been in our interest, and I would urge all parties to come together and resolve their differences.

Next, as the Rohingya crisis continues to rage, I want to thank the chairman for his sustained focus on this tragedy. We continue to see reports of Rohingya refugees fleeing to Bangladesh and widespread hunger and malnutrition for those who are left behind. Both Chairman Royce and I believe that what is occurring in Burma's Rakhine State is ethnic cleansing perpetrated by the military and a direct failure of the Burmese Government to protect its people. This resolution calls for the reimposition of targeted sanctions against those responsible for this violence. It is what we should be doing. And, along with the chairman, I will continue to press this issue.

I am also glad to join the chairman to cosponsor the Cyber Diplomacy Act of 2017. In recent years, malicious cyber activity has become a greater threat to the United States and our allies, most notably with Russia's illegal interference in our election last year. We cannot allow foreign governments to meddle in democracy or conduct cyber attacks against us and our allies. This measure would help the United States shape international cyber norms, ramp up coordination with our allies to stiffen cyber defenses, and coordinate responses to future malicious activity.

This bill also calls for maintaining the Office for Cyber Issues at the State Department. Now, more than ever, we need high-ranking cyber diplomacy to prioritize these efforts and ensure we keep the internet open, reliable, unfettered, and secure. The fact that the State Department has not yet filled so many important vacancies is a constant irritant to me. And this is just another example of that. And I would urge the President and the Secretary of State to fill these senior vacancies as soon as possible.

I would like to also thank Chairman Royce for working with me on his amendment to Mr. Grothman's measure condemning the persecution of Christians around the world. Freedom of worship is a basic human right, yet we see religious minorities all over the world subjected to violence and persecution. It is unacceptable for anyone to suffer because of how or even if they choose to worship. We must speak out against such injustices or any other assault on the universal freedom of press, rights to organize, or LGBT equality. This is a very important bill about the persecution of Christians around the world.

I am also pleased to support Mr. Smith's bill, the End Neglected Tropical Diseases Act. So-called neglected tropical diseases take a particularly high toll on poor populations in developing countries. Some of these diseases cause blindness, stunted growth, and cognitive disabilities which can stifle progress and prosperity in affected countries. That is why a decade ago President Bush launched the Neglected Tropical Diseases program at USAID, and the Obama administration carried his work forward. Mr. Smith's bill would make sure our existing efforts are working as efficiently as possible. Unfortunately, the President has called for a 25-percent cut to this USAID program. I think that would be a colossal mistake. We cannot hope to defeat neglected tropical diseases or

advance our global health priorities if we fail to keep investing in those areas and recognize the opportunities we have for collaboration across our programs.

And, lastly, I am pleased to support Mr. Hasting's resolution. The measure condemns the cruel practices surrounding the dog and cat meat trade in many parts of Asia and calls for an end to such practices.

Once again, I thank all our members for their efforts on these pieces of legislation and to the chairman for his leadership. And I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Engel.

We go to Ileana Ros-Lehtinen from Florida.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman, and thank you to Ranking Member Engel for bringing forth these important measures. Regarding the Palestinian Authority, I would like to remind this committee that the administration already has the tools it needs to withhold U.S. assistance to the Palestinian Authority and the West Bank in Gaza. In fact, every 6 months, the administration sends to this committee a report that finds that the PA and the PLO are not living up to statutorily required commitments. That report is accompanied by a sanction to downgrade the status of the PLO office in DC, which is then, sadly, immediately waived.

So what is the benefit? What does the U.S. get? Or, worse, what does that tell the Palestinian leadership? It shows that there is no willingness by the United States to hold them accountable for their support for violence or terror or other horrid acts, and the cycle continues. So here we are today looking to add more tools to the toolbox.

The Palestinian Authority, the PLO, Abu Mazen, and Hamas, they should all be held accountable for their acts of terror. The entire committee agrees: End their support for terror. They should not be rewarded.

And that is why the Taylor Force Act, though I believe that we should not allow for exceptions and carve-outs in this legislation, should be supported because that flexibility will be used, once again, to circumvent the spirit of the law and congressional intent.

The fact that the Palestinian leadership rewards terrorists and their families is sickening. But what is worse is that the thought that the American taxpayer may be inadvertently supporting this. Every dollar we spend in the West Bank and Gaza, every time we pay off the Palestinian debt to Israel, we are freeing up the Palestinian leadership to allocate money for its pay-to-slay program. Because money is fungible, we should not allocate one cent in the West Bank and Gaza until we know that Abu Mazen no longer pays money to terrorists and their families. I have no doubt that, given the choice between badly needed infrastructure projects or paying terrorists, that Abu Mazen will forsake the Palestinian people to pay terrorists. Pay-to-slay. That is his program. But let that be his decision to make. Don't let us make it easy for him to do both. And so I support the Taylor Force Act.

And in that same vein, Mr. Chairman, I fully support the bill of my colleague from Florida, Mr. Mast, the Palestinian International Terrorism Support Act. Hamas is a terror organization responsible

for countless attacks against Israel but also responsible for the deaths of at least 25 U.S. citizens. It is also a beneficiary of Turkey, of Iran, of Qatar, not exactly the confederacy of morality. Qatar has pledged nearly \$1.5 billion over the past 5 years for reconstruction efforts in Gaza. And if you think that Hamas hasn't delivered a good portion of this for its own use or benefit and that Qatar doesn't know about that diversion, then I have a bridge from Miami to Havana to sell you.

So, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Obviously, I don't have much of a voice today. I support all of the bills, and I will give my remarks for the record. Thank you. I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you very much, Ileana, for making those points.

Jerry Connolly of Virginia.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And I want to thank you and your staff, as well as the ranking member and his staff, for cooperating with us on a humanitarian carve-out, which has to do with vaccinations, which is why I am wearing my Save the Children tie today. You know, infectious disease does not respect the border. And outbreaks of infectious diseases damage, of course, innocent lives, children, and can cross that border. And so we wanted to make sure that was addressed.

We also want to take care, as the ranking member indicated, that we don't unwittingly destabilize a situation in decisions we make about what support we do or do not provide the Palestinian Authority. But I have always had a rule in politics. I will not defend the indefensible. The bill before us today calls out the indefensible. We simply cannot sit by and watch the Palestinian Authority reward abhorrent behavior, suicide bombers and terrorist perpetrators, by providing payments to their families. That both rewards the behavior that we find indefensible and encourages it. It must stop. And to get the attention of the Palestinian Authority, we have this bill before us today, and I will support it.

And so I hope that the action we take today will lead to the desired outcome, which is the secession of this abhorrent practice that affects both the Israeli people and the Palestinian people. It is, I think, an essential ingredient if we are going to proceed with any kind of two-state solution and the peace process. And so I am glad for the legislation before us. I want to thank the chairman and the ranking member for the thoughtful way in which they have made changes to the bill that take into account the reality on the ground and the long-term repercussions of actions we take today.

And I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Connolly. Thank you very much.

I want to go now to Mr. Chris Smith.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, for bringing all of these very important bills before the committee. I am especially grateful that H.R. 1415, the End Neglected Tropical Diseases Act, is under consideration. We passed it out of this committee last Congress. Regrettably, Title II, which is also a Title II in this bill, never got out of Energy and Commerce or Financial Services. We are going to make an all-out effort again there.

Just in brief, H.R. 1415 is a comprehensive bill to combat a group of 17 parasitic, bacterial, and viruses which blind, disable, disfigure, and kill victims from among 1.4 billion people worldwide, especially in the poorest of poor countries. These include dengue fever, round-, whip-, and hookworm, and schistosomiasis, which are parasitic flatworms. About ¼ million people, up to 250 million people, carry this horrific disease inside of their intestines. It disproportionately affects children. The World Health Organization says that there are 78 endemic countries. And for a very low-cost commitment, these worms and these other parasites and diseases can be mitigated and even abolished.

I would point out to my colleagues and Mr. Engel, he is right: The Trump budget would have cut by about 25 percent our neglected tropical diseases budget. But so did Obama. Every year, he offered to cut it by 20 percent and I and others made a beeline to the appropriators each and every year and said, minimally, let's straight line it at \$100 million for that program, which we got, which is in the current bill that is pending in the House and the Senate for appropriations. But it is not enough.

This bill talks about strategy. Title II of this legislation will make a huge difference domestically and internationally. And it is not under consideration here. But just for the sake of the members, I hope that we can ask Energy and Commerce to mark it up this year. It creates centers of excellence to study this. Back in the year 2000, I wrote the laws on combatting autism. The mainstay of that legislation were centers of excellence. And that is where we learned, both in CBC and at the NIH, what to do, what the prevalence is, and, again, best strategies going forward.

We also have an important panel, an expert panel, a blue ribbon panel, that will be established to study worm infections. I mean, we talk about feeding the future. And, as you know, we did the Global Food Security Act last year. Food and hunger and mitigation of hunger is an overwhelming priority, bipartisan, in Congress and really among many countries around the world. We don't want to feed the worms and have a situation where children's morbidity rate is very high. It often doesn't kill; although it does. But coinfections, opportunistic infections, take advantage of diminished immune systems and these kids succumb to other diseases because they are walking around with bloated bellies because they are carrying around worms. So this is an all-in type of effort to say we can end neglected tropical diseases. And we need better strategy. We need resources. And I do strongly urge members to support it.

I want to thank Mr. Meeks, the prime Democratic cosponsor, and Karen Bass, the ranking member of our subcommittee. Other members who have joined on as cosponsors, I thank you. But this is a bill whose time has come. And I thank you, Chairman, for bringing it to the committee today.

On all the others, I would ask unanimous consent to revise and extend.

Just briefly on the Christian persecution issue: There is no other group on the face of the Earth that are being discriminated against, killed, forced to convert to other faiths than Christians, whether it be in China, North Korea, or many parts in the Middle East. As you all know, we passed legislation, H.R. 390, pending

over on the Senate side, to help the Christians who are the subject of genocide by ISIS. But a man named Adamu stood right where the staff is sitting right now and told how he was forced by Boko Haram out of his house with an AK-47 put to his head. And he was told, “You convert right now to Islam,” by a Boko Haram terrorist, “or I am going to blow your brains out.” And the man said, “Are you ready to die for your faith?” He said, “Yes, I am.” He pulled the trigger, and he blew his face away. And when he told that story in this room—and I met him in an IDP camp in Jos, Nigeria—you could have heard a pin drop.

That is the everyday experience of Christians around the world, including in India, including in North Korea, especially, and in the People’s Republic of China, where, systematically, Xi Jinping is trying to eviscerate all faiths, including the Falun Gong, which Ileana Ros-Lehtinen has led so nobly on, but also the Christians and probably more so. Arguably, there are more Christians in China than anywhere else in the world. They are underground, and they are repressed. This is a great resolution, and I commend my friend for offering it.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Smith.

Ted Deutch of Florida.

Mr. DEUTCH. Thank you, Chairman Royce and Ranking Member Engel.

The measures before us address a range of crucial foreign policy challenges, taking steps to support the U.S.-Mexico relationship, fight tropical diseases, combat cruelty against animals in Southeast Asia, strengthen cyberspace policy, condemn the persecution of Christians, protect the Rohingya Muslims in Burma, and support Israel in the face of persistent terrorism, and I am supportive of all of them.

I want to thank the chair and ranking member for their tireless work, especially to bring forward this improved Taylor Force Act. This bill will help end the horrible practice where Palestinian Authority pays salaries to terrorists and their families, more money for worse crimes, unambiguously incentivizing terrorism against civilians.

Beginning in late 2015, Israel faced a new wave of violence where it was often called lone wolf or knife intifada. Instead of coordinating near daily bombings in cafes, nightclubs, and on public buses as happened earlier in the 2000s, we instead saw deadly stabbings, shootings, and car rammings on a regular basis in which dozens of Israelis, and even Americans, were killed. And that included American students Taylor Force and Ezra Schwartz. On March 8, 2016, Taylor Force, a 28-year-old West Point graduate and Vanderbilt graduate student who had fought in Iraq and Afghanistan was stabbed to death on the promenade in Jaffa by a young Palestinian terrorist who injured 10 others, including a pregnant woman.

Taylor, by all accounts, was loved. He was humble. He enjoyed playing the guitar. He was an Eagle Scout and Army veteran. His dad described him as an all-American kid who made sure that everyone around him felt good. A friend of his in Nashville said simply: He made people better.

A few months earlier, another American was killed while visiting Israel on a gap year before starting university the next year. Ezra Schwartz was sitting in traffic at the Gush Etzion Junction on his way to volunteer at a conservation park built in memory of the three teenagers who had been kidnapped and killed by Hamas in June 2014. A terrorist opened fire with a submachine gun, killing Ezra, as well as an Israeli teacher and a Palestinian from Hebron. But rather than work to punish this horrific terror, current Palestinian law instead incentivizes it.

The terrorist who murdered Taylor Force and who was killed by Israeli police responding to the scene, his family will now receive payments for life at an amount three times the average annual salary in the West Bank. And the terrorist who killed Ezra Schwartz, who is now in Israeli prison, he will get paid more than \$3,000 a month, many times higher than the average Palestinian worker. Under this payment program, the Palestinian Authority has given more than \$1 billion to convicted terrorists over the past decade, more than \$300 million per year. The law includes a well-defined sliding scale where the more serious the act of terrorism, the longer the prison sentence, and, consequently, the higher the salary. So, if you are sentenced to life in prison for a horrific terror attack, you get four times more money per month than if you are sentenced to just a couple of years in prison for a lesser attack.

Now, it is the job of government to deliver services to its people, including welfare to those who need it most, which would include giving a grieving widow who suddenly has to take care of her family without the breadwinner what she needs. But it sends a powerful message to know that if a Palestinian man dies in a car accident, that his family gets nothing; but if that same man were to drive his car deliberately into Israeli citizens, civilians, his family will be taken care of for life. That is not welfare; that is incentive to terror. It is pay-for-slay, and it must end.

This piece of legislation has been carefully written in order to target only those funds that directly benefit the Palestinian Authority, thereby creating real incentives for the PA to meaningfully end this practice. I congratulate the chairman and the ranking member for crafting today's amended language in a way that will pressure the PA to stop this practice without damaging our vital investments in humanitarian assistance and grassroots people-to-people programs that are essential to achieving our overall objective of peace. The pursuit of a negotiated two-state solution requires a commitment to peace. And when the PA pays terrorists for attacks on innocent civilians, that real commitment for peace simply does not exist.

I urge my colleagues to support the Taylor Force Act in order to prevent more senseless killings. Taylor Force served our country to advance and protect peace. His life was taken by terrorists. But this legislation honors his name and his memory by stopping a terrible, dangerous, abhorrent practice of paying terrorists. The PA must stop these payments.

This bill will advance peace. I urge my colleagues to support it, and I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Mr. Steve Chabot of Ohio.

Mr. CHABOT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And I support all the excellent measures before us here this morning. I will speak out briefly on just one.

Mr. Crowley and I introduced House Concurrent Resolution 90 to condemn the Burmese military's systematic attacks on the Rohingya in Burma. For far too long, the Burmese military has repressed the Rohingya, denying them political and civil rights, most notably citizenship, and making them a stateless people.

It is no secret that the Burmese military sees the Rohingya, really, as invaders of their territory. That is why they jumped at the opportunity in August when a rogue group of Rohingya attacked military outposts to attack the entire Rohingya population and to drive them from the country in what has been called a textbook example of ethnic cleansing. These attacks and attacks by security services and mobs have caused over 600,000 Rohingya to flee Burma for Bangladesh. At least 250,000 of these are children.

Further, credible human rights organizations have documented the abuses these civilians have suffered, and news reports have shown the absolute horrors that they have faced. Unfortunately, attacks like these are pretty much business as usual for the Burmese military in its attempt to suppress Burma's many other ethnic groups. Therefore, much of the country remains in a state of civil war. Even though some institutions have been turned over to civilians in recent years, the military continues to control too much of the government, and it remains too independent from civilian leadership. In light of this pattern and the Burmese military's attacks on the Rohingya, Mr. Crowley and I have sought to bring much-needed attention to the situation in Burma and work toward specific, tangible, and productive responses from the United States.

This is why we have corresponded twice, once in September and once in October, with Secretary Tillerson on the issue, urging him to apply targeted sanctions to the Burmese military and work with the international community to bring these attacks to an end. I want to thank many members of this committee for signing on to those letters. The attacks on the Rohingya are absolutely entirely disproportionate and unacceptable to the initial attacks which took place on the outpost previously. Today's resolution sends this message. That is why I would urge my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 90, to condemn the ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya and call for a swift end to the chaos and the violence in that very challenging part of the world.

And I again want to thank the members of this committee that have been active in this effort.

I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Mr. Joaquin Castro.

Mr. CASTRO. Thank you, Chairman Royce.

First, on the Taylor Force Act, I support it. And the United States has offered aid to the Palestinian Authority for programs in Gaza and the West Bank because we want to see the conditions improve in those places. But the United States cannot be party to what amounts to State-paid murder compensation. And so I hope today will be a strong signal and incentive for the Palestinian Authority to change its ways.

On the resolution dealing with the Rohingya, first, thank you to my fellow Democratic Congressman, Democratic Caucus Chairman

Joe Crowley, and also to my colleague on the committee, Mr. Chabot, for their work on highlighting what is the worst case in modern history, contemporary history at least, of ethnic cleansing.

Since August 25th, 615,000 people, Rohingya, have left Burma, most of them for neighboring Bangladesh. Thousands have been raped or killed. And yet, a few hours ago, it was reported that our Secretary of State, Rex Tillerson, refused to call this a case of ethnic cleansing, despite the fact that the United Nations has called it exactly that, as Mr. Chabot said in the quote that he offered.

Importantly, there has also been a difference in how this situation has been described now by our Secretary of State and our U.N. Ambassador. This has been a constant problem in this administration. And I am sure that it has perhaps happened in other administrations. But this is a textbook example of that.

Nikki Haley, our U.N. Ambassador, called the violence “a brutal, sustained campaign to cleanse the country of an ethnic minority,” whereas today Secretary of State Tillerson said, “Whether it meets all the criteria of ethnic cleansing, we continue to determine ourselves.” And he also asked for patience in the situation.

Once again, from the White House and from the administration, on controversial and important issues, you often get two or three or four or five different answers, depending upon who is giving their judgment and their opinion and their perspective. And I hope that the Congress will pass this resolution and that we can look into taking further action for this severe crime against humanity.

I yield back, Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Castro.

We now go to Mr. Joe Wilson of South Carolina.

Mr. WILSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am grateful to support H.R. 3542, the Hamas Human Shields Prevention Act. I appreciate Chairman Ed Royce for coordinating with Ranking Member Eliot Engel this markup of such important legislation that we are hearing about today amidst a number of important initiatives to protect American families. This bipartisan action today is another indication of working together on this committee, including Congressman Seth Moulton as the original cosponsor with me on this particular bill. We are grateful to be working with Chairwoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and Congressman Ted Deutch and many others in expressing support for this crucial legislation that imposes direct sanctions on Hamas terrorists for using civilians as human shields.

Hamas, financed by Iran, is embedding its forces near hospitals, mosques, and schools in the Gaza area and is intentionally putting lives at risk in turning these civilians, and especially women and children, into human shields. This is a gross violation of human rights and a violation of international law. It reveals the inhumanity of putting lives at risk of people they claim to represent. This legislation is important to ensure the lives of innocent civilians are saved by imposing direct and strong sanctions against Hamas and their uncivilized actions.

In conclusion, I especially appreciate today the recognition of Taylor Force, a beloved U.S. Army veteran with family in my home State of South Carolina who was cowardly stabbed by a Palestinian terrorist.

I yield back my time.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you.

We go to Dina Titus of Nevada.

Ms. TITUS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I, too, support all these measures that are before us. But I would like to speak specifically about H. Resolution 401. Thank you for supporting that.

This is the resolution that urges nations to outlaw the dog and cat meat trade. I have been a cosponsor of this legislation and worked in Congress to end this practice, end the dog and cat meat trade, end the use of dog leather, and to end other undue harm or abuse that comes to these animals.

Roughly 30 million dogs and 10 million cats annually are the victims of the meat trade in Asia. The extreme cruelty that these animals suffer is abhorrent, and we shouldn't turn a blind eye to these practices which run in conflict to our own animal cruelty laws.

In American culture, we cherish dogs and cats as more than just random animals. They can serve as therapy animals, search-and-rescue assistants, and police dogs that aid with drug and bomb searches. They serve with airport security. They are companions, and they are cherished family pets.

This resolution enjoys bipartisan support, and we must continue to work in a bipartisan manner to better protect animals, both in other countries and here at home in the United States. So I look forward to passing this resolution to signify our commitment to combatting animal cruelty.

And I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you.

We go to Ted Poe of Texas.

Mr. POE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I support these bills put before us today. I would like to thank Chairman Royce and Ranking Member Engel for marking them up. I am a cosponsor of five, but I would like to talk about three.

Mr. Mast's bill, H.R. 2712, the Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act of 2017, is a very important piece of legislation. The bill takes aim at foreign supporters of Palestinian terrorism that targets Israel, our most endangered ally in the Middle East. The terrorist groups Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad only serve because they have outside support from foreign entities. For years, Iran and Qatar have been their primary state sponsors, giving millions of dollars to prop up thugs who target civilians and spark conflicts that have left the Gaza Strip in ruin.

Hamas is a terrorist group that has proven it is more concerned with making war on Israel than building a Palestinian state. It has spent millions of dollars on resources on building tunnels and rockets to attack Israeli civilians. This is not an organization interested in peace with its neighbors. It is not even an organization that wants to defend Palestinians.

They are not building bomb shelters to protect people. Only weapons and terrorists are found in those tunnels. They launch indiscriminate rocket barrage on civilian targets while hiding within civilian populations. The U.N. has even reported that Hamas stored rockets in its schools. This is terrorism, plain and simple.

Both Iran and, our so-called ally, Qatar are responsible for this. This bill would hold them accountable. It would effectively make sponsoring terrorism more costly by sanctioning those who do so. This is long overdue, and I hope that Congress passes this legislation very quickly.

I also want to express my support for Mr. Grothman's resolution, H.R. 407, condemning the persecution of Christians around the world. The fact is the world's largest religion is also the world's most persecuted religion. Last month in Cairo, a Coptic priest was stabbed to death while collecting humanitarian aid. Father Samaan Shehata was killed simply for his Christian faith.

According to Open Doors USA, 322 Christians are killed each month and 214 churches and Christian properties are destroyed each month. We have all heard about the horrible persecution of Christians in the Middle East at the hands of terrorist actors like ISIS. Christian communities dating back to the time of Christ have been wiped out in service of ISIS' perverted ideology of hatred. It is not just terrorists targeting Christians. Government-sponsored Christian persecution is a major driver. These are some of the Nations: North Korea, Iran, Pakistan, and Putin's dictatorship of Russia regularly target Christian populations. I have had a family member that was in Russia last year. We haven't heard anything probably in the national media about the Christian persecution that is taking place under Putin, but it is there.

Christians in these countries face restrictive legislation, imprisonment, and, in some cases, executions. It is increasingly dangerous to be a Christian in today's world. I am glad the bill names and shames those countries that criminalize Christianity. This will undoubtedly bring comfort to those who are persecuted, especially persecuted Christians around the world. So we send that message across the world that we refuse to be silent.

I also want to comment on the Taylor Force Act. The Palestinian Authority pays terrorists who kill Israelis. If a terrorist is in jail or is killed, the family member gets the money. This hired murder scheme by the Palestinian Authority is a criminal action. And it is time that the world understands that the Palestinians pay people to kill Israelis. And the idea that the United States would give them any money is preposterous. So I support the bill in the Taylor Force Act that we stop American aid that goes to the Palestinian Authority, money that they use to pay terrorists to kill Israelis. And that is just the way it is.

I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, judge.

We go now to Brad Schneider of Illinois.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Thank you, Chairman Royce, as well as Ranking Member Engel, for convening today's markup. I am pleased to support all the legislation in today's en bloc package. In particular, the Taylor Force Act that will hopefully end the pay-for-slay practice we see coming from the Palestinian Authority, the Palestinian International Support Prevention Act of 2017, and the Hamas Human Shield Prevention Act.

I appreciate the inclusion of my three amendments in today's en bloc package. I applaud the committee for highlighting the critical issue of cybersecurity and responsible cyberspace policy, in par-

ticular in light of foreign entities seeking to nefariously influence our elections.

H.R. 3776, the Cyber Diplomacy Act, encourages our President to enter into arrangements with foreign governments to support international cyberspace policy and requires a status report 1 year after the agreement is reached. The status report will assess whether the parties to the arrangement have fulfilled their commitments. My amendment would ensure that if such commitments are not fulfilled, we are notified what steps our Government has taken or is planning to take to ensure all commitments will be fulfilled. This is a commonsense amendment to keep Congress apprised of developments and ensure transparency in these agreements.

I also appreciate this committee's consideration of multiple legislation to crack down on terrorist groups in the Middle East, including Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad. H.R. 2712, the Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act, would sanction individuals and foreign governments that knowingly materially assist Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, or any affiliate or successor.

H.R. 3542, the Hamas Human Shields Act, would sanction those affiliated with Hamas who are responsible for gross violations of human rights by their use of human shields. The use of human shields is a despicable act and should not be tolerated.

My amendments to these two important bills put a spotlight on Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad's underground terrorist tunnels that place civilians in harm's way because of their placement in densely populated areas, near schools, hospitals, and mosques. Just last month, UNRWA confirmed the discovery of yet another terrorist tunnel dug under one of its schools in Gaza. Also, last month, Israel discovered and destroyed a PIJ tunnel that infiltrated Israel. A senior member of PIJ, Khaled al-Batash, said that the purpose of the tunnel was kidnapping soldiers. These tunnels are designed to serve as a conduit to conduct terrorist attacks against Israel, to kidnap civilians and soldiers, and to wreak havoc and fear among bordering communities.

In 2006, Hamas used an underground tunnel to kill two Israeli soldiers and then captured Gilad Shalit who was held captive for more than 5 years. These tunnels are a grave threat to our ally, Israel, and we need to continue to raise the awareness of these underground terrorist tunnels and to prevent Hamas, PIJ, and others from using such tunnels to conduct terrorist attacks.

I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this important legislation, and I urge their swift passage. And I yield back.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN [presiding]. The gentleman yields back.

Mr. Ron DeSantis of Florida.

Mr. DESANTIS. I thank the chairman. I appreciate the folks involved in these bills, particularly my friend from Florida, Mr. Mast. I think the bill was long overdue. I think it is going to have a good impact, and I am enthusiastically supportive of it.

I also have one way I think that could make it stronger. I am not introducing it as an amendment because it does implicate jurisdiction in a different committee. One of the things I think that we see that has been a problem is there is not really a way to get direct justice for American victims of Hamas terrorism. You are not

allowed to go sue a government that is funding Hamas or directing Hamas and get justice. And I think that that would be good to change that.

So we will be introducing legislation very soon to amend the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act which will allow U.S. victims of terrorism to sue countries when the President determines that the governments of those countries are engaged in terrorism supporting certain groups like Hamas.

I think that will be good for victims. But I also think it will create a deterrent for some of these countries. We hear a lot about Qatar funding Hamas, funding the Muslim Brotherhood, being involved with that. Well, going forward, if those governments know there could be a right of action, obviously, financially that would be an issue for them, but I think, even more importantly, just politically, having those cases brought and being held accountable would not be something that they would look forward to doing, so potentially could help change behavior.

But, I think, by and large, I think we got a good set of bills.

We are doing the Taylor Force Act as well. I am really excited about that. I wish we would have passed that earlier in the year, but we are passing it now. When you have a government or an entity like the Palestinian Authority that is honoring the perpetrators of terrorism, that if you massacre enough Jews, maybe you will have a street named after you, maybe you will have a sports stadium named after you, you will be lauded in schools. That is absolutely unacceptable and American tax dollars should not go to underwrite any of that. And so this is an important first step.

So I look forward to introducing our bill. I think it will be a good complement to what Mr. Mast has done here today, and I think it will make an impact. So my hats off to my friend from Florida, Brian Mast, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. The gentleman yields back.

Mr. ESPAILLAT of New York.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Thank you, Madam Chair, Ranking Member Engel. Thank you for continuing this very impressive bipartisan work in this committee. I am proud to lend my support to the nine bills before us today. H.R. 1164, the Taylor Force Act; H.R. 2712, the Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act; and H.R. 3542, Hamas Human Shield Prevention Act are instrumental in advancing our position in support of the State of Israel, one of our strongest, if not the strongest, ally in the region. We should be using every possible tool in order to fight any incitement and violence in the region and work toward peace. I stand with the support of the State of Israel, and I am proud to lend my support to these pieces of legislation.

I am also a cosponsor and a supporter of H. Resolution 90, Condemning ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya and calling for an end to the attacks in and an immediate restoration of humanitarian access to the state of Rakhine in Burma. More than ¼ million ethnic Rohingya Muslims have been forced from their homes in the Rakhine State of Myanmar to neighboring Bangladesh. They have not done so in search of comforts. They have done so with the singular goal of survival. The Government of Myanmar, now led by his political heir Aung San Suu Kyi, has, with extraordinary preju-

dice, diminished the political voice and civil rights of the ethnic Rohingya Muslim population by now denying their citizenship and basic humanitarian rights. The resulting violence by the military, the manifestation of the will of the Government of Myanmar against its own citizens has now been described by the United Nations High Commissioner of Human Rights as a textbook example of ethnic cleansing.

This resolution affirms that there is no tolerance by the United States of the human rights violations, murderous ethnic cleansing, and atrocities against civilians perpetrated by the Government of Myanmar. As such, I am proud to lend my support.

I also submitted an amendment, and I am glad to support H.R. 1415, End Neglected Tropical Diseases Act, which would support the treatment and elimination of neglected tropical diseases. Since Hurricane Irma hit Puerto Rico, the death toll continues to rise, and today, the island has reported 76 possible cases of leptospirosis. Without treatment, leptospirosis can lead to kidney damage, meningitis, liver failure, respiratory distress, and, of course, death. We need to ensure that individuals displaced by manmade and natural disasters are provided the treatment they deserve.

Lastly, H.R. 336 reaffirms our strong commitment with Mexico as a partner. It encourages continued security cooperation, including on violence reduction in Mexico, counterterrorism, and the increased trafficking of heroin and fentanyl. Just yesterday, the Drug Enforcement Administration reported that 80 percent of fentanyl seized in New York City is from the Sinaloa cartel. I think we need to be cracking down on drug cartels, not undocumented immigrants. They are the ones bringing the drugs to our Nation, many of it through ports of entry and so coming to the United States from these cartels. We must do everything possible, Madam Chair, to stop them.

I thank you, and I yield back my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Thank you, Mr. Espallat.

Ted Yoho of Florida.

Mr. YOH0. Thank you, Madam Chair.

I support all these amendments and bills, and I think they are good, and look forward to voting on them. Thank you.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Thank you, sir.

Mr. Lieu?

Not there.

Mr. Cicilline.

Mr. CICILLINE. Thank you, Madam Chairman.

I want to thank the chairman and the ranking member for holding this markup today and for once again bringing before this committee a range of bipartisan measures, each of which I support.

I am happy to be a cosponsor of the bill introduced by my ranking member, Mr. Engel, reaffirming the strong commitment to the United States-Mexico partnership. The relationship between Mexico and the United States goes back to our founding, and we have enjoyed a long friendship, a mutually beneficial partnership on issues ranging from drug trafficking, border control, national security, environmental protection, and share deep roots between many of our citizens. I am pleased to see such strong bipartisan support

for this resolution which recognizes the importance of the U.S.-Mexico relationship.

I am also a cosponsor of Chairman Royce's cybersecurity bill, which will elevate the issue of cybersecurity within our diplomatic efforts and improve U.S. State Department engagement issues of cyber diplomacy to promote a more open and secure internet. I strongly support the establishment of an Ambassador over cyberspace at the State Department, as well as the other measures included in this legislation.

I am proud to cosponsor H.R. 1415, the End Neglected Tropical Diseases Act, lead by my colleagues Chris Smith and Gregory Meeks. I have had the opportunity, along with many of my colleagues, to visit and see for myself some of the areas of the world where neglected tropical diseases still run rampant, impacting the health of millions of people. The work that USAID and other government agencies have been doing on NTDs is lifesaving, and this bill will only improve the ability of our various government agencies to coordinate and work collaboratively to ensure that treatment reaches as many people as possible as quickly as possible.

House Resolution 401 urges all nations to outlaw the dog and cat meat trade, a practice that has lovers of animals, I find, abhorrent. I thank my colleague from Florida, Mr. Hastings, for being a devoted and outspoken advocate against the dog and cat meat trade in Asia, and I am happy to be a cosponsor of this important resolution.

I support Representative Grothman's resolution condemning the persecution of Christians and other religious minorities worldwide. In recent years, there has been an increase in discrimination, targeting, persecution, and killing of Christians and other minority religious groups, particularly with the rise of the Islamic State and other extremist groups in the Middle East. All people should be free to practice their religion with tolerance and respect from their government and the communities in which they live.

I want to thank Representative Crowley and Representative Chabot for introducing Resolution 90 condemning ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya and calling for an end to the attacks and an immediate restoration of humanitarian access to the state of Rakhine in Burma, of which I am a cosponsor. The coordinated and concerted attacks against the Muslim Rohingya people of Burma are appalling and must be stopped by the Burmese authorities immediately.

The country of Bangladesh is absorbing an astonishing number of Rohingya refugees, over 600,000 since the newest round of violence began. Accommodating this extreme number of people so quickly, many of whom have suffered severe trauma or have serious health concerns, is not an easy task. I commend the Bangladeshi Government for their willingness to assist these people who have suffered so much, and I am pleased to support this resolution as a cosponsor.

We are considering two bills today that will punish people, enemies who engage in or support terrorist activity. Spearheaded by Representative Brian Mast and Josh Gottheimer, the Palestinian International Terrorist Support Prevention Act will impose sanctions on foreign people and governments who provide support to terrorist groups, including Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad.

And Hamas Human Shield Prevention Act condemns the abhorrent practice of using human shields by Hamas, and imposes sanctions on Hamas-related entities that engage in or support the use of human shields.

Finally, we are considering the Taylor Force Act, which seeks to end the despicable habit of the Palestinian Authority rewarding and incentivizing terrorism by paying the families of terrorists convicted of engaging in terrorism against Israel. This legislation is named in honor of U.S. Army veteran and West Point graduate Taylor Force, who was tragically killed by a Palestinian knife attack in 2016. This legislation will limit assistance that directly benefits the Palestinian Authority until they end the practice of paying terrorist families. The U.S. has not provided direct assistance to the Palestinian Authority since 2014, but we continue to fund organizations that work with the Palestinian Authority. This bill will end any assistance that directly benefits the Palestinian Authority until they end their terrorist payment system. I strongly support this legislation which attempts to end the abhorrent practice that incentivizes and rewards terrorism.

I want to be sure that we craft a policy response that, as we do that, we do it in a thoughtful way that achieves our desired goals without unattended consequences that could have a negative impact in American interests in the West Bank in Gaza on the stability of the Palestinian-controlled territories or that could do harm to Palestinian women and children. And that is why I support the amendment being offered by my Democratic colleague, Mr. Connolly, that would place an exemption in this legislation for programs that provide vaccinations to children.

Additionally, I think it is important that we, as policymakers, get a detailed account of the impact of this legislation once it is put into place, and that is why I am offering an amendment to require a one-time report that outlines the programs, projects, and activities that are suspended as a result of this legislation.

I want to thank the chairman again, the ranking member, for their support of my amendment. I sincerely hope that by passing the Taylor Force Act, we send a message to the Palestinian Authority that this disgusting payment system must be stopped.

And with that, I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE [presiding]. Thank you, David.

We go to Lee Zeldin of New York.

Mr. ZELDIN. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I appreciate the committee's consideration today of the Taylor Force Act. I want to thank Mr. Lamborn for his leadership introducing this bill. And I am proud to be the original cosponsor of this important proposal.

It is important to understand why this legislation is so key to pass. Innocent Americans and Israelis are being murdered by Palestinian terrorists. Those Palestinian terrorists are being treated as martyrs for committing these acts of terrorism. And while the U.S. sends our tax dollars to the Palestinian Authority, these terrorists and their families are being financially rewarded by the PA.

Taylor Force is an American hero, a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point. He deployed overseas in

defense of our freedoms and liberties and everything that makes our Nation the greatest Nation in the world.

The Taylor Force Act will prevent American foreign aid from funding the PA, unless the Secretary of State certifies that the PA has taken credible steps to end acts of violence against U.S. and Israeli citizens, publicly condemns such acts of violence, terminates payments for acts of terrorism against the U.S., and revokes any law authorizing this payment system. This legislation is long overdue.

I thank Chairman Royce for his leadership in ensuring that this bill came up for a vote in this committee to get sent to the floor for passage. I encourage all of my colleagues to support it, and I yield back.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN [presiding]. Mr. Sherman of California.

Mr. SHERMAN. Thank you.

Perhaps everything has been said, but I haven't said it. Thank you for yielding 5 minutes to me.

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Ranking Member, I want to commend you for bringing worthy bills to this committee and for doing it in a bipartisan manner. These bills are worthy of support, and that is why I have cosponsored each and every one of them.

One deals with the United States-Mexico partnership; another, the dog and cat meat trade in Asian countries. We have one on tropical diseases, the Palestinian International Terrorism, the use of human shields by Hamas, and a resolution condemning Burma's military for attacking the Rohingya Muslims.

I especially want to focus on H. Con. Res. 90 condemning the ethnic cleansing of Rohingya introduced by Mr. Crowley and Mr. Chabot. In August of this year, Burma's military, also known as Myanmar, launched a military operations against Rohingya Muslims and over 500,000 Rohingya have fled to neighboring Bangladesh.

The resolution calls upon the Burmese military to cease attacks against the Rohingya and restore humanitarian access for them. It expresses support for Bangladesh for providing refuge for so many refugees, and calls upon the President to impose sanctions on those responsible for human rights abuses, including members of the Burmese military and security services.

Not only should we take a principled stand, but we need to remind the world that we are taking a principled stand. The United States is among the forefront of nations trying to protect the Rohingya, contrast that to China, which seems to care only about its relationship with the Burmese regime. And we should remind the Muslim world in particular that we are the only country to ever bomb a Christian nation in order to protect Muslims, not once but twice. Both Kosovo and Bosnia were protected by United States bombing of Serbia.

I strongly support two resolutions that condemn Palestinian terrorism. One in particular is H.R. 3542, the Hamas Human Shields Prevention Act, that has been introduced by Mr. Wilson. This legislation sanctions Hamas members for their use of human shields. The House passed similar legislation regarding Hezbollah last month, and I was pleased to cosponsor that legislation as well.

H.R. 2712, the Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act of 2017, introduced by Mr. Mast, calls for the imposition of sanctions against supporters of Hamas. Its findings mention that Hamas has received significant financial and military support from Qatar, and possibly Iran as well. And it is time for us to reevaluate our relationship with Qatar in light of a number of recent developments, but especially focused on their support for Hamas.

Finally, there is the Taylor Force Act, which I strongly support. And rather than speak at great length, I will incorporate by reference Mr. Deutch's comments, which I think were excellent on this subject. I think that his phrase "pay for slay" is correct. I don't know whether he developed that or got it from elsewhere. And I believe that another one of our members used the term "murder for hire." They are both applicable.

So, Mr. Chairman, I thank you for your work and yield back my time.

Chairman ROYCE [presiding]. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

We go to Brian Mast of Florida.

Mr. MAST. Thank you, Chairman.

You know, I could say that following my service in the U.S. Army, I chose to volunteer alongside the Israeli Defense Forces, because our countries do share very common values that all countries should share, those ideals of freedom, democracy, and mutual respect for the human rights of all people. My service has also brought me face-to-face with those who do not have a mutual respect for those ideals that we should all be rallying around.

Hamas preaches destruction to Israel, death to the values that we as citizens of the United States hold dear. It is well known that Hamas is a foreign terrorist organization specifically designated by the United States Government as a global terrorist. The organization is responsible for the deaths of hundreds of Israelis, for dozens of U.S. citizens. Similarly, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad was designated a foreign terrorist by the Department of State, and it has also been named a specially designated global terrorist by the Department of Treasury. And this foreign terrorist organization has claimed credit for multiple terrorist attacks in Israel, including an attack that killed a U.S. citizen, Alisa Flatow, a student from New Jersey, who was participating in a Jewish student program while in Israel.

My bill, H.R. 2712, the Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act, targets these groups. It targets them by imposing sanctions on those who knowingly and materially assist Hamas or the Palestinian Islamic Jihad or any affiliate or any successor organization. It will require that the President report to Congress on foreign entities that contribute to support networks of Hamas, and it will require that we impose sanctions on those bad actors until they cease to do so.

Under this legislation, the administration will be required to impose two or more sanctions to ensure that they understand the United States will not stand by for any foreign group, state, or person providing assistance to any terrorist organization.

You know, for far too long, the number one terror state sponsor in the world, Iran, they have armed their dangerous tentacles, one of them being Hamas. The Israeli authorities have seized vessels

filled with weapons and antiship missiles coming from Iran headed toward the Gaza Strip. From the Gaza Strip, there have been hundreds of missiles that have been fired into Israel that came directly from Iran.

Hamas is not the only terrorist organization that benefits from Iranian support. The Palestinian Islamic Jihad receives considerable support from Iran. There has been one estimation that there has been up to \$70 million a year going to the Palestinian Islamic Jihad coming from Iran.

This bill will increase accountability. It will further isolate these bad actors. It will hold countries like Iran responsible for assisting in violent extremism. Foreign supporters, they have to face consequences for being associated with, for contributing to, for participating in these heinous terror networks.

Beyond that, I want to lend my support for the work the whole of this committee has done today. It is outstanding work, especially the work on the Taylor Force Act. I have had the opportunity to speak with a very high level official from the Palestinian area. And when I question him about the payments given to families, he said to me very callously and very arrogantly, he actually chuckled to me, that it was nothing more than what is like our Social Security here in the United States of America. To the Palestinians there, they believe that there is a special Social Security that should be given for killing our Jewish friends. And I can't think of much more that would be more disgusting than that. And the U.S. should play absolutely no role in rewarding this rancid, anti-Semitism and this rancid hatred.

All of the work today is proof that confronting hatred and supporting our ally Israel, it is not an issue of left versus right. This has been very bipartisan work today. It is an issue of right versus wrong. I thank everybody for the work today, and I yield back, Chairman.

Chairman ROYCE. And Major Brian Mast, we thank you.

We now go to Thomas Suozzi of New York.

Mr. SUOZZI. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to thank you and the ranking member for your bipartisan leadership. Once again, we are very grateful to you. And I want to commend my colleagues for the good work that they have done here today in putting forward these nine bills, which I intend to support.

I would like to speak today in support of H.R. 1164, the Taylor Force Act. The Taylor Force Act withholds U.S. aid that benefits the Palestinians until they take demonstrable steps toward ending violence and incitement against Israeli citizens.

For too long we have allowed the Palestinian Authority to play a duplicitous game. They talk about nonviolence, about wanting peaceful coexistence with Israel, that they want to be a negotiating partner with Israel. Then they turn around and pay millions of dollars each year to terrorists that make peaceful coexistence impossible.

The Palestinian Authority calls it a welfare program, as Mr. Mast just pointed out. But what kind of welfare program rewards people for committing crimes, heinous crimes? The Palestinian Authority pays its teachers about \$500 per month. It pays terrorists, like the one who killed Taylor Force, up to \$3,500 a month for life.

These are demented priorities. These payments to terrorists make peace impossible. They are an affront to American values.

So it is time we send a clear message to President Abbas and the rest of the Palestinian leadership. It should be an easy choice. Stop supporting and incentivizing terrorism that you claim to oppose. If you cannot make that simple choice, we cannot support you. We owe that to Taylor Force.

Taylor represented the best of America. A West Point graduate, an Army veteran who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, an MBA student, a young man with a bright future ahead of him. And then his life was cut short in a brutal terrorist stabbing in Israel. His killer went on to stab 11 other people, Jews and Arabs, men and women, one woman even pregnant. It was the third Palestinian attack against Israelis just in that one single day in March 2016. And all of those attackers and others like them, under this welfare system, would be rewarded. The Taylor Force Act seeks to rectify this injustice.

Now a brief word about Hamas. Hamas has killed hundreds of Israeli citizens and rained rockets on Israeli cities. It has also caused untold suffering for 2 million Palestinians in Gaza who live under its violent and corrupt rule. We hope that last month's reconciliation with Fatah is the first step toward disarming this terrorist group and stripping it of its power, but it leaves many questions unanswered. And we need to keep the pressure on with further sanctions.

H.R. 3542 sanctions Hamas for its human shields, while H.R. 2712, the Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act of 2017, of which I am an original cosponsor, imposes sanctions against Hamas' foreign supporters.

Again, I thank my colleagues for their leadership on all the issues put forth to our committee today. Whether we are speaking out for justice for murdered Israelis, the grave humanitarian crisis affecting Rohingya, or shedding light on the persecution of Christians around the world, this committee continuously shows its commitment to human rights, justice, stability, and may I mention bipartisanship.

Thank you, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Tom.

We go to Mike McCaul of Texas.

Mr. MCCAUL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I want to first highlight the U.S.-Mexico resolution. This bipartisan resolution was introduced by myself and Ranking Member Eliot Engel. It reaffirms a strong commitment to the U.S.-Mexico partnership. As a Texan, chairman of the U.S.-Mexico Inter-parliamentary Group, and chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, I cannot overstate the importance of a strong partnership between the United States and Mexico. And let me be clear: This is a partnership.

There are times in which our respective countries may disagree on matters of foreign policy, but it is of critical importance to the economic and security interest of both countries to work through our differences in a respectful, productive manner. The legislative branches of our respected governments have a special role to play

in this regard. As chairman of the U.S.-Mexico IPG, I have seen firsthand the power of legislative diplomacy.

In June of this year, I led a delegation of Members to Mexico during one of the most trying times in our long relationship. Needless to say, a little respect and civil discourse can go a long way between our two delegations, and we made a lot of progress on a number of issues.

So as we continue to engage Mexico in the many pressing issues of the day, I hope this resolution will serve as a reminder as to why this relationship is so important.

And next, I would like to voice my support for a bill you sponsor, Mr. Chairman, and I was honored to cosponsor, and that is the Cyber Diplomacy Act. As we all know, cyberspace is increasingly becoming a venue for malicious actors to harm the United States and our allies. At a time when cyber landscape is becoming complex and dangerous, we should be sharpening the tools in our tool-kit.

As such, the Cyber Diplomacy Act allows our State Department to better perform 21st century diplomacy by establishing an Ambassador for Cyberspace to help promote our cyber interests internationally. It enhances transparency at the State Department's current and future cyber arrangements with our partners, and ensures our cyber policy evolves with the landscape by requiring each new administration to produce a strategy relating to international cyberspace. Simply put, we need better coordination at the State Department to keep the internet free, open, and safe from malicious activities of adversaries who threaten our interests.

To that end, Mr. Chairman, I hope to make this bill even stronger through an amendment that would specify the Ambassador for Cyberspace, among other things, to be responsible for helping coordinate our interagency efforts to counter cyberterrorism. This very simple amendment would go a long way to ensure the State Department plays a significant and effective role in preventing terrorists from exploiting our cyberspace.

And finally, I would like to highlight the bill, the Taylor Force Act of critical importance. This legislation is a critical step in ensuring the kind of atrocity that took place on March 8 of last year, which left former U.S. Army officer and Vanderbilt student Taylor Force dead, to make sure that that is not repeated.

Specifically, legislation would withhold U.S. economic assistance to the Palestinian Authority until it has taken credible steps to end the promotion of violence against Americans and Israeli citizens, fully stop the payments for acts of terrorism which takes place, and publicly condemns acts of violence, and cooperate in investigations of such acts.

I had the honor to share the stage with Mr. Force last month with you, Mr. Chairman. And I hope no family ever has to endure a tragedy like he and his family have. In fact, this committee should do all it can to ensure that is the case.

And with that, I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. McCaul.

We go to Dan Donovan from New York.

Mr. DONOVAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And I am pleased to support all the measures being offered in today's markup. I specifically would like to speak about three of them.

The Taylor Force Act is a bill that was named after Taylor Force, a U.S. citizen and war veteran, who was fatally stabbed by a Palestinian assailant while studying abroad as a private citizen. The Palestinian Authority despicably continues to give payouts to families of so-called martyrs who commit acts of terrorism.

While the U.S. has responded by reducing the Economic Support Fund for the PA dollar for dollar, this has not been enough for the PA to end their practice of rewarding terrorists. According to PA financial statements, from calendar year 2013 to 2016, U.S. budget support has averaged about 13 percent of the PA's annual external support and 3.5 percent of annual PA spending over that time. Clearance revenues, tax and customs amounts due to PA that Israel collects on its behalf and transfers to it, per a 1994 agreement, over that same period, average around 50 percent of annual PA spending.

Palestinians are among the world's largest per capita recipients of international foreign aid. Any aid that we give to the PA puts money in their coffers that then indirectly supports their heinous payouts. It is time that we end funding to the PA, and the Taylor Force Act does just that.

This bill would, beginning in fiscal year 2018 and continuing for the five subsequent fiscal years, withhold U.S. economic assistance that directly benefits the PA unless the PA has taken the following four actions: First, it has taken credible steps to end acts of violence against Israelis and Americans perpetrated or materially supported by those under PA control. Two, it stops payments for acts of terrorism. Three, it revokes its laws compensating prisoners who commit acts of terrorism based on length of prison sentence or take in comparable actions that have the effect of revoking such laws. And, fourth, publicly condemns acts of violence and cooperates in investigations of such acts.

The United States taxpayer dollars should never go to compensate individuals who commit terrorism, even indirectly. The Taylor Force Act will put an end to this practice.

I would like to also speak, Mr. Chairman, on the resolution to impose sanctions with respect to foreign support for Palestinian terrorism. Hamas was designated a foreign terrorist organization by the State Department on October 8, 1997, and named a specially designated global terrorist by the Department of Treasury under Executive Order 130224. This act will require the President to report on and issue sanctions against foreign persons, agencies of foreign states and governments that support Hamas.

Hamas has been intertwined with Iran ideologically, politically, and militarily. Qatar has a strategic opportunity to sever itself from Hamas and, by extension, Iran, which is a state sponsor of terrorism. My amendment here will require the administration to assess the extent to which all countries in the Gulf Cooperation Council, including Qatar, participate in initiatives of the Terrorist Financial Targeting Center. It will also require reporting on the extent to which the Terrorist Financial Targeting Center has been

utilized to address financial support for Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad.

This will ensure that Congress knows Qatar is complying with the classified memorandum of understanding Secretary Tillerson signed with Qatar this past summer. We must ensure that terrorist financing, wherever it comes from, is cut off. This bill and my amendment does just that.

And finally, Mr. Chairman, about religious persecution, H.R. 407. It is deeply saddening that we must consider resolution condemning religious persecution in 2017, 240 years after America's Founders held itself evident truth that people can worship how they choose. Religious discrimination is a global human rights crisis, and we must speak up when a religious group is persecuted for their beliefs.

This resolution affirms that religious freedom is a fundamental right of every individual, and condemns the persecution of Christians and other religious minorities in regions where worshipping how one chooses is a punishable offense.

And, with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back the remainder of my time.

Chairman ROYCE. Mr. Scott Perry. General Scott Perry.

Mr. PERRY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I just want to echo the adulation and thanks of the other members to the bipartisan efforts of the leadership of this committee in moving this package of bills forward. And they are all good bills and all worthy of individual praise.

I want to call particular praise to 401, urging the outlawing of the dog and cat meat trade and enforce existing laws in the trade; House Resolution 407 for the persecution of Christians around the world; and specific import on the Taylor Force Act.

And the thing that I lament most about the Taylor Force Act and 2712, the Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act, and the 3542, the Hamas Human Shield Prevention Act, that it has taken this long for us to deal with these issues and get these bills through the committee and to the floor. It would be my hope that they would move quickly to the floor and pass easily and quickly in the United States Senate.

And finally, for condemning the ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya. And the only thing I lament there, while it is appropriate to condemn the ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya and call for an end to the attacks, unfortunately, I don't think that is going to do much for the fate of the Rohingya. And in this case, it is, in my opinion, the duty of the U.N. to intervene directly and immediately to stop their persecution.

So with that, Mr. Chairman, I thank you again for this effort and this package of good bills. It is my hope and intention that they move to the floor very quickly now and are passed. And I appreciate the opportunity to be present for this.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you.

We go to Jim Sensenbrenner of Wisconsin.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Chairman, I support all of these bills. And unlike my colleagues who said that everything has been said and ask for 5 minutes, I will say that everything has been said.

There is nothing more I can add, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you very much, Mr. Sensenbrenner, for yielding back.

Do other members feel the same way?

Now, who else seeks time?

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, they ayes have it, and the measures considered en bloc are agreed to.

Without objection, the measures considered en bloc are ordered favorably reported, as amended. Staff is directed to make any technical and conforming changes, and the chair is authorized to seek House consideration under suspension of the rules.

So this concludes our business for today. And, again, I want to thank our ranking member, Mr. Engel, and all of our committee members for their contributions, their assistance, with today's markup.

The committee stands adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 11:40 a.m., the committee was adjourned.]

A P P E N D I X

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

November 15, 2017

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: Wednesday, November 15, 2017

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

MARKUP OF: H. Res. 336, Reaffirming a strong commitment to the United States-Mexico partnership;

H. Res. 401, Urging China, South Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, India, and all nations to outlaw the dog and cat meat trade and to enforce existing laws against the trade;

H. Res. 407, Condemning the persecution of Christians around the world;

H.R. 1164, Taylor Force Act;

H.R. 1415, End Neglected Tropical Diseases Act;

H.R. 2712, Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act of 2017;

H.R. 3542, Hamas Human Shields Prevention Act;

H.R. 3776, Cyber Diplomacy Act of 2017; and

H. Con. Res. 90, Condemning ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya and calling for an end to the attacks in and an immediate restoration of humanitarian access to the state of Rakhine in Burma.

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 202/225-5021 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 Wednesday Date November 15, 2017 Room 2172

Starting Time 10:08AM Ending Time 11:40AM

Recesses 0 (to) (to) (to) (to) (to) (to)

Presiding Member(s)

Chairman Edward R. Royce

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.)*

Representatives Ros-Lehtinen and Connolly

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

Yeas

Nays

Present


Not Voting

N/A

TIME SCHEDULED TO RECONVENE _____

or

TIME ADJOURNED 11:40AM


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
X	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
	Paul Cook, CA
X	Scott Perry, PA
X	Ron DeSantis, FL
X	Mark Meadows, NC
X	Ted Yoho, FL
X	Adam Kinzinger, IL
X	Lee Zeldin, NY
X	Dan Donovan, NY
X	James F. Sensenbrenner, Jr., WI
	Ann Wagner, MO
X	Brian J. Mast, FL
	Brian K. Fitzpatrick, PA
	Francis Rooney, FL
X	Thomas A. Garrett, Jr., VA

<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
	William Keating, MA
X	David Cicilline, RI
X	Ami Bera, CA
X	Lois Frankel, FL
X	Tulsi Gabbard, HI
X	Joaquin Castro, TX
X	Robin Kelly, IL
	Brendan Boyle, PA
X	Dina Titus, NV
	Norma Torres, CA
X	Brad Schneider, IL
X	Tom Suozzi, NY
X	Adriano Espaillat, NY
X	Ted Lieu, CA

11/15/17 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. 336 (Engel), Reaffirming a strong commitment to the United States-Mexico partnership.
2. H. Res. 401 (Hastings), Urging China, South Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, India, and all nations to outlaw the dog and cat meat trade and to enforce existing laws against the trade;
 - a. Royce 79, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H. Res. 401.
3. H. Res. 407 (Grothman), Condemning the persecution of Christians around the world;
 - a. Royce 80, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H. Res. 407.
4. H.R. 1164 (Lamborn), Taylor Force Act;
 - a. Royce 3, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 1164;
 - i. Connolly 1, an amendment to Royce 3;
 - ii. Cicilline 105, an amendment to Royce 3.
5. H.R. 1415 (Smith), End Neglected Tropical Diseases Act;
 - a. Smith 58 to H.R. 1415;
 - b. Espallat 66 to H.R. 1415.
6. H.R. 2712 (Mast), Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act of 2017;
 - a. DeSantis 61 to H.R. 2712;
 - b. Schneider 53 to H.R. 2712;
 - c. Donovan 32 to H.R. 2712.
7. H.R. 3542 (Wilson), Hamas Human Shields Prevention Act;
 - a. Schneider 52 to H.R. 3542.
8. H.R. 3776 (Royce), Cyber Diplomacy Act of 2017;
 - a. Royce 76, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 3776;
 - i. Schneider 51 to Royce 76;
 - ii. Castro 59;
 - iii. McCaul 75.

9. H. Con. Res. 90 (Crowley), Condemning ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya and calling for an end to the attacks in and an immediate restoration of humanitarian access to the state of Rakhine in Burma.

- a. Engel 64, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H. Con. Res. 90.

The measures considered *en bloc* were agreed to by voice vote.

By unanimous consent, the measures were ordered favorably reported, as amended, to the House, and the Chairman was authorized to seek House consideration under suspension of the rules.

The Committee adjourned.



Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Statement for the Record
FA Markup – Various Measures
Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Thank you, Chairman Royce, for bringing forth these important measures.

Regarding the Palestinian Authority, I would like to remind this committee that the administration already has the tools it needs to withhold U.S. assistance to the Palestinian Authority and the West Bank and Gaza. In fact, every six months, the administration sends to this Committee a report that finds that the PA and the PLO are not living up to statutorily required commitments. That report is accompanied by a sanction – to downgrade the status of the PLO office in DC – which is then immediately waived. So what is the benefit – what does the U.S. get, and worse, what does that tell the Palestinian leadership? It shows that there is no willingness by the United States to hold them accountable for their support for violence or terror or other bad actions. And the cycle continues.

So here we are today, looking to add more tools to the toolbox. The Palestinian Authority, the PLO, Abu Mazen, Hamas – they should all be held accountable for their acts of terror or their support for terror, not rewarded. That is why I support the Taylor Force Act, though I believe that we should not allow for exceptions or carve outs in this legislation. Because that flexibility will be used to once again circumvent the spirit of the law and Congressional intent. The fact that the Palestinian leadership rewards terrorists and their families is sickening, but what's worse is the thought that the American taxpayers may be inadvertently supporting this. Every dollar we spend in the West Bank and Gaza – every time we pay off the Palestinian debt to Israel – we are freeing up Palestinian leadership to allocate money for its pay to slay program. Because money is fungible, we should not allocate one cent in the West Bank and Gaza until we know that Abu Mazen no longer pays money to terrorists and their families. I have no doubt that, given the choice between badly needed infrastructure projects or paying terrorists, Abu Mazen will forsake the Palestinian people to pay terrorists. But let that be his hard decision to make – don't let us make it easy for him to do both.

And in that same vein, Mr. Chairman, I fully support my colleague from Florida, Mr. Mast, and his bill – the Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act. Hamas is a terror organization, responsible for countless attacks against Israel, but also responsible for the deaths of at least 25 U.S. citizens. It is also a beneficiary of Turkey, Iran and Qatar – not exactly the confederacy of morality. Qatar has pledged nearly \$1.5 billion over the past five years for reconstruction efforts in Gaza. And if you think that Hamas hasn't diverted a good portion of this for its own use or benefit, and that Qatar doesn't know about that diversion, then I have a bridge to sell you. Again, this frees up Hamas to use the funds it has raised, or even the materials donated, to build tunnels into Israel – probably under UNRWA schools that somehow go undetected – or to carry out terror attacks. And that says nothing of the direct support Doha has provided Hamas and its leadership over the years. This bill will hopefully address that by allowing for sanctions against those who assist Hamas or any other Palestinian terror group. It's time we got serious about going after those that finance terrorists including in the gulf countries. And when it comes to

supporting Hamas, it has to start with Qatar, Iran and Turkey. So I fully support Mr. Mast's measure.

And finally, I support my good friend Joe Wilson's bill – the Hamas Human Shields Prevention Act – which I was proud to join as an original cosponsor. Three years ago, the House and Senate both passed unanimously a concurrent resolution I authored which denounced the use of human shields by Hamas and other terror groups. This bill takes that one step further by identifying and then sanctioning anyone affiliated with Hamas who uses human shields. This is an unconscionable act and gross violation of international laws and norms, and must not be allowed to continue. I thank Joe for this initiative, and I urge my colleagues to support these, and all other measures before us today.

Thank you.



Statement for the Record
Submitted by Mr. Connolly of Virginia

I want to thank the Chairman and Ranking Member for bringing this package of nine bills to the Committee for consideration. These measures condemn persecution of minority populations, support our allies, strengthen U.S. foreign assistance programs, and crack down on terrorism.

H.R. 1164, The Taylor Force Act

Taylor Force was a U.S. Army veteran killed by a Palestinian terrorist in Tel Aviv last year. The Palestinian Authority (PA) has a program to compensate individuals who commit acts of violence against Israelis, or the families of such individuals if the individual is deceased. Such a practice is abhorrent and worthy of our strongest condemnation. This bill would withhold U.S. assistance that directly benefits the PA unless the PA stops these payments for acts of terrorism, and takes other steps to end and publicly condemn violence against Israelis and Americans.

In FY 2016, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) provided more than \$260 million to the Palestinian people to support good governance, health, education, economic development, and humanitarian needs. USAID has strict vetting requirements for its programs to ensure that no terrorist groups intercept the funds. Moreover, annual appropriations bills routinely prohibit aid for Hamas or Hamas-controlled entities. The wholesale defunding of the Palestinian Authority is a misguided approach to address problems with Palestinian governance that undermine an ultimate resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This bill limits assistance to the West Bank and Gaza to programs that do not directly benefit the PA, and includes exceptions for payments to the East Jerusalem Hospital Network and assistance for wastewater treatment projects.

It has been longstanding bipartisan U.S. policy to support a two-state solution, which requires governments that can provide basic services for their people. In the case of the Palestinians, this is a work in progress. The United States and its allies are laying the groundwork by providing aid, in the hopes that a future, long-lasting peace is viable. Cutting off aid suddenly could have severe consequences for the future of Middle East peace.

I want to thank the Chairman and Ranking Member for working with me on an amendment that creates another exception for programs that provide vaccinations to children. This is a straightforward, common sense amendment to ensure that we do not cut off lifesaving immunization for vulnerable children. Children should have the same chance at survival, regardless of where they are born. Vaccination not only saves lives, but invests in children's future by improving their cognitive skills, physical strength, school performance, and productivity. Vaccination programs are also a critical component of U.S. national security. Public health should not be political because these diseases do not respect political boundaries.

In FY 2016, USAID's West Bank and Gaza assistance program included a \$500,000 vaccination program. Because this project works with the PA's Ministry of Health, this act would prohibit it. This

project supports universal vaccination of all infants in the West Bank and Gaza against rotavirus infection, which is the leading cause of severe and fatal diarrhea in children under five years of age. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), rotavirus is responsible for the deaths of more than 527,000 children each year globally. The World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) consider rotavirus vaccine essential for every child. As of October 1, 2017, 183,650 infants in both the West Bank and Gaza had received the first dose of the rotavirus vaccine and 158,598 had received the second dose. My amendment will ensure that this basic right is extended to all Palestinian babies in the West Bank and Gaza.

H. Con. Res. 90, Condemning ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya in Burma

I am proud to cosponsor this resolution, which calls on Burma's commander in chief to cease attacks on the Rohingya and restore humanitarian access to Rakhine State. This resolution is careful to strike the necessary balance between supporting Burma's democratic transition, while urging an end to violence and discrimination against Rohingya. The outsized power of the military within Burma's civilian government is an obstacle to Burma's democratic progress and hinders the government's attempts to prevent an explosion of sectarian violence in Rakhine State. Burma's government must cease its policy of keeping the minority Rohingya population stateless, displaced, and in a constant state of humanitarian crisis.

The recent wave of violence in Burma's northern Rakhine State has sparked the region's largest refugee crisis ever, and the world's fastest growing humanitarian crisis. An estimated 507,000 refugees and counting have fled to Bangladesh. The sheer volume has quickly overwhelmed Bangladesh's two formal refugee camps, and the vast majority of refugees are now living in fragile and unsanitary conditions in informal camps, roadside settlements, and even in uninhabited forest. Bangladesh has shown incredible generosity in welcoming these refugees, especially given that 350,000 Rohingya refugees were already in the country prior to this latest crisis.

The Rohingya are one of the most persecuted communities around the world. They have endured horrific abuses at the hand of the Burmese Government for far too long. As Bangladesh prepares to host more than one million Rohingya refugees, the United States must address both the urgent humanitarian needs and the long-term societal needs of the Rohingya people.

