

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8704

To impose sanctions with respect to any foreign person that violates or knowingly undermines the Washington Accords.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 7, 2026

Mr. OLSZEWSKI 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 with respect to any foreign person that violates or knowingly undermines the Washington Accords.

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 “Sanctioning Threats
5 and Aggression to Bolster Lasting Enforcement and Dis-
6 rupt Regional Conflict Act” or “STABLE DRC Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) The Rwandan Defense Forces have provided
2 sustained military support for the March 23rd Move-
3 ment’s (M23) ongoing revolt in the Democratic Re-
4 public of the Congo’s North and South Kivu prov-
5 inces.

6 (2) The armed forces of the Democratic Repub-
7 lic of the Congo continue to support the Democratic
8 Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), an
9 armed group whose founders took part in the 1994
10 Rwandan genocide.

11 (3) Both the FDLR and M23 have committed
12 numerous war crimes and human rights abuses.
13 This includes forcibly recruiting children into their
14 ranks and engaging in ethnic cleansing, rape, and
15 summary executions.

16 (4) The June 2025 Peace Agreement between
17 the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda
18 (in this Act referred to as the “Washington Ac-
19 cords”) stipulates that each party will respect the
20 other’s sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well
21 as refrain from engaging in hostile acts that threat-
22 en the peace and security of the other signatory
23 state.

1 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

2 It shall be the policy of the United States Govern-
3 ment—

4 (1) to recognize the independence, sovereignty,
5 and territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic
6 of the Congo and Rwanda;

7 (2) to regard the conflict in eastern Democratic
8 Republic of the Congo as a direct threat to regional
9 peace and stability, as well as to United States stra-
10 tegic interests in Central Africa; and

11 (3) to use sanctions as a tool to support the
12 Washington Accords and to fully end the conflict be-
13 tween the Democratic Republic of the Congo, M23,
14 and Rwanda.

15 **SEC. 4. SANCTIONS.**

16 (a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—Beginning on the date of the
17 enactment of this Act, the President is authorized to im-
18 pose the sanctions described in subsection (b) with respect
19 to any foreign person that violates or knowingly under-
20 mines the Washington Accords.

21 (b) **SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.**—The sanctions de-
22 scribed in this subsection are the following: —

23 (1) **ASSET BLOCKING.**—Notwithstanding the re-
24 quirements of section 202 of the International
25 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701),
26 the President may exercise of all powers granted to

1 the President by that Act to the extent necessary to
2 block and prohibit all transactions in all property
3 and interests in property of the foreign person if
4 such property and interests in property are in the
5 United States, come within the United States, or are
6 or come within the possession or control of a United
7 States person.

8 (2) ALIENS INADMISSIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMIS-
9 SION, OR PAROLE.—

10 (A) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—In
11 the case of an alien subject to sanctions pursu-
12 ant to subsection (a), the alien is—

13 (i) inadmissible to the United States;

14 (ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other
15 documentation to enter the United States;
16 and

17 (iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted
18 or paroled into the United States or to re-
19 ceive any other benefit under the Immigra-
20 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et
21 seq.).

22 (B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

23 (i) IN GENERAL.—The visa or other
24 entry documentation of an alien described
25 in subparagraph (A) shall be revoked, re-

1 gardless of when such visa or other entry
2 documentation was issued.

3 (ii) IMMEDIATE EFFECT.—A revoca-
4 tion under clause (i) shall—

5 (I) take effect in accordance with
6 section 221(i) of the Immigration and
7 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i));
8 and

9 (II) cancel any other valid visa or
10 entry documentation that is in the
11 alien's possession.

12 (c) EXCEPTIONS.—

13 (1) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH INTER-
14 NATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.—Sanctions under sub-
15 section (b)(2) shall not apply with respect to the ad-
16 mission of an alien if admitting or paroling the alien
17 into the United States is necessary to permit the
18 United States to comply with the Agreement regard-
19 ing the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed
20 at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into
21 force November 21, 1947, between the United Na-
22 tions and the United States, or other applicable
23 international obligations.

24 (2) EXCEPTION RELATING TO THE PROVISION
25 OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.—Sanctions under

1 this section may not be imposed with respect to
2 transactions or the facilitation of transactions for—

3 (A) the sale of agricultural commodities,
4 food, medicine, or medical devices;

5 (B) the provision of humanitarian assist-
6 ance;

7 (C) financial transactions relating to hu-
8 manitarian assistance; or

9 (D) transporting goods or services that are
10 necessary to carry out operations relating to
11 humanitarian assistance.

12 (3) EXCEPTION FOR INTELLIGENCE, LAW EN-
13 FORCEMENT, AND NATIONAL SECURITY ACTIVI-
14 TIES.—Sanctions under this section shall not apply
15 to any authorized intelligence, law enforcement, or
16 national security activities of the United States.

17 (d) SANCTIONS PROGRAM.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall establish
19 or direct the establishment of a program to carry
20 out the authority under this section.

21 (2) EXISTING AUTHORITIES.—The President is
22 authorized to impose sanctions under this section
23 with respect to any foreign person described in sub-
24 section (a) that is also subject to sanctions under
25 any other provision of law.

1 (e) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—

2 (1) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may ex-
3 ercise all authorities provided to the President under
4 sections 203 and 205 of the International Emer-
5 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and
6 1704) to carry out this section.

7 (2) PENALTIES.—The penalties provided for in
8 subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the Inter-
9 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50
10 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a person that violates,
11 attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a
12 violation of regulations promulgated to carry out
13 this section to the same extent that such penalties
14 apply to a person who commits an unlawful act de-
15 scribed in section 206(a) of that Act.

16 (f) SUNSET.—The authority to impose sanctions
17 under this section shall terminate on the date that is seven
18 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

19 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

20 (1) the term “appropriate congressional com-
21 mittees” means the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
22 the House of Representatives and the Committee on
23 Foreign Relations of the Senate;

1 (2) the term “foreign person” means an indi-
2 vidual or entity that is not a United States person;
3 and

4 (3) the term “United States person” means—

5 (A) a United States citizen;

6 (B) a permanent resident alien of the
7 United States;

8 (C) an entity organized under the laws of
9 the United States or of any jurisdiction within
10 the United States, including a foreign branch of
11 such an entity; or

12 (D) a person in the United States.

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