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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a strategy to support a democratic transition in Venezuela, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. MOSKOWITZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a strategy to support a democratic transition in Venezuela, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Venezuela Democratic Transition Strategy Act”.

SEC. 2. STRATEGY TO SUPPORT A DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION IN VENEZUELA.

(a) STRATEGY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a comprehensive strategy to support a democratic transition in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The strategy required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a description of United States diplomatic efforts to support a democratic transition in Venezuela;

(B) a plan to prioritize the release of all individuals arbitrarily detained in Venezuela, including through diplomatic engagement, coordination with international partners, and support for monitoring and documenting cases of political detention;

(C) a description of United States efforts to curb foreign authoritarian influence, including that of Cuba, Russia, Iran, and the People’s Republic of China, within the military, security services, and government of Venezuela;

(D) a plan for the use of United States foreign assistance to support the Venezuelan people, including humanitarian assistance, democracy and governance programming, and efforts to strengthen access to basic services; and

(E) a description of efforts to support Venezuelan civil society, including independent media and journalists, human rights defenders, and other nongovernmental actors working to advance democracy, the rule of law and accountability for atrocities and gross violations of internationally recognized human rights.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the submission of the strategy required in subsection (a), and annually thereafter for 2 years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate

congressional committees a report describing progress made in implementing such strategy and any recommended changes to such strategy.

(c) CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall consult with the appropriate congressional committees on a semi-annual basis regarding the strategy required in subsection (a) and the implementation of such strategy.

(d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

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

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