

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 854
OFFERED BY MR. ENGEL OF NEW YORK**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Humanitarian Assist-
3 ance to the Venezuelan People Act of 2019”.

**4 SEC. 2. REPORT ON THE COORDINATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO
5 THE PEOPLE OF VENEZUELA INCLUDING
6 STRATEGY ON FUTURE EFFORTS.**

7
8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
9 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State,
10 in coordination with the Administrator of the United
11 States Agency for International Development, shall submit
12 to the appropriate congressional committees a report out-
13 lining the coordination of humanitarian assistance to the
14 people of Venezuela, both in Venezuela and throughout the
15 Western Hemisphere, with nongovernmental organizations
16 and international organizations operating in Venezuela or
17 countries in the region to alleviate the suffering of the
18 Venezuelan people.

1 (b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report re-
2 quired under subsection (a) shall include the following:

3 (1) A description of how and under what cir-
4 cumstances the following humanitarian assistance
5 has been provided:

6 (A) Public health commodities for Ven-
7 ezuelan health facilities and services, including
8 medicines on the World Health Organization’s
9 List of Essential Medicines, and basic medical
10 supplies and equipment.

11 (B) Basic food commodities and nutritional
12 supplements needed to address growing mal-
13 nutrition and improve food security for the peo-
14 ple of Venezuela, with a specific emphasis on
15 the most vulnerable populations.

16 (C) Technical assistance to ensure health
17 and food commodities are appropriately se-
18 lected, procured, and distributed, predominantly
19 through local nongovernmental organizations.

20 (2) An identification of United States Agency
21 for International Development and Department of
22 State best practices in delivering humanitarian as-
23 sistance, particularly with regard to food assistance,
24 and how such best practices are being utilized in

1 providing humanitarian assistance to Venezuela and
2 countries in the region.

3 (3) A description of current and anticipated
4 challenges to distributing humanitarian assistance in
5 Venezuela and countries hosting Venezuelan mi-
6 grants.

7 (4) A description of efforts to ensure that hu-
8 manitarian and development assistance for Ven-
9 ezuelans is coordinated with other United States bi-
10 lateral assistance in the Western Hemisphere and
11 does not result in duplication or omission of such
12 other bilateral assistance.

13 (5) A description of how the pre-positioning and
14 distribution of humanitarian assistance is being
15 monitored and evaluated, the number of beneficiaries
16 reached, an assessment of how humanitarian and de-
17 velopment assistance is benefitting Venezuelan mi-
18 grants inside and outside of the country, and what
19 additional staff may be necessary to manage such
20 assistance.

21 (6) A strategy for future efforts to provide hu-
22 manitarian assistance to the people of Venezuela
23 that includes a description of future efforts regard-
24 ing the matters described in paragraphs (1) through
25 (5).

1 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF CONGRESS.**

2 Congress strongly condemns all violent actions by the
3 Maduro regime and Venezuela's security forces to block
4 and divert humanitarian assistance from entering Ven-
5 ezuela.

6 **SEC. 4. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT ON UNITED**
7 **STATES EFFORTS TO PROVIDE HUMANI-**
8 **TARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE OF**
9 **VENEZUELA.**

10 Not later than one year after the date of the enact-
11 ment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United
12 States shall submit to appropriate congressional commit-
13 tees a report assessing the impact of United States hu-
14 manitarian assistance on the people of Venezuela, both in
15 Venezuela and throughout the Western Hemisphere, in-
16 cluding the total number of beneficiaries reached.

17 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR HUMAN-**
18 **ITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE OF**
19 **VENEZUELA.**

20 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President is authorized to
21 provide humanitarian assistance to support the people of
22 Venezuela, both in Venezuela and throughout the Western
23 Hemisphere.

24 (b) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Con-
25 gress that not less than \$150,000,000 is necessary for

1 each of fiscal years 2020 and 2021 to carry out this sec-
2 tion.

3 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
4 authorized to be appropriated to the President such sums
5 as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2020 and
6 2021 to carry out this section.

7 **SEC. 6. DEFINITION.**

8 In this Act:

9 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
10 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
11 mittees” means the following:

12 (A) The Committee on Foreign Affairs of
13 the House of Representatives.

14 (B) The Committee on Appropriations of
15 the House of Representatives.

16 (C) The Committee on Foreign Relations
17 of the Senate.

18 (D) The Committee on Appropriations of
19 the Senate.

20 (2) VENEZUELAN SECURITY FORCES.—The
21 term “Venezuelan security forces” includes the fol-
22 lowing:

23 (A) The Bolivarian National Armed
24 Forces, including the Bolivarian National
25 Guard.

1 (B) The Bolivarian National Intelligence
2 Service.

3 (C) The Bolivarian National Police.

4 (D) The Bureau for Scientific, Criminal
5 and Forensic Investigations of the Ministry of
6 Interior, Justice, and Peace.

