

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5126

To increase the maximum reward amount for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Nicolás Maduro Moros to \$100,000,000, which shall be paid out by the Federal Government from all assets being withheld from Nicolás Maduro Moros, officials of the Maduro regime and their co-conspirators.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. CRUZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To increase the maximum reward amount for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Nicolás Maduro Moros to \$100,000,000, which shall be paid out by the Federal Government from all assets being withheld from Nicolás Maduro Moros, officials of the Maduro regime and their co-conspirators.

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 TITLES.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Securing Timely Op-
5 portunities for Payment and Maximizing Awards for De-

1 taining Unlawful Regime Officials Act of 2024” or the
2 “STOP MADURO Act”.

3 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) In 2020, the Trump administration charged
6 Venezuela regime leader Nicolás Maduro Moros,
7 along with other regime officials with—

8 (A) participating in a narco-terrorism con-
9 spiracy, which carries a 20-year mandatory
10 minimum sentence and a maximum sentence of
11 life in prison;

12 (B) conspiring to import cocaine into the
13 United States, which carries a 10-year manda-
14 tory minimum sentence and a maximum sen-
15 tence of life in prison;

16 (C) using and carrying machine guns and
17 destructive devices during, and in relation to,
18 and possessing machine guns and destructive
19 devices in furtherance of, the narco-terrorism
20 and cocaine-importation conspiracies, which
21 carries a 30-year mandatory minimum sentence
22 and a maximum sentence of life in prison; and

23 (D) conspiring to use and carry machine
24 guns and destructive devices during, and in re-
25 lation to, and to possess machine guns and de-

1 structive devices in furtherance of, the narco-
2 terrorism and cocaine-importation conspiracies,
3 which carries a maximum sentence of life in
4 prison.

5 (2) On March 26, 2020, United States Attorney
6 Geoffrey S. Berman of the Southern District of New
7 York stated in a press release, “Today we announce
8 criminal charges against Nicolás Maduro for run-
9 ning, together with his top lieutenants, a narco-ter-
10 rorism partnership with the FARC for the past
11 twenty years. The scope and magnitude of the drug
12 trafficking alleged was made possible only because
13 Maduro and others corrupted the institutions of
14 Venezuela and provided political and military protec-
15 tion for the rampant narco-terrorism crimes de-
16 scribed in our charges. As alleged, Maduro and the
17 other defendants expressly intended to flood the
18 United States with cocaine in order to undermine
19 the health and wellbeing of our nation. Maduro very
20 deliberately deployed cocaine as a weapon.”.

21 (3) The press release included a statement from
22 United States Attorney Ariana Fajardo Orshan of
23 the Southern District of Florida, who stated, “In the
24 last couple of years, the US Attorney’s Office in
25 South Florida and its federal law enforcement part-

1 ners have united to bring dozens of criminal charges
2 against high-level regime officials and co-conspira-
3 tors resulting in seizures of approximately \$450 mil-
4 lion dollars.”.

5 **SEC. 3. INCREASING THE MAXIMUM REWARD AMOUNT FOR**
6 **INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST AND**
7 **CONVICTION OF NICOLÁS MADURO MOROS**
8 **THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE RE-**
9 **WARDS PROGRAM.**

10 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—Notwithstanding section
11 36(e)(1) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act
12 of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708(e)(1)), the Secretary of State
13 may pay, to one or more individuals who furnish informa-
14 tion described in section 36(b) of such Act that directly
15 leads to the arrest and conviction of Nicolás Maduro
16 Moros, a reward of up to \$100,000,000.

17 (b) SOURCE OF FUNDS.—The payment authorized
18 under subsection (a) shall be derived exclusively from the
19 liquidation of assets being withheld from Nicolás Maduro
20 Moros, officials of the Maduro regime, and their co-con-
21 spirators by the President or by the Office of Foreign As-
22 sets Control of the Department of the Treasury pursuant
23 to—

24 (1) the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation
25 Act (21 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.);

1 (2) section 5 of the Venezuela Defense of
2 Human Rights and Civil Society Act of 2014 (50
3 U.S.C. 1701 note);

4 (3) Executive Order 13692 (50 U.S.C. 1701
5 note; relating to blocking of property and suspending
6 entry of certain persons contributing to the situation
7 in Venezuela);

8 (4) Executive Order 13850 (relating to blocking
9 property of additional persons contributing to the
10 situation in Venezuela);

11 (5) Executive Order 13884 (50 U.S.C. 1701
12 note; relating to blocking property of the Govern-
13 ment of Venezuela); or

14 (6) any other sanctions provision.

○