

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2643

To require the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to Congress regarding the ties between criminal gangs and political and economic elites in Haiti and impose sanctions on political and economic elites involved in such criminal activities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 3, 2025

Mr. MEEKS (for himself, Mr. McCAUL, and Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK) 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 require the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to Congress regarding the ties between criminal gangs and political and economic elites in Haiti and impose sanctions on political and economic elites involved in such criminal activities.

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 “Haiti Criminal Collu-
5 sion Transparency Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
3 date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter
4 for the following 5 years, the Secretary of State, in coordi-
5 nation with other Federal agencies as appropriate, shall
6 submit a report to the appropriate congressional commit-
7 tees regarding the ties between criminal gangs and polit-
8 ical and economic elites in Haiti. The report shall—

9 (1) identify and list prominent criminal gangs
10 in Haiti as well as the leaders thereof, and describe
11 their criminal activities including coercive recruit-
12 ment, and identify their primary geographic areas of
13 operations;

14 (2) list Haitian political and economic elites
15 who have direct links to criminal gangs and any or-
16 ganizations or entities controlled by these elites;

17 (3) describe in detail the relationship between
18 the individuals listed pursuant to paragraph (2) and
19 the criminal gangs identified pursuant to paragraph
20 (1);

21 (4) describe in detail how Haitian political and
22 economic elites use their relationships with criminal
23 gangs to advance their political and economic inter-
24 ests and agenda;

1 (5) include a list of each criminal organization
2 assessed to be trafficking Haitians and other indi-
3 viduals to the United States border;

4 (6) include an assessment of ties between polit-
5 ical and economic elites, criminal gangs in Haiti,
6 and transnational criminal organizations;

7 (7) include an assessment of how the nature
8 and extent of collusion between political and eco-
9 nomic elites and criminal gangs threatens the Hai-
10 tian people and United States national interests and
11 activities in the country; and

12 (8) include an assessment of potential actions
13 that the Government of the United States could take
14 to address the findings made pursuant to paragraph
15 (6).

16 (b) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required under
17 subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but
18 may include a classified annex.

19 **SEC. 3. SANCTIONS.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
21 submission of the report to the appropriate committees,
22 the President shall impose the sanctions described in sub-
23 section (b) with respect to each foreign person identified
24 pursuant to sections 2(a)(1) and 2(a)(2).

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

3 (1) PROPERTY BLOCKING.—Notwithstanding
4 the requirements of section 202 of the International
5 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701),
6 the President may exercise of all powers granted to
7 the President by that Act to the extent necessary to
8 block and prohibit all transactions in all property
9 and interests in property of the foreign person if
10 such property and interests in property are in the
11 United States, come within the United States, or are
12 or come within the possession or control of a United
13 States person.

14 (2) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—

15 (A) IN GENERAL.—An alien who the Sec-
16 retary of State or the Secretary of Homeland
17 Security (or a designee of one of such Secre-
18 taries) knows, or has reason to believe, is de-
19 scribed in subsection (a) is—

20 (i) inadmissible to the United States;

21 (ii) ineligible for a visa or other docu-
22 mentation to enter the United States; and

23 (iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted
24 or paroled into the United States or to re-
25 ceive any other benefit under the Immigra-

tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

(B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The issuing consular officer, the Secretary of State, or the Secretary of Homeland Security (or a designee of one of such Secretaries) shall, in accordance with section 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)), revoke any visa or other entry documentation issued to an alien described in subsection (a) regardless of when the visa or other entry documentation is issued.

(ii) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—A revocation under clause (i) shall take effect immediately and shall automatically cancel any other valid visa or entry documentation that is in the alien's possession.

(c) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.—Sanctions under this section shall not apply with respect to the admission of an alien if admitting or paroling the alien into the United States is necessary to permit the United

1 States to comply with the Agreement regarding the
2 Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake
3 Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force No-
4 vember 21, 1947, between the United Nations and
5 the United States, or other applicable international
6 obligations.

7 (2) EXCEPTION RELATING TO THE PROVISION
8 OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.—Sanctions under
9 this section may not be imposed with respect to
10 transactions or the facilitation of transactions for—

11 (A) the sale of agricultural commodities,
12 food, medicine, or medical devices to Haiti;

13 (B) the provision of humanitarian assist-
14 ance to the people of Haiti;

15 (C) financial transactions relating to hu-
16 manitarian assistance or for humanitarian pur-
17 poses in Haiti; or

18 (D) transporting goods or services that are
19 necessary to carry out operations relating to
20 humanitarian assistance or humanitarian pur-
21 poses in Haiti.

22 (d) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—

23 (1) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may ex-
24 ercise all authorities provided to the President under
25 sections 203 and 205 of the International Emer-

1 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and
2 1704) to carry out this subtitle.

3 (2) PENALTIES.—The penalties provided for in
4 of section 206(b) and (c) of the International Emer-
5 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) shall
6 apply to a person that violates, attempts to violate,
7 conspires to violate, or causes a violation of regula-
8 tions promulgated to carry out this section to the
9 same extent that such penalties apply to a person
10 that commits an unlawful act described in section
11 206(a) of that Act.

12 (e) WAIVER.—The President may waive the applica-
13 tion of sanctions or restrictions imposed with respect to
14 a foreign person under this section if the President cer-
15 tifies to the appropriate congressional committees that the
16 waiver is important to the national interests of the United
17 States.

18 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

19 In this Act:

20 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
21 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
22 mittees” means—

23 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
24 the House of Representatives;

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

3 (C) the Committee on Financial Services of
4 the House of Representatives;

5 (D) the Committee on Banking, Housing,
6 and Urban Affairs of the Senate;

7 (E) the House Permanent Select Com-
8 mittee on Intelligence;

9 (F) the Senate Select Committee on Intel-
10 ligence;

11 (G) the Committee on Appropriations of
12 the House of Representatives; and

13 (H) the Committee on Appropriations of
14 the Senate.

15 (1) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign per-
16 son” means an individual or entity that is not a
17 United States person.

18 (2) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term
19 “United States person” means—

20 (A) a United States citizen;

21 (B) a permanent resident alien of the
22 United States; or

23 (C) an entity organized under the laws of
24 the United States or of any jurisdiction within

1 the United States, including a foreign branch of
2 such an entity.

3 (3) ECONOMIC ELITES.—The term “economic
4 elites” means board members, officers, and execu-
5 tives of groups, committees, corporations, or other
6 entities that exert substantial influence or control
7 over Haiti’s economy, infrastructure, or particular
8 industries.

9 (4) POLITICAL ELITES.—The term “political
10 elites” means current and former government offi-
11 cials and their high-level staff, political party lead-
12 ers, and political committee leaders.

13 **SEC. 5. SUNSET.**

14 The authorities provided by this Act shall cease to
15 have effect on the date that is 5 years after the date of
16 the enactment of this Act.

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