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VARIOUS MEASURES

MARKUP

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

H. Res. 374, H. Res. 650, H. Con. Res. 129, S. 1252 and S. 284

MAY 18, 2016

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VARIOUS MEASURES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2016

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC.

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:06 a.m., in room 2172, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Edward Royce (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Chairman ROYCE. This committee will come to order.

Pursuant to notice, we meet today to mark up several bipartisan measures. So, without objection, all members may have 5 days to submit statements or extraneous material into the record.

All members were notified yesterday that we intend to consider our first four measures en bloc. And so, without objection, the following items previously provided to members will be considered en bloc and they are considered as read.

We have House Resolution 374, regarding the partnership between Singapore and the United States, and the Engel 78, an amendment in the nature of a substitute. We have House Resolution 650, regarding the safety and security of Iranian dissidents living in Camp Liberty in Iraq, and the Engel amendment 80 to House Resolution 650. We have House Concurrent Resolution 129, regarding the dignity, comfort, and security of surviving Holocaust victims, and the Ros-Lehtinen amendment 45 to House Concurrent Resolution 129. And then we have the Senate bill 1252, the Senate-passed Global Food Security Act.

[The information referred to follows:]

IV

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 374

Recognizing the 50th anniversary of Singaporean independence and reaffirming Singapore's close partnership with the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 2015

Mr. HECK of Washington (for himself, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. SALMON, Mr. VELA, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. RUSSELL, Mr. KEATING, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

---

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the 50th anniversary of Singaporean independence and reaffirming Singapore's close partnership with the United States.

Whereas the Republic of Singapore became independent on August 9, 1965;

Whereas Singapore and the United States share founding principles, including belief in meritocracy and equality of opportunity;

Whereas Singapore has been an early and continued supporter of the United States engagement in Asia to safeguard the peace, stability, and prosperity of the region;

Whereas Singapore underwent rapid growth following independence, with approximate per capita Gross Domestic

Product growing from approximately $500 in 1965 to approximately $56,000 in 2014;

Whereas the United States and Singapore concluded the United States-Singapore Free Trade Agreement in 2004, the first bilateral trade agreement between the United States and an Asian country;

Whereas Singapore has become a major United States trading partner, with $65 billion in bilateral goods and services trade in 2013, as well as more than $154.4 billion in United States Foreign Direct Investment in Singapore and $20 billion of Singaporean Foreign Direct Investment in the United States;

Whereas Singapore was a founding member of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in 1967 and remains a key partner with the United States in the East Asia Summit;

Whereas the United States and Singapore established the United States-Singapore Third Country Training Program in 2012 to provide technical and capacity-building assistance to recipient countries;

Whereas Singapore provided the United States access to its military facilities with the 1990 Memorandum of Understanding, to which an addendum was added in 1998, supporting the continued security presence of the United States in Southeast Asia;

Whereas the United States and Singapore concluded a Strategic Framework Agreement in 2005 which recognized Singapore as a "Major Security Cooperation Partner" of the United States;

Whereas Singapore facilitates the rotational deployment of Littoral Combat Ships from the United States at Changi Naval Base;

Whereas the United States currently hosts four Republic of Singapore Air Force training detachments, comprising the Republic of Singapore Air Force's F–15SG and F–16 fighter jets, as well as Apache and Chinook helicopters, at bases in Arizona, Idaho, and Texas;

Whereas the Singapore Armed Forces supported multinational reconstruction efforts in Iraq from 2003 to 2008, aided reconstruction and stabilization efforts in Afghanistan from 2007 to 2013, deployed alongside the United States as part of Combined Task Force 151 (CTF 151) since 2009, including taking command of CTF 151, to combat piracy in the Gulf of Aden and joined the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL in November 2014; and

Whereas Singapore will celebrate its 50th anniversary of independence in 2015 and commemorate 50 years of bilateral relations with the United States in 2016: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) sends its warm congratulations to the people of Singapore as they celebrate 50 years of independence and nation-building; and

(2) reaffirms the close partnership between the United States and Singapore ahead of the 50th an-

niversary of the establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations.

○

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

TO H. RES. 374

OFFERED BY MR. ENGEL OF NEW YORK

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas the Republic of Singapore became independent on August 9, 1965, and the United States recognized Singapore's statehood in the same year;

Whereas Singapore and the United States established formal diplomatic relations in 1966;

Whereas under the leadership of its first Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore became an early and continued supporter of United States engagement in Asia to safeguard the peace, stability, and prosperity of the region;

Whereas the United States and Singapore implemented the United States-Singapore Free Trade Agreement, the first bilateral trade agreement between the United States and an Asian country, in 2004;

Whereas Singapore and the United States are major trading partners, with $64 billion in bilateral goods and services trade in 2014 and a United States trade surplus in both goods and services;

Whereas Singapore provided the United States access to its military facilities with a 1990 Memorandum of Understanding, supporting the continued security presence of the United States in Southeast Asia;

Whereas the United States and Singapore concluded a Strategic Framework Agreement in 2005 which recognized

Singapore as a "Major Security Cooperation Partner" of the United States;

Whereas the United States and Singapore signed an enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement in 2015, expanding dialogue and cooperation in areas such as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, cyber defense, biosecurity, and public communications;

Whereas Singapore facilitates the rotational deployment of United States Navy Littoral Combat Ships at its Changi Naval Base;

Whereas the United States currently hosts four Republic of Singapore Air Force training detachments, comprising the Republic of Singapore Air Force's F–15SG and F–16 fighter jets, as well as Apache and Chinook helicopters, at bases in Arizona, Idaho and Texas;

Whereas the United States-Singapore Third Country Training Program, established in 2012 and renewed in 2015, provides regional technical and capacity-building assistance in a wide variety of areas to assist recipient countries in reaching their development goals;

Whereas Singapore was a founding member of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in 1967 and remains a key partner of the United States in ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the East Asia Summit, ASEAN Regional Forum and the ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting Plus;

Whereas Singapore will be home to a United States-ASEAN Connect Center, an initiative announced at the United States-ASEAN summit in February 2016 to facilitate United States-ASEAN engagement and cooperation on energy, innovation, and entrepreneurship;

Whereas Singapore has played a critical role in enhancing shared maritime domain awareness in Southeast Asia through the establishment of the Republic of Singapore Navy's Information Fusion Center, to facilitate information-sharing and collaboration with partners including the United States against maritime security threats, and through the deployment of United States aircraft at Paya Lebar Air Base;

Whereas Singapore has been a cybersecurity leader in the ASEAN region, through the unified Cyber Security Agency, as the convener of the annual ASEAN CERT Incident Drill, and as host of the INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation;

Whereas Singapore was the first Southeast Asian country to join the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL in November 2014 and has contributed an air refueling tanker, imagery analysis teams, and planning and liaison officers; and

Whereas Singapore has supported counterterrorism efforts, through the sharing of domestic practices, as well as participation in the White House Summit on Countering Violent Extremism in February 2015, and hosting the East Asia Summit Symposium on Religious Rehabilitation and Social Reintegration in April 2015: Now, therefore, be it

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

That the House of Representatives—

(1) affirms the importance of the United States-Singapore strategic partnership in securing

regional peace and stability, including through rotational basing and logistical support arrangements which enhance the United States presence in Southeast Asia;

(2) applauds the Republic of Singapore's leadership in counterterrorism, including the deployment of military assets as part of the anti-ISIL coalition and innovative counterterrorism efforts within the Asia-Pacific region;

(3) anticipates the deepening of the security relationship following the signing of an enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement in Washington on December 7, 2015, and welcomes further cooperation in areas such as cybersecurity, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and defense technology;

(4) recognizes the vitality of the United States-Singapore bilateral trade and investment relationship;

(5) supports continued close cooperation between the United States and Singapore, through both bilateral initiatives such as the United States-Singapore Third Country Training Program, and multilateral initiatives such as United States-ASEAN Connect announced at the recent United States-ASEAN Summit in Sunnylands, to build ca-

pacity for commercial engagement, energy development, innovation, trade facilitation, and to achieve development goals in the Asia-Pacific region; and

(6) urges the Administration, to continue its support of multilateral institutions and fora such as the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, East Asia Summit, ASEAN Regional Forum, and the ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting Plus, working in close cooperation with partners, such as the Republic of Singapore, who share a commitment to an inclusive, rules-based regional architecture.

Amend the title so as to read: "A resolution reaffirming Singapore's strategic partnership with the United States, encompassing broad and robust economic, military-to-military, law enforcement, and counterterrorism cooperation.".

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 650

Providing for the safety and security of the Iranian dissidents living in Camp Liberty/Hurriya in Iraq and awaiting resettlement by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and permitting use of their own assets to assist in their resettlement.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas (for himself, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. SHERMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

---

RESOLUTION

Providing for the safety and security of the Iranian dissidents living in Camp Liberty/Hurriya in Iraq and awaiting resettlement by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and permitting use of their own assets to assist in their resettlement.

Whereas approximately 2,000 unarmed members of the Iranian opposition movement, the Mujahedin-e Khalq (MEK) reside in Camp Liberty/Hurriya awaiting resettlement by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), which has recognized them as "persons of concern" and "in need of international protection";

Whereas these residents oppose the clerical regime in Tehran and, as a result of that opposition, live in constant danger of attack from pro-Iranian forces;

Whereas these residents moved from the former Camp Ashraf to Camp Liberty/Hurriya, which is adjacent to the Baghdad International Airport, following a December 2011 Memorandum of Understanding reached between the United Nations and the Government of Iraq, and brokered by the Government of the United States, for the express purpose of resettling them as refugees to third countries;

Whereas the residents left behind valuable personal property and assets at Camp Ashraf, under the explicit agreement that they would retain title to such property and assets;

Whereas in 2004, the United States recognized the residents as "protected persons" under the Fourth Geneva Convention and pledged to protect the residents until their final disposition;

Whereas the United States turned over control and responsibility of the residents to the Government of Iraq in early 2009, as reflected in the United States Embassy Statement on Transfer of Security Responsibility for Camp Ashraf of December 28, 2008;

Whereas the residents have come under attack several times since their relocation to Camp Liberty/Hurriya;

Whereas Iraqi forces who bear responsibility for guarding the camp have failed to protect its residents from repeated attacks;

Whereas most recently, during the evening of October 29, 2015, the residents of Camp Liberty came under rocket

attack, with 80 missiles killing 24 residents and injuring dozens more;

Whereas Secretary of State John Kerry strongly condemned the October 29 attack, describing it as a "brutal, senseless terrorist attack", and calling for "find[ing] the perpetrators and hold[ing] them accountable for the attack";

Whereas the United Nations Secretary-General strongly condemned these attacks and called for the perpetrators to be brought to justice;

Whereas the UNHCR described the attacks as "most deplorable";

Whereas 140 residents have died as a result of the attacks, 7 have been abducted, and more than 1,300 wounded;

Whereas groups affiliated with the Iranian regime's Revolutionary Guard Qods Force have claimed responsibility for attacks and warned that more would follow if the residents did not leave Iraq;

Whereas Iraqi security forces are permanently stationed around Camp Liberty/Hurriya, despite their past violence against the unarmed residents;

Whereas the security of Camp Liberty/Hurriya is clearly inadequate to protect the residents from armed assault and rocket attack;

Whereas the residents are opposed to the development in Iran of a nuclear weapons capability and have provided valuable intelligence concerning efforts by the Government of Iran both to establish a nuclear weapons capability and to supply paramilitary groups in Iraq with Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and Explosively Formed Projectiles (EFPs);

Whereas the United States Department of State in its August 29, 2012, statement stated, "The United States also reiterates its commitment to support the safety and security of the residents throughout the process of their relocation outside of Iraq";

Whereas hundreds of the residents have been resettled to Europe;

Whereas the Government of Albania has generously resettled hundreds of residents from Camp Liberty/Hurriya in Iraq to Albania in demonstration of international solidarity in caring for a vulnerable population; and

Whereas the residents have been unable to access or sell their property remaining at Camp Ashraf for the purposes of supporting themselves or funding their resettlement: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns the attacks against the residents of Camp Liberty/Hurriya;

(2) urges the Government of Iraq to bring to justice those responsible for the attacks;

(3) calls on the Government of the United States to work with the Government of Iraq to bring Camp Liberty/Hurriya to the same level of protection as that of the adjacent Baghdad International Airport to deter future attacks on the camp and ensure safety and security of the residents;

(4) calls on the Government of the United States to work with the Government of Iraq to en-

sure that the personnel responsible for providing for the security of Camp Liberty/Hurriya are adequately equipped and vetted to ensure that they are not now, and have not been previously affiliated, directly or indirectly, with the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Qods Force or other organizations responsible for past attacks;

(5) urges the Government of Iraq to ensure access to food, clean water, medical assistance, electricity, equipment, and such supplies that are necessary to sustain the residents;

(6) calls on the Government of the United States to work with the Government of Iraq to make all reasonable efforts to facilitate the residents' access and ability to sell their property and assets remaining at Camp Ashraf for the purpose of funding their costs of living and resettlement out of Iraq;

(7) urges the Government of the United States to work with the Government of Iraq and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to ensure that Camp Liberty/Hurriya residents, without exception, are safely resettled outside of Iraq and Iran according to the terms of the December 2011 Memorandum of Understanding; and

(8) calls on the Government of the United States to work with the Government of Albania and the UNHCR to facilitate and provide suitable locations for housing of the remaining Camp Liberty/Hurriya residents in Albania until such time when the residents become self-sufficient in meeting their residential needs in Albania.

○

AMENDMENT TO H.RES. 650

OFFERED BY MR. ENGEL OF NEW YORK

In the 20th whereas clause strike "hundreds of" and insert "approximately 1,000".

In the 20th whereas clause, after the second instance of the term "Albania" insert ", and has committed to resettle an additional 2,000 residents,".

Page 5, line 16, after "Ashraf" insert "and Camp Liberty".

Page 5, line 24, strike "and" at the end.

Page 5, after line 24, insert the following new paragraph:

(8) commends the Government of Albania and the Albanian people for their generous resettlement of the residents of Camp Liberty/Hurriya; and

Page 6, line 1, strike "(8)" and insert "(9)".

Page 6, line 3, after "to" insert "continue to".

☒

IV

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 129

Expressing support for the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust victims live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years, and urging the Federal Republic of Germany to reaffirm its commitment to this goal through a financial commitment to comprehensively address the unique health and welfare needs of vulnerable Holocaust victims, including home care and other medically prescribed needs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 2016

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself and Mr. DEUTCH) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

---

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust victims live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years, and urging the Federal Republic of Germany to reaffirm its commitment to this goal through a financial commitment to comprehensively address the unique health and welfare needs of vulnerable Holocaust victims, including home care and other medically prescribed needs.

Whereas the annihilation of 6,000,000 Jews during the Holocaust and the murder of millions of others by the Nazi German state constitutes one of the most tragic and heinous crimes in human history;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of Jews survived persecution by the Nazi regime despite being imprisoned, subjected to slave labor, moved into ghettos, forced to live in hiding or under false identity, forced to live under curfew, or required to wear the "yellow star";

Whereas in fear of the oncoming Nazi Einsatzgruppen ("Nazi Killing Squads") and the likelihood of extermination, hundreds of thousands of Jewish Nazi victims fled for their lives;

Whereas whatever type of persecution suffered by Jews during the Holocaust, the common thread that binds these Holocaust victims is that they were targeted for extermination and that they lived with a constant fear for their lives and the lives of their loved ones;

Whereas Holocaust victims immigrated to the United States from Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, and the former Soviet Union from 1933 to today;

Whereas it is estimated that there are at least 100,000 Holocaust victims living in the United States and approximately 500,000 living around the world today, including child survivors;

Whereas tens of thousands of Holocaust victims are in their 80s or 90s or are more than 100 years in age, and the number of Holocaust victims is diminishing;

Whereas at least 50 percent of Holocaust victims alive today will pass away within the next decade, and those alive are becoming frailer and have increasing health and welfare needs;

Whereas Holocaust victims throughout the world continue to suffer from permanent physical and psychological injuries

and disabilities and live with the emotional scars of this systematic genocide against the Jewish people;

Whereas many of the emotional and psychological scars of Holocaust victims are exacerbated in their old age, the past haunts and overwhelms many aspects of their lives when their health fails them;

Whereas Holocaust victims suffer particular trauma when their emotional and physical circumstances force them to leave the security of their own home and enter institutional or other group living residential facilities;

Whereas tens of thousands of Holocaust victims live in poverty, cannot afford and do not receive sufficient medical care, home care, mental health care, medicine, food, transportation, and other vital life-sustaining services that allow them to live their final years with comfort and dignity;

Whereas Holocaust victims often lack family support networks and require social worker-supported case management in order to manage their daily lives and access government funded services;

Whereas in response to a letter sent by Members of Congress to Germany's Minister of Finance in December 2015 regarding increased funding for Holocaust victims, German officials acknowledged that "recent experience has shown that the care financed by the German Government to date is insufficient" and that "it is imperative to expand these assistance measures quickly given the advanced age of many of the affected persons";

Whereas German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer acknowledged in 1951 Germany's responsibility to provide moral and financial compensation to Holocaust victims worldwide;

Whereas every successive German Chancellor has reaffirmed this position, including Chancellor Angela Merkel, who in 2007 reaffirmed that "only by fully accepting its enduring responsibility for this most appalling period and for the cruelest crimes in its history, can Germany shape the future"; and

Whereas Congress believes it is Germany's moral and historical responsibility to comprehensively, permanently, and urgently provide the resources for all Holocaust victims' medical, mental health, and long-term care needs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) acknowledges the financial and moral commitment of the Federal Republic of Germany over the past seven decades to provide a measure of justice for Holocaust victims;

(2) supports the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust victims in the United States and around the world are able to live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years;

(3) applauds the nonprofit organizations and agencies that work tirelessly to honor and assist Holocaust victims in their communities;

(4) acknowledges the ongoing process of negotiations between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference) in order to

secure funding for Holocaust victims and for vital social services provided through nonprofit organizations and agencies around the world;

(5) acknowledges that the Federal Republic of Germany and the Claims Conference have established a new high-level working group that will develop proposals for extensive assistance for homecare and other social welfare needs of Holocaust victims;

(6) urges the working group to recognize the imperative of immediately and fully funding victims' medical, mental health, and long-term care needs and to do so with full transparency and accountability to ensure all funds for Holocaust victims from the Federal Republic of Germany are administered efficiently, fairly, and without delay; and

(7) urges the Federal Republic of Germany to reaffirm its commitment and fulfill its moral responsibility to Holocaust victims by ensuring that every Holocaust victim receives all of the prescribed medical care, home care, mental health care, and other vital services necessary to live in dignity and by providing, without delay, additional financial resources to address the unique needs of Holocaust victims.

○

AMENDMENT TO H.CON.RES. 129

OFFERED BY MS. ROS-LEHTINEN OF FLORIDA

In the 16th whereas clause, strike "and" at the end.

After the 16th whereas clause, insert the following new whereas clause:

Whereas in 2015 Chancellor Merkel's spokesperson again confirmed "all Germans know the history of the murderous race mania of the Nazis that led to the break with civilization that was the Holocaust. . .we know that responsibility for this crime against humanity is German and very much our own"; and

Page 5, line 16, insert "continue to" after "to".

Amend the title so as to read: "A resolution expressing support for the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust victims live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years, and urging the Federal Republic of Germany to continue to reaffirm its commitment to this goal through a financial commitment to comprehensively address the unique health and welfare needs of vulnerable Holocaust victims, including home care and other medically prescribed needs.".

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114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1252

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 11, 2016
Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

AN ACT

To authorize a comprehensive strategic approach for United States foreign assistance to developing countries to reduce global poverty and hunger, achieve food and nutrition security, promote inclusive, sustainable, agricultural-led economic growth, improve nutritional outcomes, especially for women and children, build resilience among vulnerable populations, 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 "Global Food Security Act of 2016".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (referred to in this section as the "FAO"), 805,000,000 people worldwide suffer from chronic hunger. Hunger and malnutrition rob people of health and productive lives and stunt the mental and physical development of future generations.

(2) According to the January 2014 "Worldwide Threat Assessment of the US Intelligence Community"—

(A) the "[l]ack of adequate food will be a destabilizing factor in countries important to US national security that do not have the financial or technical abilities to solve their internal food security problems"; and

(B) "[f]ood and nutrition insecurity in weakly governed countries might also provide opportunities for insurgent groups to capitalize

on poor conditions, exploit international food aid, and discredit governments for their inability to address basic needs''.

(3) A comprehensive approach to sustainable food and nutrition security should not only respond to emergency food shortages, but should also address malnutrition, resilience to food and nutrition insecurity, building the capacity of poor, rural populations to improve their agricultural productivity and incomes, removing institutional impediments to agricultural development, value chain access and efficiency, including processing and storage, enhancing agribusiness development, access to markets and activities that address the specific needs and barriers facing women and small-scale producers, education, and collaborative research.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY OBJECTIVES; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) STATEMENT OF POLICY OBJECTIVES.—It is in the national interest of the United States to promote global food security, resilience, and nutrition, consistent with national food security investment plans, which is reinforced through programs, activities, and initiatives that—

(1) place food insecure countries on a path toward self-sufficiency and economic freedom through

the coordination of United States foreign assistance programs;

(2) accelerate inclusive, agricultural-led economic growth that reduces global poverty, hunger, and malnutrition, particularly among women and children;

(3) increase the productivity, incomes, and livelihoods of small-scale producers, especially women, by working across agricultural value chains, enhancing local capacity to manage agricultural resources effectively and expanding producer access to local and international markets;

(4) build resilience to food shocks among vulnerable populations and households while reducing reliance upon emergency food assistance;

(5) create an enabling environment for agricultural growth and investment, including through the promotion of secure and transparent property rights;

(6) improve the nutritional status of women and children, with a focus on reducing child stunting, including through the promotion of highly nutritious foods, diet diversification, and nutritional behaviors that improve maternal and child health;

(7) demonstrably meet, align with and leverage broader United States strategies and investments in

trade, economic growth, national security, science and technology, agriculture research and extension, maternal and child health, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene;

(8) continue to strengthen partnerships between United States-based universities, including land-grant colleges, and universities and institutions in target countries and communities that build agricultural capacity; and

(9) ensure the effective use of United States taxpayer dollars to further these objectives.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of the Congress that the President, in providing assistance to implement the Global Food Security Strategy, should—

(1) coordinate, through a whole-of-government approach, the efforts of relevant Federal departments and agencies to implement the Global Food Security Strategy;

(2) seek to fully utilize the unique capabilities of each relevant Federal department and agency while collaborating with and leveraging the contributions of other key stakeholders; and

(3) utilize open and streamlined solicitations to allow for the participation of a wide range of implementing partners through the most appropriate pro-

curement mechanisms, which may include grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other instruments as necessary and appropriate.

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) FEED THE FUTURE INNOVATION LABS.—The term "Feed the Future Innovation Labs" means research partnerships led by United States universities that advance solutions to reduce global hunger, poverty, and malnutrition.

(3) FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY.—The term "food and nutrition security" means access to, and availability, utilization, and stability of, sufficient food to meet caloric and nutritional needs for an active and healthy life.

(4) GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY.—The term "Global Food Security Strategy" means the strategy developed and implemented pursuant to section 5(a).

(5) KEY STAKEHOLDERS.—The term "key stakeholders" means actors engaged in efforts to advance global food security programs and objectives, including—

(A) relevant Federal departments and agencies;

(B) national and local governments in target countries;

(C) other bilateral donors;

(D) international and regional organizations;

(E) international, regional, and local financial institutions;

(F) international, regional, and local private voluntary, nongovernmental, faith-based, and civil society organizations;

(G) the private sector, including agribusinesses and relevant commodities groups;

(H) agricultural producers, including farmer organizations, cooperatives, small-scale producers, and women; and

(I) agricultural research and academic institutions, including land-grant universities and extension services.

(6) MALNUTRITION.—The term "malnutrition" means poor nutritional status caused by nutritional deficiency or excess.

(7) RELEVANT FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES.—The term "relevant Federal departments and agencies" means the United States Agency for International Development, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, the Department of State, the Department of the Treasury, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, the Peace Corps, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, the United States African Development Foundation, the United States Geological Survey, and any other department or agency specified by the President for purposes of this section.

(8) RESILIENCE.—The term "resilience" means the ability of people, households, communities, countries, and systems to mitigate, adapt to, and recover from shocks and stresses to food security in a manner that reduces chronic vulnerability and facilitates inclusive growth.

(9) SMALL-SCALE PRODUCER.—The term "small-scale producer" means farmers, pastoralists, foresters, and fishers that have a low asset base and limited resources, including land, capital, skills and labor, and, in the case of farmers, typically farm on fewer than 5 hectares of land.

(10) STUNTING.—The term "stunting" refers to a condition that—

(A) is measured by a height-to-age ratio that is more than 2 standard deviations below the median for the population;

(B) manifests in children who are younger than 2 years of age;

(C) is a process that can continue in children after they reach 2 years of age, resulting in an individual being "stunted";

(D) is a sign of chronic malnutrition; and

(E) can lead to long-term poor health, delayed motor development, impaired cognitive function, and decreased immunity.

(11) SUSTAINABLE.—The term "sustainable" means the ability of a target country, community, implementing partner, or intended beneficiary to maintain, over time, the programs authorized and outcomes achieved pursuant to this Act.

(12) TARGET COUNTRY.—The term "target country" means a developing country that is selected to participate in agriculture and nutrition security programs under the Global Food Security Strategy pursuant to the selection criteria described in section 5(a)(2), including criteria such as the potential for agriculture-led economic growth, government commitment to agricultural investment and policy reform, opportunities for partnerships and regional synergies, the level of need, and resource availability.

SEC. 5. COMPREHENSIVE GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY.

(a) STRATEGY.—The President shall coordinate the development and implementation of a United States whole-of-government strategy to accomplish the policy objectives set forth in section 3(a), which shall—

(1) set specific and measurable goals, benchmarks, timetables, performance metrics, and monitoring and evaluation plans that reflect international best practices relating to transparency, accountability, food and nutrition security, and agriculture-led economic growth, consistent with the policy objectives described in section 3(a);

(2) establish clear and transparent selection criteria for target countries, communities, regions, and intended beneficiaries of assistance;

(3) describe the methodology and criteria for the selection of target countries;

(4) support and be aligned with country-owned agriculture, nutrition, and food security policy and investment plans developed with input from key stakeholders, as appropriate;

(5) support inclusive agricultural value chain development, with small-scale producers, especially women, gaining greater access to the inputs, skills, resource management capacity, networking, bargaining power, financing, and market linkages needed to sustain their long-term economic prosperity;

(6) support improvement of the nutritional status of women and children, particularly during the critical first 1,000-day window until a child reaches

2 years of age and with a focus on reducing child stunting, through nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive programs, including related water, sanitation, and hygiene programs;

(7) facilitate communication and collaboration, as appropriate, among local stakeholders in support of a multi-sectoral approach to food and nutrition security, to include analysis of the multiple underlying causes of malnutrition, including lack of access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene;

(8) support the long-term success of programs by building the capacity of local organizations and institutions in target countries and communities;

(9) integrate resilience and nutrition strategies into food security programs, such that chronically vulnerable populations are better able to build safety nets, secure livelihoods, access markets, and access opportunities for longer-term economic growth;

(10) develop community and producer resilience to natural disasters, emergencies, and natural occurrences that adversely impact agricultural yield;

(11) harness science, technology, and innovation, including the research and extension activities supported by relevant Federal Departments and

agencies and Feed the Future Innovation Labs, or any successor entities;

(12) integrate agricultural development activities among food insecure populations living in proximity to designated national parks or wildlife areas into wildlife conservation efforts, as necessary and appropriate;

(13) leverage resources and expertise through partnerships with the private sector, farm organizations, cooperatives, civil society, faith-based organizations, and agricultural research and academic institutions;

(14) strengthen and expand collaboration between United States universities, including public, private, and land-grant universities, with higher education institutions in target countries to increase their effectiveness and relevance to promote agricultural development and innovation through the creation of human capital, innovation, and cutting edge science in the agricultural sector;

(15) seek to ensure that target countries and communities respect and promote land tenure rights of local communities, particularly those of women and small-scale producers;

(16) include criteria and methodologies for graduating target countries and communities from assistance provided to implement the Global Food Security Strategy as such countries and communities meet the progress benchmarks identified pursuant to section 8(b)(4); and

(17) demonstrably support the United States national security and economic interest in the countries where assistance is being provided.

(b) COORDINATION.—The President shall coordinate, through a whole-of-government approach, the efforts of relevant Federal departments and agencies in the implementation of the Global Food Security Strategy by—

(1) establishing monitoring and evaluation systems, coherence, and coordination across relevant Federal departments and agencies;

(2) establishing linkages with other initiatives and strategies of relevant Federal departments and agencies; and

(3) establishing platforms for regular consultation and collaboration with key stakeholders and the appropriate congressional committees.

(c) STRATEGY SUBMISSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1, 2016, the President, in consultation with the head of

each relevant Federal department and agency, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees the Global Food Security Strategy required under this section, including a detailed description of how the United States intends to advance the objectives set forth in section 3(a) and the agency-specific plans described in paragraph (2).

(2) AGENCY-SPECIFIC PLANS.—The Global Food Security Strategy shall include specific implementation plans from each relevant Federal department and agency that describes—

(A) the anticipated contributions of the department or agency, including technical, financial, and in-kind contributions, to implement the Global Food Security Strategy; and

(B) the efforts of the department or agency to ensure that the activities and programs carried out pursuant to the strategy are designed to achieve maximum impact and long-term sustainability.

SEC. 6. ASSISTANCE TO IMPLEMENT THE GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY.

(a) FOOD SHORTAGES.—The President is authorized to carry out activities pursuant to section 103, section 103A, title XII of chapter 2 of part I, and chapter 4 of

part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151a, 2151a–1, 2220a et seq., and 2346 et seq.) to prevent or address food shortages notwithstanding any other provision of law.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development $1,000,600,000 for each of fiscal years 2017 and 2018 to carry out those portions of the Global Food Security Strategy that relate to the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development, respectively.

(c) MONITORING AND EVALUATION.—The President shall seek to ensure that assistance to implement the Global Food Security Strategy is provided under established parameters for a rigorous accountability system to monitor and evaluate progress and impact of the strategy, including by reporting to the appropriate congressional committees and the public on an annual basis.

SEC. 7. EMERGENCY FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the crisis in Syria, which is characterized by acts of terrorism and atrocities directed against civilians, including mass murder, forced displacement,

aerial bombardment, ethnic and religious persecution, torture, kidnapping, rape and sexual enslavement, has triggered one of the most profound humanitarian crises of this century and poses a direct threat to regional security and the national security interests of the United States;

(2) it is in the national security interests of the United States to respond to the needs of displaced Syrian persons and the communities hosting such persons, including with food assistance; and

(3) after four years of conflict in Syria and the onset of other major humanitarian emergencies where, like Syria, the provision of certain United States humanitarian assistance has been particularly challenging, including the 2013 super-typhoon in the Philippines, the 2014 outbreak of Ebola in west Africa, the 2015 earthquake in Nepal, ongoing humanitarian disasters in Yemen and South Sudan, and the threat of a major El Nino event in 2016, United States international disaster assistance has become severely stressed.

(b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the policy of the United States, in coordination with other donors, regional governments, international organizations, and international financial institutions, to fully leverage, en-

hance, and expand the impact and reach of available United States humanitarian resources, including for food assistance, to mitigate the effects of manmade and natural disasters by utilizing innovative new approaches to delivering aid that support affected persons and the communities hosting them, build resilience and early recovery, and reduce opportunities for waste, fraud, and abuse.

(c) AMENDMENTS TO THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.—

(1) Section 491 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2292) is amended—

(A) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (d); and

(B) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

"(e) EMERGENCY FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the limitations in section 492, and notwithstanding any other provision of this or any other Act, the President is authorized to make available emergency food assistance, including in the form of funds, transfers, vouchers, and agricultural commodities (including products derived from agricultural commodities) acquired through local or regional procurement, to

meet emergency food needs arising from manmade and natural disasters.

"(2) DESIGNATION.—Funds made available under this subsection shall be known as the 'International Disaster Assistance – Emergency Food Security Program'.".

(2) Section 492 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2292a) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking "$25,000,000 for the fiscal year 1986 and $25,000,000 for the fiscal year 1987." and inserting "$2,794,184,000 for each of fiscal years 2017 and 2018, of which up to $1,257,382,000 should be made available to carry out section 491(e).."; and

(B) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsections:

"(c) AMOUNTS IN ADDITION TO OTHER AMOUNTS.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated pursuant to the authorizations of appropriations under section 491(e) are in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes.

"(d) FLEXIBILITY.—

"(1) UNITED STATES POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States that the funds made available to carry out section 491 are intended to provide the

President with the greatest possible flexibility to address disaster-related needs as they arise and to prepare for and reduce the impact of natural and man-made disasters.

"(2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that any amendments to applicable legal provisions contained in this Act are not intended to limit such authorities.

"(e) REPORT.—Not later than March 1 of each fiscal year, the President shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report that describes the activities undertaken by the President over the course of the prior fiscal year pursuant to section 491(c), including the amounts of assistance provided, intended beneficiaries, monitoring and evaluation strategies, anticipated outcomes, and, as practicable, actual outcomes.".

SEC. 8. REPORTS.

(a) GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year and 2 years after the date of the submission of the strategy required under section 5(c), the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees reports that describe

the status of the implementation of the Global Food Security Strategy for 2017 and 2018, which shall—

(1) contain a summary of the Global Food Security Strategy as an appendix;

(2) identify any substantial changes made in the Global Food Security Strategy during the preceding calendar year;

(3) describe the progress made in implementing the Global Food Security Strategy;

(4) identify the indicators used to establish benchmarks and measure results over time, as well as the mechanisms for reporting such results in an open and transparent manner;

(5) describe related strategies and benchmarks for graduating target countries and communities from assistance provided under the Global Food Security Strategy over time, including by building resilience, reducing risk, and enhancing the sustainability of outcomes from United States investments in agriculture and nutrition security;

(6) indicate how findings from monitoring and evaluation were incorporated into program design and budget decisions;

(7) contain a transparent, open, and detailed accounting of spending by relevant Federal depart-

ments and agencies to implement the Global Food Security Strategy, including, for each Federal department and agency, the statutory source of spending, amounts spent, implementing partners and targeted beneficiaries, and activities supported to the extent practicable and appropriate;

(8) describe how the Global Food Security Strategy leverages other United States food security and development assistance programs on the continuum from emergency food aid through sustainable, agriculture-led economic growth and eventual self-sufficiency;

(9) describe the contributions of the Global Food Security Strategy to, and assess the impact of, broader international food and nutrition security assistance programs, including progress in the promotion of land tenure rights, creating economic opportunities for women and small-scale producers, and stimulating agriculture-led economic growth in target countries and communities;

(10) assess efforts to coordinate United States international food security and nutrition programs, activities, and initiatives with key stakeholders;

(11) assess United States Government-facilitated private investment in related sectors and the

impact of private sector investment in target countries and communities;

(12) identify any United States legal or regulatory impediments that could obstruct the effective implementation of the programming referred to in paragraphs (8) and (9);

(13) contain a clear gender analysis of programming, to inform project-level activities, that includes established disaggregated gender indicators to better analyze outcomes for food productivity, income growth, control of assets, equity in access to inputs, jobs and markets, and nutrition; and

(14) incorporate a plan for regularly reviewing and updating strategies, partnerships, and programs and sharing lessons learned with a wide range of stakeholders in an open, transparent manner.

(b) GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY CROSSCUT REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the President submits the budget to Congress under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report including—

(1) an interagency budget crosscut report that—

(A) displays the budget proposed, including any planned interagency or intra-agency transfer, for each of the principal Federal agencies that carries out global food security activities in the upcoming fiscal year, separately reporting the amount of planned funding to be provided under existing laws pertaining to the global food security strategy to the extent available; and

(B) to the extent available, identifies all assistance and research expenditures at the account level in each of the five prior fiscal years by the Federal Government and United States multilateral commitments using Federal funds for global food security strategy activities;

(2) to the extent available, a detailed accounting of all assistance funding received and obligated by the principal Federal agencies identified in the report and United States multilateral commitments using Federal funds, for global food security activities during the current fiscal year; and

(3) a breakout of the proposed budget for the current and budget years by agency, categorizing expenditures by type of funding, including research,

resiliency, and other food security activities to the extent that such information is available.

(c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—The information referred to in subsections (a) and (b) shall be made available on the public website of the United States Agency for International Development in an open, machine readable format, in a timely manner.

SEC. 9. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

(a) EFFECT ON OTHER PROGRAMS.—Nothing in the Global Food Security Strategy or this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed to supersede or otherwise affect the authority of the relevant Federal departments and agencies to carry out programs specified in subsection (b), in the manner provided, and subject to the terms and conditions, of those programs, including, but not limited to, the terms, conditions, and requirements relating to the procurement and transportation of food assistance furnished pursuant to such programs.

(b) PROGRAMS DESCRIBED.—The programs referred to in subsection (a) are the following:

(1) The Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1691 et seq.).

(2) The Food for Progress Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1736o).

(3) Section 416(b) of the Agriculture Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1431).

(4) McGovern-Dole Food for Education Program (7 U.S.C.1736o–1).

(5) Local and Regional Procurement Program (7 U.S.C. 1726c).

(6) Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust Act (7 U.S.C. 1736f–1).

(7) Any other food and nutrition security and emergency and non-emergency food assistance program of the Department of Agriculture.

Passed the Senate April 20, 2016.

Attest: JULIE E. ADAMS,

Secretary.

Chairman ROYCE. And after recognizing myself and the ranking member, I will be pleased to recognize any members seeking recognition to speak once on any of these measures.

So let me start by thanking the committee's chairman emeritus, Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen, and Congressman Deutch for their work on House Concurrent Resolution 129. Now, this is the bill expressing support for Holocaust victims. We have had tens of thousands of victims, unfortunately, of the Holocaust who have come to be found to be living in poverty, living in poverty today, and many of those victims have unique health and assistance needs.

Now, Germany has supported a number of aid programs throughout the years in acknowledgment of its moral obligation to help these victims. In fact, the German Government engages with members of the Claims Conference annually to evaluate their programs and identify any unmet needs. This year, gaps in home care, in mental health programs, and long-term medical care were all identified. Yet, despite a commitment to provide this assistance, negotiations on a path forward have slowed.

So time is of the essence, of course, as these Holocaust victims suffer while these talks are now stalled. This resolution rightly calls for these talks to be accelerated and for an assistance plan that ensures transparency and accountability to guarantee funds are helping the most vulnerable go forward.

After that measure, we are going to consider House Resolution 374, reaffirming Singapore's strategic partnership with the United States. Singapore has long been a very dependable friend and partner for us. We have a deep defense and trade relationship with Singapore. Today we are reaffirming the importance of this partnership to securing peace and stability in the Asia Pacific for several reasons, and one of these is because we appreciate Singapore's enforcement of sanctions on North Korea, as evidenced by a Singapore-registered shipping firm which was found guilty in January of transferring money that could have contributed to North Korea's nuclear-related program.

The prosecution of this firm by Singapore sends a very strong signal that Singapore is taking its international obligations very seriously, and we are appreciative of that.

And I also want to thank Ranking Member Engel and the chair of our Asia Subcommittee, Matt Salmon, for their helpful input on the text we are considering today.

I also want to thank Mr. Poe for his leadership in introducing a very necessary measure, House Resolution 650, regarding the security of Iranian dissidents living in Camp Liberty in Iraq.

Camp Liberty is a former U.S. military base outside of Baghdad that is now home to more than 2,000 Iranian refugees who are members of opposition to the regime in Tehran. This past October, 23 residents were killed in a rocket attack on that camp. We have been receiving information that the Iranian regime and their proxies in Iraq are preparing for an imminent attack against the camp's residents.

The frustration with this committee is that time after time after time we have had the Iranian regime go forward with attacks on these individuals without this being blocked by the government in Iraq. And in the meantime, that is why Mr. Poe's resolution calls

on the administration and calls on the Iraqi Government to work to provide camp residents with the protections they need and to ensure they are expeditiously resettled outside of Iraq in such safe havens as Albania and other countries that have agreed to work with those who have opposed the regime in Iran to make certain that they are safe.

I would hope that all of our members would support this resolution.

I am also happy today that the committee is restoring regular order and exercising its fundamental responsibility to authorize before appropriating by considering S. 1252, the Global Food Security Act of 2015. Specifically, the bill authorizes, for the first time in 30 years, International Disaster Assistance. This is the essential humanitarian account that provides refugees with tents and sheeting, to water and medicine.

But it also authorizes, for the first time, the Emergency Food Security Program, the flexible, efficient, and effective food aid program that helps refugees when and where they need it most so they won't be forced to seek refuge in Europe or beyond, and it advances policies that will improve food security and better enable people to grow their own way out of poverty so they will no longer have to depend upon U.S. foreign assistance, and it does all this without increasing spending.

Indeed, this bill, which had much input on the Senate side from both Republicans and Democrats, passed unanimously in the Senate. This committee has held numerous hearings on food security. The bill before us today, which passed the Senate, as I say, with unanimous support, reflects more than 3 years of careful deliberation and inclusive discussions and amendments.

So I want to thank Mr. Smith for his leadership on this important legislation and urge members to help get it to the President's desk without further delay.

I now recognize the ranking member for his remarks.

Mr. ENGEL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for convening this markup and for bringing these bipartisan measures forward. I am happy to support them all. I am grateful to all of our members on both sides of the aisle for their hard work.

I will speak first about the four measures we are taking up en bloc. I will start with House Resolution 374, which recognizes a half century of independence for our close friend, Singapore.

Last year, Singapore celebrated the 50th anniversary of its independence, and this year the United States and Singapore mark 50 years of our bilateral relationship. In that time, Singapore has become an important partner for the United States in the Asia-Pacific region. Over the years, we have seen our economic and security ties grow stronger and stronger.

In the years ahead, as American foreign policy focuses more and more on Asia, we know there will be additional opportunities to work together with our partner Singapore on issues from countering violent extremism to addressing climate change, where Singapore as an island nation has been a strong leader, to pushing for peaceful and rules-based resolution to contentious issues like the South China Sea.

This resolution underscores the important friendship between our countries, and I am happy to support it.

We are also considering House Resolution 650, calling for the safety and security of the Iranian dissidents living in Camp Liberty in Iraq. I want to thank Mr. Poe and Mr. Higgins for working on this measure, which I am proud to cosponsor.

I want to welcome our friends wearing their yellow jackets to this committee today. And believe me, we are very concerned about Camp Liberty and we are making everyone know that we are keeping a watchful eye to make sure that those people are protected.

The residents of Camp Liberty deserve to live in dignity and without fear of violence. Last October's rocket attacks on the unarmed residents of Camp Liberty by a Shia militia with ties to Iran killed 24 people. It is the height of cowardice. We are still waiting for the perpetrators of this attack to be brought to justice.

I would also note that my amendment to this resolution highlights Albania's commitments to resettling Camp Liberty residents. They have resettled 1,000 already and are recommitted to settling 2,000 more. I have worked closely with the Albanian Government in all the years I have been in Congress. This shows a tremendous generosity of spirit and commitment to care for the most vulnerable on the part of the people of Albania. This resolution sends a message that we stand with the men, women, and children in Camp Liberty and want to see quick and meaningful action to bring them relief.

I will turn now to House Concurrent Resolution 129, which calls for Germany and for all of us to redouble our efforts to care for those who were victims of humanity's darkest chapter, the Holocaust. As a spokesman for Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel recently said, "All Germans know the history of the murderous race mania of the Nazis that led to the break with civilization that was the Holocaust. We know that responsibility for this crime against humanity is German, and very much our own."

Part of that responsibility, of course, is to generously assist those survivors who endured this evil firsthand. In a spirit of goodwill and friendship, this measure calls on Germany's leaders to do whatever it takes to properly care for this generation, which is getting older and dying, and I am glad to support it.

Lastly, I am glad to support Senate bill 1252, the Senate's version of the Global Food Security Act, and I was pleased that the House passed our version a few weeks ago. It is simply unconscionable that nearly 800 million people around the world would live without knowing how they will get their next meal. Half of all the deaths of children under 5 years old are tied to malnutrition.

The United States has a responsibility to help meet this challenge, both by helping people feed themselves and by taking a hard look at the root causes behind poverty, hunger, and instability. This bill prioritizes foreign assistance programs aimed at reducing global poverty and hunger. It also authorizes a strong investment in the administration's signature effort Feed the Future, as well as other State Department and USAID initiatives. These efforts deserve our continued support, and I am glad we are moving ahead with this bill.

So thank you again, Mr. Chairman, thanks to all our members, again, on both sides of the aisle, and I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Engel.

Our chairman emeritus, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member. I want to thank my good friend and south Florida colleague, Congressman Ted Deutch, for our work together in crafting H. Con. Res. 129 in support of Holocaust survivors.

The United States is home to nearly one-quarter of all survivors, and approximately 15,000 live in south Florida. We both have many constituents who are survivors, and as their Representatives in Congress, we have an obligation to ensure that we are doing everything in our power on their behalf. But many are also close and personal friends, and as their friend, I also have an obligation to be their voice and express their frustration and concerns.

Since the 1950s, Germany has recognized that it has a moral obligation to Holocaust survivors and their heirs, and to Germany's credit, it has attempted to ensure survivors' needs are met and it has attempted to resolve some of the lingering injustices.

However, even by Germany's own admission, its efforts to date have been inadequate at addressing the medical, mental health, and home care needs of many of the world's survivors. Nearly half of all survivors live at or below the poverty line. This is not only shameful, it is inexcusable.

These survivors have lived through the unimaginable. The pain and suffering they have endured has left physical and mental scars that cannot be healed and horrifying memories that can never be forgotten. These experiences mean their medical, mental health, and home care needs are more complex than other elderly individuals. And that is why this resolution is so important, and that is why we are urging Germany to act expeditiously to honor its commitment and fulfill its moral obligations to all survivors.

These individuals have very little time. The system currently in place is full of red tape, riddled with layer upon layer of bureaucracy. The Claims Conference itself is known to have come under increased scrutiny for the many cases of fraud and abuse. And the proof that this process isn't working is that nearly half of all survivors, as I said, still live in poverty, and that under the current system many died long before their time as a result. Survivors deserve better than that. They deserve to live out their days in dignity and comfort. The right thing to do is for Germany to provide for all the survivors' needs directly and to do so transparently and efficiently with the urgency that circumstances demand.

I hope that all of my colleagues will join us in urging the German Government to do more, to do the right thing, to honor its obligations and commitments with the urgency demanded by justice and decency. I sincerely believe Chancellor Merkel's heartfelt expression of concern about Germany's responsibility to survivors and leadership on moral issues will finally resolve this longstanding tragedy for survivors.

And, Mr. Chairman, I would also like to briefly say some words of praise and support for Judge Poe's resolution, House Resolution 650, that calls for the safety and security for the residents of Camp Liberty in Iraq. It is no secret that the Iraqi Government com-

pletely failed to protect these individuals in Camp Liberty, not living up to its commitments made in the December 2011 Memorandum of Understanding.

Camp Liberty has never been given adequate protection. And now, with the Iran nuclear deal and Iran getting more money to carry out its illicit activities, I fear that Liberty will be an even easier and larger target for the regime than before.

Albania has stepped up and offered these residents a respite from the terror. So for that, I thank Albania for its courage and compassion. However, I remain concerned that the United Nations isn't placing the urgency required to move these residents to Albania. There should be at least weekly charters for Liberty residents to Albania. There is simply no justification for anything less.

I will continue to press our administration and other governments to do whatever we can to help the Liberty residents as soon as possible, and I will continue to support all of these Liberty residents until every last one of them is free from the threat of attack. I support Judge Poe's resolution and I commend him for his leadership on this issue.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you.

We now go to Mr. Brad Sherman of California.

Mr. SHERMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for bringing these bills up. I have cosponsored the three House bills and support all bills. I join with the chair and the chair emeritus and especially the ranking member in their remarks in favor of these bills.

I want to speak briefly about H. Res. 650, a resolution that calls for providing safety and security to the Iranian dissidents living in Camp Liberty. The MEK, also known as the People's Mujahedin Organization of Iran, is an Iranian exile opposition group that was opposed to the Shah's dictatorial regime and is opposed to the current regime. The MEK has played a critical role in revealing information about Iran's illegal nuclear program.

There is a tendency to look at anything in the world through the lens of political controversies in the United States, but I think, regardless of whether the Iran deal is the best way or not the best way to deal with Iran's nuclear program, we all owe a debt of gratitude to the MEK for bringing this information to the world and causing the United States and the world to focus on the problem.

Approximately 3,000 MEK members residing in Camp Ashraf were transferred to Camp Liberty in 2012. The MEK members were protected by the U.S. military until we transferred authority to Iraq in 2009. Since then, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which has recognized the MEK as persons of concern and in need of international protection, has worked to resettle MEK members to various countries, including and especially Albania. Albania has already taken approximately 1,000 MEK members and has committed to resettling an additional 2,000, and I commend the ranking member for his amendment that recognizes the important contribution Albania has made and has offered to make in the future.

The Iraqis promised to provide security protection to the MEK members in Iraq after the U.S. transferred authority to the Iraqi Government. However, to date, they have not provided the nec-

essary protection. We have a complicated relationship with the government in Baghdad. It is under siege, it relies on American support, and it should be called upon very strongly by the United States to meet its minimum human rights obligations to protect Camp Liberty. In 2015, an Iraqi Shiite militia launched rockets against Camp Liberty, killed 24 people, injured dozens, and of course the Iraqi Government did nothing.

This resolution, and I commend Judge Poe for bringing it forward, details the history of violence against Camp Liberty residents, including the most recent attack in 2015. The resolution also calls on the Iraqi Government to improve security at Camp Liberty. In addition, H. Res. 650 calls on the U.S. Government to do a better job of pushing Iraq to uphold its promises and urges the U.S. Government to work with Albania and the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees in the resettlement process.

I strongly support this resolution and the other bills that are part of the en bloc. And I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you.

We now go to Mr. Dana Rohrabacher of California.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. It has been a black mark on our country on many occasions when we did not stick by the people who stuck by us. And I have an amendment to the bill that will be coming to the floor, or is on the floor today, talking about Dr. Afridi and how we have allowed him to lay and sit in a dungeon in Pakistan while we still give foreign aid and military equipment to the people who have incarcerated him. And these people, of course, are putting in jail and persecuting a man who helped us bring to justice the murderer of 3,000 Americans on 9/11.

Well, what we have here today is a chance to make something right or to try to take a step in the right direction, reclaim some of our honor as a country. Those residents of Camp Liberty are part of an organization that have long opposed the mullah dictatorship in Iran. The reason they were in that camp and the reason that they had left Iran was because they opposed an enemy of the United States. The mullahs have made no beans about it, they believe the United States is the great Satan and are willing do to things and have done things that have caused the loss of life of Americans and have put our people in jeopardy. Yet, here again, we have let down the people who are putting their lives on the line for us and we have just let them drift.

I think it is time we reclaim our honor, and I support this resolution, H. Res. 650. And if this does not work, let's just commit ourselves to saying the people of Camp Liberty put themselves on the line for us, they risked their lives for us, they are now in great danger, one way or the other we will move to save them. And if need be, we need to bring these people to the United States and let them be free from the threat of the mullahs who also threaten our own people.

So this is the time for us to express solidarity with those brave souls who have expressed solidarity with the people of the United States in a desperate and a very dangerous situation.

I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Rohrabacher.

We now go to Mr. Ted Deutch of Florida.

Mr. DEUTCH. Thank you. Thank you, Chairman Royce and Ranking Member Engel, for holding today's markup and for advancing these important legislative efforts.

I would like to speak about H. Con. Res. 129, which calls upon Germany to fully fund the needs of aging Holocaust survivors. I would like to start by thanking my friend, Chairman Emeritus Ros-Lehtinen, for partnering with me in this effort and for her longstanding commitment to championing the needs of Holocaust survivors.

I also want to acknowledge the efforts of so many of our constituents, Ms. Ros-Lehtinen's and my own, who have on their own come to Washington over the years to talk about the difficulties that they and so many other face. In particular, Jack Rubin, a constituent and friend who has testified in this body before, deserves thanks for his tireless advocacy on behalf of survivors.

One of the great privileges I have serving in Congress is representing a large number of Holocaust survivors, and earlier this month I attended a Yom HaShoah, a Holocaust Remembrance Day ceremony in my district. I have been attending the ceremonies for more than a decade and every year there are more and more empty seats. A constituent of mine recently told me that it feels like every day he gets a call to attend another funeral of a survivor.

In short, the survivor population is aging and their needs are increasing. Unfortunately for the roughly 100,000 survivors living in the United States, tens of thousands of them live in poverty. They cannot afford and thus do not receive sufficient medical care, home care, and other vital life-sustaining services.

Today, we have a chance to ensure that this population, these survivors who made it through the darkest time in history, can live out their lives with the dignity they so deserve.

For decades, the German Government has remained committed to funding survivor needs through annual negotiations and appropriations, and we appreciate this ongoing commitment. I know that this is an issue that Chancellor Merkel cares deeply about as she has personally reaffirmed that commitment to me.

Unfortunately, despite the payments of the German Government throughout the years, significant gaps in survivor care remain, and German officials have acknowledged this shortfall. The shortfall is the most dramatic when it comes to home care. For survivors, the need to stay in their homes as they age is critical. As they approach their late 80s and 90s and beyond, they rely more on home care services.

Under the current system home care is capped so that even the most infirm, isolated, and poor Nazi victims can receive only a maximum of 25 hours of home care. This amounts to 5 hours a day, 5 days a week.

In addition, current funding is inadequate to provide for additional hours. Take, for example, a constituent of mine who is 91 years old and survived Bergen-Belsen. He fell last month and suffered a fracture, followed by rehabilitation. He likely needs a bone procedure on his back due to the recent fall and he has suffered from other debilitating circumstances in the past that have limited his mobility ever since.

He requires assistance with all activities of daily living. He and his wife share a total of 48 hours a week home care. But as a result of the recent circumstances and his overall medical history, he needs round-the-clock care, and it is, frankly, unconscionable that he does not receive it and that his hours are limited.

Now, many of those who survived also lack family support to help them with their daily needs. They need transportation to doctor's appointments or help preparing meals. They deserve to be able to access the most basic care. They deserve to be able to meet their mental and medical health needs.

Now, thankfully—thankfully—we have the opportunity right now to alleviate the suffering of Holocaust survivors. There are negotiations ongoing right now with the German Government. And this is possibly the last opportunity for Germany to reaffirm its commitment to comprehensively address the unique health and welfare needs of vulnerable Holocaust victims by increasing funding for survivor care so that every survivor can have his or her needs met.

Now, no amount of money can ever erase the horrors faced by Nazi victims, but there is a moral responsibility to ensure that they can receive the vital services and the medical care to live out the remainder of their days with dignity and in comfort.

Mr. Chairman, the resolution before us today urges the German Government to fulfill its moral and financial commitment to the victims of the Holocaust. It puts Congress on record declaring that the time to act is now and we will fight and watch until this is done. No more limitations on home care hours. Fund the needs, all of them. Complete the negotiations. The time for meaningful action is now. And I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Deutch.

Congressman Joe Wilson from South Carolina.

Mr. WILSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am grateful that once again, with your leadership and the ranking member, this committee is considering multiple pieces of bipartisan legislation.

House Concurrent Resolution 129, sponsored by Chairman Emeritus Ros-Lehtinen, is particularly important to ensuring that victims of the Holocaust are able to live comfortable and happy lives. This legislation also urges the Federal Republic of Germany to ensure adequate resources to address the unique medical needs that these individuals face due to their horrific experiences during the Second World War. The United States must never forget the tragedy of the Holocaust and do all that we can to ensure that the rest of the world does not either.

Next, I am grateful that the Senate version of the Global Food Security Act of 2016 continues to address this critically important issue, increasing accountability and congressional oversight of foreign assistance meant to address food shortages abroad. One of the great challenges that developing nations have and face is the health and well-being of their citizens. It is particularly encouraging to see Congress acting to help our friends and allies abroad.

Today, the committee is also taking important steps, with the leadership of our chairman, in recognizing the cooperation between the United States and Singapore; protecting Iranian dissidents, with the leadership of Judge Ted Poe; and imposing sanctions

against human rights abusers. I applaud the great work behind this legislation and urge their passage. And I yield back my time.

Chairman ROYCE. Mr. Brendan Boyle of Pennsylvania.

Mr. BOYLE. I thank the chairman and ranking member for taking up today's measures. I would like to speak on one of them in particular, H. Con. Res. 129, introduced by Subcommittee Chairwoman Ros-Lehtinen and Ranking Member Deutch. I thank both of them for introducing this legislation and I am proud to cosponsor it as it has an important impact for my district of Philadelphia and Montgomery County, PA, which has a significant population of Holocaust survivors, a number of whom are personal friends.

This resolution urges Germany to provide increased assistance for the most critical needs of Holocaust survivors. While I appreciate Germany's financial and moral commitment to Holocaust survivors thus far, even German officials admit that current gaps in assistance exist today.

Constituents of mine, a married couple age 86 and 93 who are Holocaust survivors, reside in a two-story row house with stair glides provided by the Jewish Family and Children Service of Philadelphia through the Claims Conference. Their two children reside out of State. The husband has been having significant physical and cognitive decline over the past few years. His attending needs are great, but they are not medical at this time. He should be able to remain safely in his home with enough support.

His wife is unable to attend to most of his needs due to her own aging issues. The greatest issue for her husband is that he is a fall risk due to strength and ambulation issues. He is also suffering from wartime nightmares and wakes up through the night and needs to be calmed down. His wife cannot do this as she must get sleep, lack of sleep greatly affecting her own health.

So if JFCS of Philadelphia was able to provide more hours of home care for them both, they would have an aide take care of both of their needs. Her needs are suffering as a result of her taking care of his needs.

The Holocaust survivor population is aging. They are now in their 80s and 90s. It is important to acknowledge that an estimated 100,000 Holocaust survivors live in the United States and—and I think this is the most galling statistic—nearly half of all Holocaust survivors live below the poverty line. Let's make sure these brave survivors live out their lives in dignity. And I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Judge Ted Poe of Texas.

Mr. POE. I thank the chairman, and I would like to discuss a matter that we have discussed a lot since 2009, and that is the folks, the good folks in, first, Camp Ashraf, and then Camp Liberty, who, while they have been in these camps, bad things have happened to them.

Every time we meet, it seems that there have been more assaults, more murders, more rocket attacks against these folks who have lived in these two areas. Many of them are here today. Their families are in Camp Liberty. Some of their families have been killed since 2009. And I admire their perseverance.

But there are about 2,000 members of the Iranian opposition movement MEK. Once again, they are unarmed and they live in Camp Liberty, Iraq. They live there because they have been forced

out of Iran, a country that tolerates no political opposition, and if they were to be returned to Iran they would be killed.

The mullahs in Iran fear and hate the MEK. MEK basically just wants freedom in Iran, free elections. But it turns out that the long arms of the mullahs in Tehran reach out to Iraq, where these folks have been for a long time. Last October, residents came under intense rocket attacks in Iraq. Twenty-four people were killed, dozens of others were injured, and the IRGC claimed the assault and warned that more would follow.

These kinds of attacks—there have been seven, if I can remember correctly, on the people in the MEK that live in Iraq—have claimed the lives of 140 people. Not one person has been held accountable for these murders. Not one person has been arrested or gone to jail for these murders that occurred in these camps. Thirteen hundred others have been injured and seven have been kidnapped. The residents live in constant fear of another attack. Their only crime is opposing the tyrants in Iran.

H. Res. 650 condemns these attacks. I want to thank the ranking member for his amendment that makes this resolution even better. But the resolution condemns the attacks and urges the Iraqi Government to bring those responsible to justice.

Those in the Iraqi Government who claim links to the IRGC should not be put in charge of the camp. Several years ago, Chairman Rohrabacher and myself went to Iraq and we wanted to see Camp Ashraf, and the Government of Iraq was so irate that we wanted to visit what was happening in the camp before they were moved to Liberty that Chairman Rohrabacher and myself were told to leave Iraq. We were evicted, kicked out of the country. That is how much support the Iraqi Government gives to the mullahs in Iran about the camps. Of course, we didn't leave. We stayed anyway and did what we wanted to do. But that shows you the Government of Iraq's position on that, because we just merely wanted to see for ourselves the living conditions of these, I think, very patriotic people.

So Iraq is not a safe place for those residents. They should be resettled to a third country. As Iran's influence continues to grow in the region, we must show our strong support for these dissidents. They want freedom for their fellow countrymen, but for the last 30 years that pursuit has cost them and they have had to flee the country they love and lose many of their family members. We should do all we can to urge their protection.

It is important that the Government of Iraq allow the residents to sell the property at Camp Liberty and Camp Ashraf. It is their property. It does not belong to the Government of Iraq. And once again, I want to thank Ranking Member Engel for his amendment that makes this clear. As it stands now, the Iraqi Government is only allowing the residents to take the clothes that they are wearing on their back. They can't even take their laptop computers. This is their property. It doesn't belong to Iraq. And the folks that leave Camp Liberty and go other places should be allowed to take their personal property whatever country that they go to. This is only right. Justice demands this. So I thank the chairman and the ranking member for their support of this legislation, this resolution, and I hope that we don't have to meet again and there are

more casualties in Liberty because we have not helped get these good folks resettled to another country.

I yield back. Thanks for the remaining time.

Chairman ROYCE. Well, thank you for your eloquence on this issue, Mr. Poe, but also thank you for introducing it.

Are there any other members seeking time?

Mr. Chabot of Ohio.

Mr. CHABOT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be brief. And I am supportive of H. Res. 650 and 129, but I will speak briefly on H. Res. 374.

As former chair of the Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee, I always paid very close attention to the U.S.-Singapore relationship, and it is a very tiny country who really holds exceptional importance to the U.S. We have a longstanding security relationship with Singapore, and our commercial ties with them have strengthened significantly over the past half century.

I think that this link in all likelihood is only going to intensify as the global economy further intertwines and our partners in the Asia Pacific place greater emphasis on an American presence there to help combat growing maritime threats, specifically from the PRC, from China. As we know, they are not only building islands now, much to the chagrin of their neighbors from Japan, South Korea, the Philippines, et cetera, but they are actually militarizing those islands right now. And this administration has done not very much, virtually nothing of substance to push back on this, which is a real shame.

This legislation recognizes the importance of ensuring a strong U.S.-Singapore strategic partnership that encourages regional stability and highlights the significance of the U.S.-Singapore economic relationship. The bill promotes greater cooperation on cybersecurity and information-sharing efforts, both issues that are exceptionally relevant to protecting the region, both militarily and economically. So I am very supportive of this one in particular and the other ones that I mentioned and urge my colleagues to support them. And yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you.

Hearing no further requests for recognition, are there any further amendments? Hearing none, the Chair moves that the committee adopt the items considered en bloc.

All those in favor, say aye.

All opposed, no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it, and the measures considered en bloc are agreed to. And without objection, the measures considered en bloc are ordered favorably reported, as amended, and staff is directed to make any technical and conforming changes.

Also, without objection, the Chair is authorized to seek House consideration of those measures under suspension of the rules.

Moving on to our final measure, I now call up Senate bill 284, the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act. Without objection, the Senate-passed text of S. 284, as modified by Royce 102, the bipartisan manager's amendment provided previously, will be considered base text for purposes of amendment.

[The information referred to follows:]

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114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 284

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 18, 2016

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

AN ACT

To impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons responsible for gross violations of internationally recognized human rights, 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 "Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term "foreign person" means a person that is not a United States person.

(2) PERSON.—The term "person" means an individual or entity.

(3) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term "United States person" means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President may impose the sanctions described in subsection (b) with respect to any foreign person the President determines, based on credible evidence—

(1) is responsible for extrajudicial killings, torture, or other gross violations of internationally rec-

ognized human rights committed against individuals in any foreign country who seek—

(A) to expose illegal activity carried out by government officials; or

(B) to obtain, exercise, defend, or promote internationally recognized human rights and freedoms, such as the freedoms of religion, expression, association, and assembly, and the rights to a fair trial and democratic elections;

(2) acted as an agent of or on behalf of a foreign person in a matter relating to an activity described in paragraph (1);

(3) is a government official, or a senior associate of such an official, that is responsible for, or complicit in, ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing, acts of significant corruption, including the expropriation of private or public assets for personal gain, corruption related to government contracts or the extraction of natural resources, bribery, or the facilitation or transfer of the proceeds of corruption to foreign jurisdictions; or

(4) has materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services in support of, an activity described in paragraph (3).

(b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions described in this subsection are the following:

(1) INADMISSIBILITY TO UNITED STATES.—In the case of a foreign person who is an individual—

(A) ineligibility to receive a visa to enter the United States or to be admitted to the United States; or

(B) if the individual has been issued a visa or other documentation, revocation, in accordance with section 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)), of the visa or other documentation.

(2) BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The blocking, in accordance with the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), of all transactions in all property and interests in property of a foreign person if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(B) INAPPLICABILITY OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY REQUIREMENT.—The requirements of section 202 of the International Emergency

Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701) shall not apply for purposes of this section.

(C) EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The authority to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property under subparagraph (A) shall not include the authority to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(ii) GOOD.—In this subparagraph, the term "good" has the meaning given that term in section 16 of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. App. 2415) (as continued in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)).

(c) CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION IN IMPOSING SANCTIONS.—In determining whether to impose sanctions under subsection (a), the President shall consider—

(1) information provided by the chairperson and ranking member of each of the appropriate congressional committees; and

(2) credible information obtained by other countries and nongovernmental organizations that monitor violations of human rights.

(d) REQUESTS BY CHAIRPERSON AND RANKING MEMBER OF APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—Not later than 120 days after receiving a written request from the chairperson and ranking member of one of the appropriate congressional committees with respect to whether a foreign person has engaged in an activity described in subsection (a), the President shall—

(1) determine if that person has engaged in such an activity; and

(2) submit a report to the chairperson and ranking member of that committee with respect to that determination that includes—

(A) a statement of whether or not the President imposed or intends to impose sanctions with respect to the person; and

(B) if the President imposed or intends to impose sanctions, a description of those sanctions.

(e) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OBJECTIVES.—Sanctions under subsection (b)(1) shall not apply to an individual if admitting the individual into

the United States would further important law enforcement objectives or is necessary to permit the United States to comply with the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States, or other applicable international obligations of the United States.

(f) ENFORCEMENT OF BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—A person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of subsection (b)(2) or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out subsection (b)(2) shall be subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of that section.

(g) TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS.—The President may terminate the application of sanctions under this section with respect to a person if the President determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees not later than 15 days before the termination of the sanctions that—

(1) credible information exists that the person did not engage in the activity for which sanctions were imposed;

(2) the person has been prosecuted appropriately for the activity for which sanctions were imposed;

(3) the person has credibly demonstrated a significant change in behavior, has paid an appropriate consequence for the activity for which sanctions were imposed, and has credibly committed to not engage in an activity described in subsection (a) in the future; or

(4) the termination of the sanctions is in the vital national security interests of the United States.

(h) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The President shall issue such regulations, licenses, and orders as are necessary to carry out this section.

(i) IDENTIFICATION OF SANCTIONABLE FOREIGN PERSONS.—The Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs and other bureaus of the Department of State, as appropriate, is authorized to submit to the Secretary of State, for review and consideration, the names of foreign persons who may meet the criteria described in subsection (a).

(j) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(1) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 4. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees, in accordance with subsection (b), a report that includes—

(1) a list of each foreign person with respect to which the President imposed sanctions pursuant to section 3 during the year preceding the submission of the report;

(2) a description of the type of sanctions imposed with respect to each such person;

(3) the number of foreign persons with respect to which the President—

(A) imposed sanctions under section 3(a) during that year; and

(B) terminated sanctions under section 3(g) during that year;

(4) the dates on which such sanctions were imposed or terminated, as the case may be;

(5) the reasons for imposing or terminating such sanctions; and

(6) a description of the efforts of the President to encourage the governments of other countries to impose sanctions that are similar to the sanctions authorized by section 3.

(b) DATES FOR SUBMISSION.—

(1) INITIAL REPORT.—The President shall submit the initial report under subsection (a) not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The President shall submit a subsequent report under subsection (a) on December 10, or the first day thereafter on which both Houses of Congress are in session, of—

(i) the calendar year in which the initial report is submitted if the initial report is submitted before December 10 of that calendar year; and

(ii) each calendar year thereafter.

(B) CONGRESSIONAL STATEMENT.—Congress notes that December 10 of each calendar year has been recognized in the United States and internationally since 1950 as "Human Rights Day".

(c) FORM OF REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(2) EXCEPTION.—The name of a foreign person to be included in the list required by subsection (a)(1) may be submitted in the classified annex authorized by paragraph (1) only if the President—

(A) determines that it is vital for the national security interests of the United States to do so;

(B) uses the annex in a manner consistent with congressional intent and the purposes of this Act; and

(C) not later than 15 days before submitting the name in a classified annex, provides to the appropriate congressional committees notice of, and a justification for, including the name in the classified annex despite any publicly available credible information indicating that

the person engaged in an activity described in section 3(a).

(d) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The unclassified portion of the report required by subsection (a) shall be made available to the public, including through publication in the Federal Register.

(2) NONAPPLICABILITY OF CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENT WITH RESPECT TO VISA RECORDS.—The President shall publish the list required by subsection (a)(1) without regard to the requirements of section 222(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1202(f)) with respect to confidentiality of records pertaining to the issuance or refusal of visas or permits to enter the United States.

(e) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(1) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on For-

eign Affairs, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

Passed the Senate December 17, 2015.

Attest: JULIE E. ADAMS,
Secretary.

AMENDMENT TO S. 284

OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE OF CALIFORNIA AND MR. ENGEL OF NEW YORK

Page 2, strike lines 4 through 19 and insert the following:

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term "foreign person" has the meaning given such term in section 595.304 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations.

(2) PERSON.—The term "person" has the meaning given such term in section 591.308 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations.

(3) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term "United States person" has the meaning given such term in section 595.312 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations.

Page 4, line 17, strike "all" in both places.

Page 5, line 20, insert "with respect to a foreign person described in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a)" after "under subsection (a)".

Page 5, line 22, after "provided" insert "jointly".

Page 6, line 7, strike "from" and insert "provided jointly by".

Page 6, line 10, insert "paragraph (1) or (2) of" before "subsection (a)".

Page 6, line 13, insert "classified or unclassified" before "report".

Page 8, line 14, strike "vital".

Page 8, strike line 18 and all the follows through line 25.

Page 9, line 1, strike "(j)" and insert "(i)".

Page 9, line 5, strike "and" and insert a comma.

Page 9, line 6, insert ", and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs" before "of".

Page 9, line 7, strike "and" and insert a comma.

Page 9, line 8, insert ", and the Committee on the Judiciary" before "of the".

Page 13, after line 2, insert the following:

SEC. 5. PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL FUNDING.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act.

SEC. 6. SUNSET.

The authority to impose sanctions under this Act shall terminate at the close of December 31, 2019. Sanctions imposed under this Act on or before December 31, 2019, and in effect as of such date, shall remain in effect until terminated in accordance with the requirements described in section (3)(g).

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Chairman ROYCE. After recognizing myself and the ranking member, I will be pleased to recognize any member seeking recognition to speak on the underlying bill before we move on to the amendments.

Now, this bill, the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, authorizes sanctions against foreign nationals responsible for significant corruption or responsible for gross violations of internationally recognized human rights which are committed against individuals seeking to promote human rights or to expose government corruption.

Today's manager's amendment strengthens the Senate text, specifically, the amendment requires that any sanctions recommendations made to the President must have the support from both the chair and the ranking member of the requesting committee. By mandating a joint referral, this bill ensures bipartisan support for any action the President may take.

In addition, the amendment brings the Senate text into compliance with House rules regarding sunsets. The inclusion of a sunset to this legislation ensures that Congress has the opportunity and has the responsibility to review the application of sanctions authority after 3 years of being on the books.

I want to thank the ranking member and others who worked with us to craft this amendment. I urge all members to support the bill's passage. And we will go to—yeah, Mr. Engel is on his way. Do any other members seek recognition?

Mr. Rohrabacher.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. I rise in support of the legislation and what it is trying to accomplish. And let's make very clear that I have a long track record of supporting efforts by our Government in the area of civil liberties and especially in terms of opposing kleptocracies and violent dictatorships, et cetera. And in this case, what we are actually trying to do is right. We are putting in place a mechanism in order to make sure that those people who control other countries and have committed major human rights abuses don't get off scot-free, and that is a good thing.

And let me just note that my amendment that will be coming up afterwards does not in any way disagree with the purpose of the bill. I will be voting for the bill. But my amendment will question as to whether or not the title should include a specific name of a case.

So I rise in support of this legislation. I think it is what Americans should be for. That is standing up to gangsters and brutes overseas who commit violent acts and are engaged with human rights abuses. However, there is a question about the name, which I will be bringing up in an amendment later on.

So thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Rohrabacher.

Mr. Cicilline of Rhode Island.

Mr. CICILLINE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to begin by thanking you and Ranking Member Engel for holding this markup today.

As always, I am pleased that this committee has come together in a spirit of bipartisanship to pass legislation that deals with a variety of important issues and was very proud to cosponsor the bills we just passed that were introduced and passed in a bipartisan way. And I appreciate the opportunity to speak this morning in strong support of the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, the bill introduced in the Senate by Senator Cardin and here in the House by our colleague Chris Smith.

This important legislation builds upon the achievements of the Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, which was signed into law in 2012, and has been an important tool in targeting those in the Russian Government who are complicit in the death and subsequent coverup of Russian lawyer Sergei Magnitsky.

The Global Magnitsky bill authorizes the executive branch to impose sanctions against individuals responsible for gross human rights violations against persons seeking to expose government corruption or promote human rights and freedoms. By expanding the scope of the sanctions beyond the Russian Government, this legislation sends an important message to those who seek to suppress human rights around the world that they will not be able to benefit from the U.S. financial system or travel to this country if they partake in gross abuses or corruption, which, unfortunately, we have seen with increasing regularity around the world in recent years.

I commend the leadership of Senator Cardin and of my colleague Congressman Smith in introducing this legislation and getting us to this point.

According to Freedom House, freedom around the world has been in steady decline for 10 years, and 2015 had the steepest decline yet. The war in Syria, the resulting refugee crisis, the rise of extremism have all contributed to crackdowns in the name of so-called security and a general decline of human rights in every region of the world.

I am particularly concerned by the uptick in abuses against vulnerable populations who are already at grave risk in many countries. In particular, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities around the world have experienced horrific violence and violations of basic human rights that puts individuals in these cat-

egories at grave risk for injury or death simply because of who they are.

Yesterday, the world commemorated the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia, which is dedicated to raising awareness of the terrible discrimination, violence, and other violations committed against LGBT communities around the world. To be clear, we are not talking about marriage or bathroom laws in the international context. LGBT people abroad face horrific persecution, threats, constant harassment, lack of access to health care, marginalization, violence, and death because of their status or perceived status of being gay, lesbian, or transgender.

Some illustrations. In The Gambia and sub-Saharan Africa, President Yahya Jammeh has threatened to personally "slit the throats" of gay men found in his country and has arrested and tortured a number of gay men, including one who was beaten so badly in detention he needed to be hospitalized. In Indonesia, this year the Defense Minister publicly called the LGBT community a threat that must be defeated with "kind of modern warfare." Last year in Brazil, a transgender teen was beaten to death and two Sao Paulo police officers implicated in her death were freed because the judge did not believe they "seemed like criminals."

Numerous reports of horrific murders of allegedly gay men have come out of territories controlled by the Islamic State, including men being thrown off tall buildings, then stoned to death by crowds incited by homophobic rhetoric. In Russia, the Duma is considering legislation to follow up on its infamous anti-homosexual propaganda bill with legislation making it illegal to come out as gay, punishable with jail time.

Unfortunately, I could go on and on with additional examples.

Because of the particularly heinous nature of the violations routinely committed against LGBT communities around the world, I intended to offer an amendment to this legislation clarifying that the persecution of the LGBT individuals and those protecting their rights are included in the abuses sanctionable by this legislation. However, it is my understanding, after speaking with our chairman on this subject, that he agrees with my assessment that these rights are, indeed, included in the legislation.

And with that, I would probably yield before I conclude to the chairman.

Chairman ROYCE. Well, yes, thank you for raising this point.

Certainly, around the world we have witnessed some truly severe human rights violations, some directed at people solely on the basis of their professed or perceived sexual orientation or gender. In a number of African countries, gay people are at risk of being killed or jailed for life, and in places like Russia and Iran, we see authorities trying to ban even the discussion of sexual orientation. And, of course, there was the brutal murder of a USAID employee and gay rights activist in Bangladesh just last month. This was an abhorrent crime.

And I want to make clear that the internationally recognized human rights referenced in the Global Magnitsky Act apply to all people, including those who identify as LGBT, and the committee is planning a hearing for later this year on the alarming threats to fundamental human rights worldwide.

So I look forward to working with the gentleman on that, and today it is important that we advance this legislation that promises to improve human rights of all.

Mr. CICILLINE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank you for your consideration of this. I look forward to working with you and other members of this committee to ensure that the rights of LGBT individuals and other vulnerable minorities receive due consideration here at the committee, and I think a hearing on this matter would be a great step forward. And with that, I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you.

Other members seeking recognition?

Mr. Higgins.

Mr. HIGGINS. Thank you, Chairman. Thank you, Ranking Member Engel. Thank you for holding this important markup today. I am pleased that we will be considering House Resolution 650, a resolution introduced by Congressman Ted Poe, which would reiterate our strong commitment to the residents of Camp Liberty by providing for their safety and expedited resettlement.

Since 2009, seven attacks at Camp Liberty and Camp Ashraf have killed 140 residents, with over 1,000 wounded. Despite pledges to provide for their safety, the Government of Iraq has failed to live up to this commitment and some of its forces may have been complicit in these attacks.

Approximately 2,000 residents of Camp Liberty are currently awaiting resettlement by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. We must work with the U.N. and the Iraqi Government to expeditiously relocate these individuals before any more harm befalls them. In the interim, the Government of Iraq must provide for the safety and security of this vulnerable population.

I look forward to the passage of this resolution. I yield back the balance of my time.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Higgins.

Other members seeking recognition?

Mr. Engel.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Chairman, again, thank you for convening this markup. I also want to thank you for bringing forward our last bill, the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act. This is a product of many years of hard work by Representatives Smith and McGovern here in the House and by Senators Cardin and McCain in the Senate.

This bill would authorize the President to sanction foreign individuals who commit gross violations of human rights, as well as government officials involved in significant acts of corruption. It would allow the chairs and ranking members of relevant congressional committees to send names of potential violators to the administration, and requires a determination of whether those people meet the criteria for sanctions.

This measure builds on the 2012 Magnitsky Act, which created a similar process for people inside Russia. This legislation would send a powerful message that human rights abusers and corruption aren't just internal matters, they are the concern of all countries, and they should not be permitted to go on with impunity.

So I urge support for this important legislation. Thank you, again, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to all our members. I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Engel.

We now go to Mr. Brad Sherman of Los Angeles.

Mr. SHERMAN. First, I want to commend the gentleman from Rhode Island for focusing on LGBT rights, and especially thank the chairman for his comments, the colloquy, and the upcoming hearing. LGBT rights are human rights.

I heard the gentleman from Orange County on the name "Magnitsky" being in the bill. On the one hand, this bill really isn't focused on Magnitsky or on Russia. It deals with our human rights approach worldwide. And the Magnitsky case is inspiring to many. I know the gentleman from California believes that some of what we believe about that case is not true. But I would point out that there are many other inspiring cases.

On the other hand, the author of a bill who works so hard on it usually gets to suggest a title. This bill has gone through the Senate, has been the product of all the Senators and House Members that the chair named. So I realize the gentleman from California feels strongly that Magnitsky's name should not be part of the title and look forward to the comments of our colleagues here on that issue.

Chairman ROYCE. Does the member have an amendment at the desk? And I am not suggesting that the gentleman should offer an amendment. I am just commenting that he makes an interesting point, and I see both sides of that point. And I am not trying to inspire any action by any member.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. I have an amendment at the desk.

Chairman ROYCE. The clerk will report the amendment.

Ms. MARTER. Amendment to S. 284, offered by Mr. Rohrabacher of California, page 2, line 2, strike "Magnitsky."

[The information referred to follows:]

AMENDMENT TO S. 284

OFFERED BY MR. ROHRABACHER OF CALIFORNIA

Page 2, line 2, strike ''Magnitsky''.

☒

Chairman ROYCE. The Chair recognizes the author to explain the amendment.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Yes, my amendment is very simple. I mean, it would change the name of the bill simply by removing the word "Magnitsky" from the bill. So we would then call it the Global Human Rights Accountability Act, which is more accurate than to put "Magnitsky" in the middle of that. I mean, the fact is this bill isn't just about Russia. It is about setting an international standard. By putting "Magnitsky" in the title, we are taking a gratuitous slap at Russia and we are confusing people about the real purpose of this bill.

The purpose of this bill is not just to attack Russia. We already have legislation doing that, specifically on Magnitsky. And basically, we should be very proud that we are setting an international standard and not confuse it by adding one case. Let's note about this case, there has been a lot of talk about it. It is confusing. We need to look into this and ask some serious questions before we just accept what is being handed to us.

In the 1990s, Russia was in economic chaos as it shifted from state control to a market economy. At this time, you had very notorious characters arise in Russia and coming from outside of Russia to exploit that situation for their own situation. We saw the rise of oligarchs who were not just Russians, but other people as well, and they ended up walking away with billions of dollars. Some of these foreigners, including Mr. Browder, who was Mr. Magnitsky's boss, walked away with billions of dollars. Let me note that Mr. Browder is not a U.S. citizen. He gave up his citizenship at a time to shield himself from major tax liabilities. So we have people there.

And I notice that he sent a letter to us talking about kleptocracy, and here is a man himself who made billions of dollars in the middle of this chaos. And there is a major question—and that is what this whole issue is about—as to whether $230 million worth of taxes the Russian Government deserved from those billions of dollars made by Mr. Browder, whether or not those—that he legitimately paid this or whether or not he was trying to shield that.

Mr. Magnitsky was the man who helped keep his books. He was arrested. And the question is whether or not what he went through and the horrible confinement that he was kept in and treatment that he was given was the Russians trying to find out—have him say where is the money that Browder hid, or is it that he had some information that showed corruption on the part of the Russians. And I will have to say that it is possible either one of those explanations could be true, but we don't know enough.

I would put for the record, submit for the record now, Mr. Chairman, an article from The New Republic and an article from The Wall Street Journal that calls into question this account that we have been told over and over again.

Let me note that there was a major, one of the most respected documentary filmmakers, an anti-Putin documentary filmmaker from Russia who started to do research on this and was going to have a documentary condemning the Russian Government on this, and he came away after the investigation changing his basic belief and believing instead that Mr. Browder has actually had a PR campaign to cover up some of his own activities in escaping this tax liability.

So let me just note that also Mr. Browder has, from what we are told, and there is evidence that indicates, that he has threatened to sue NBC for a documentary that says something else than what he would like presented about this Magnitsky case.

So let me just say, this is a confusing situation and there are serious questions that need to be addressed, and there is no reason, as I say, when we are setting up this global standard, that we need to include another factor that adds confusion to the purpose of the case.

So with that said, I would ask my colleagues just, let's name this the Global Human Rights Accountability Act. We can be proud of that. I have always been a proud supporter of human rights measures throughout my career. And I think this actually, by doing this, we take away the confusion.

And I think it is striking a blow to say what we want is an explanation, what we want to base this on is truth, not just some gratuitous slap at Russia by some, and at the same time backing up the claims of a guy who made billions of dollars at a time when Russia was economically confused.

So with that, I would ask my colleagues to join me in what I consider to be a very rational and reasonable proposal, that we make this the Global Human Rights Accountability Act instead of the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, Mr. Rohrabacher.

Do any other members seek recognition to speak on this amendment?

Mr. Engel.

Mr. ENGEL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Let me first say, with respect to my good friend and classmate from California, I have to oppose this amendment. Sergei Magnitsky was a lawyer who worked to shine a light on corruption, fraud, and theft by authorities inside Russia. As we well know, opponents of Russia's increasingly authoritarian regime don't get the benefits of due process or rule of law. So he was thrown in prison, held for a year with no trial, denied medical care, subjected to horrific conditions, and beaten by prison guards in the final hours of his life. His basic rights and dignity were pushed aside when he was dying in a Russian prison cell, but now his name and his story have become synonymous with efforts to advance human rights and fight corruption.

There is a good reason we put his name on a law years ago, and we should reject any attempt to revise history or sweep it under the rug. We should not be apologists for Putin. We should not be worried about offending Putin or his incredibly more and more authoritarian regime. Let the chips fall where they may.

Stripping's Magnitsky name from this bill dishonors his work and diminishes the tragedy of his death. So with all due respect to my good friend, I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Other members seeking recognition?

General.

Mr. PERRY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

While I have the consummate respect for my good friend from California, I must disagree with him on this particular issue. And I think that it is a good thing any single time that we highlight the atrocities, whether they are imposed on one individual or millions of individuals, by the Russian state, by the U.S.S.R., the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. And any time we can highlight things like the Katyn Forest massacre of thousands of Poles or the Terror-Famine in Ukraine, up to 6 million Ukrainians murdered by the Soviet Union and the Russian dictators, I think it is a good thing.

And so with those reasons in mind, I will oppose this amendment and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Chairman ROYCE. Thank you, General Perry.

Mr. Albio Sires.

Mr. SIRES. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And I really appreciate all your hard work, especially on this bill, but I must disagree with my colleague from California. I think to worry about what Russia feels about this, the name of this bill, when they are just moving away from democracy and becoming more dictatorial every day, I really do not agree with removing this name. If we remove this name, maybe we should add Fidel Castro to the bill. That may be more appropriate.

Thank you.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Would my friend yield?

Mr. SIRES. Absolutely.

Mr. CONNOLLY. I thank my friend.

My friend from California knows how much I do respect him and like him. But I felt listening to him like I was watching RT, Russian Television.

His argument is essentially three points. Well, there is a lot of confusion over the circumstances. We don't know whether he was beaten to death because he was himself corrupt or they were trying to get intelligence out of him, as if that could ever be justified.

Secondly, it is a gratuitous slap at Vladimir Putin and Russia. Actually, of course, it is the very opposite. It is calling them out for behavior that absolutely fails even the minimal standards of international norms with respect to jurisprudence and protection of those in custody.

Thirdly, with his billions, being an oligarch, who knows, maybe there were lots of reasons to justify this. There can never be any reasons to justify it.

I would make the opposite argument of my friend from California. We must put this name on this bill. We must make it clear to Vladimir Putin and his friends in Russia that there are international standards we will adhere to and insist they adhere to.

And so I think we have to reject this amendment on its face overwhelmingly and make a collective statement from this committee, on behalf of this Congress, that we take note and that we are not going to let up, and that unacceptable behavior by Mr. Putin, whether it be in the Crimea or in a prison cell involving Sergei Magnitsky, you will adhere to civilized international norms of behavior because we are going to insist on it. And when you don't, we are going to call you out.

I yield back.

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Connolly, will you yield?

Mr. CONNOLLY. The time is Mr. Sires'.

Mr. SIRES. Yes, I yield.

Chairman ROYCE. The gentleman yields.

Mr. Cicilline.

Mr. CICILLINE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I too oppose this amendment and encourage my colleagues to vote against it. And I just want to say that I thank my good friend, Mr. Rohrabacher, actually for giving us an opportunity to again re-

mind people about the circumstances of this case and the naming of this legislation.

There are really no doubts about the veracity of the case of Sergei Magnitsky, who was only 37 years old when he was killed in Russian Government custody after exposing wide-scale corruption and tax fraud by Russian officials. After arresting Mr. Magnitsky for the crimes he exposed, they allowed him to die in horrific circumstances.

The Russian Government then continued its campaign of smears and vilification, turning on Magnitsky's boss, Bill Browder, after he refused to let the case simply disappear. They convicted Bill Browder in absentia of the tax evasion that Magnitsky had led the charge to uncover. And even more galling, they had the audacity to convict Mr. Magnitsky posthumously; in fact, the first such prosecution in Russian history.

The Russian Government has had no shame when it comes to the case of Sergei Magnitsky, the details of which have been pored over, verified by multiple sources, and verified again. To allow the Russian Government any modicum of influence over this legislation, including its name, would be shameful and would dishonor the work of Mr. Magnitsky, Mr. Browder, and all of those men and women in Russia and around the world who fight against corruption and human rights abuses.

I have here a Daily Beast article published today which outlines the length the Russian Government has gone to, to discredit, smear, and vilify Mr. Magnitsky and to oppose this legislation. And with the chairman's permission, I would like to submit it for the record.

And I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment and support the underlying legislation, the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act.

Chairman ROYCE. Without objection, subject to the length limitations and committee rules, all members have general leave to submit related materials for the record.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Chairman.

Chairman ROYCE. Mr. Chabot seeks recognition.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Chairman, move to strike the last word.

Chairman ROYCE. Mr. Chabot, you are recognized.

Mr. CHABOT. Thank you. Mr. Chairman, it doesn't mean I support his amendment, but I yield my time to the gentleman from California.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Thank you very much for yielding that time. And by the way, thank you for your expressions of friendship and respect for differences of opinion. That is all right. We are in a country where we do respect each other when we have disagreements and that is one of the things that makes our country great.

Back to this particular issue, I will just have to say that there is ample evidence, enough evidence that major magazines, like New Republic and The Wall Street Journal, have called into question the details of this case as to whether or not what is being presented is not something that has been a major effort on the part of a multi-billionaire who made his profit at a time when there was chaos and confusion in Russia and basically became one of the oligarchs.

What we should be talking about is basically, when we are talking about whether this title is appropriate, what are our standards of truth in this case? Do we know absolutely what the truth is? And I am saying that there are enough people who are credible.

And the fact that we have Mr. Browder threatening a major television network in the United States, threatening them with a lawsuit if they have any major documentary on this issue. We also have a man who is renowned in Russia for making documentaries that oppose Putin, who launched an effort to do a documentary on Mr. Magnitsky. And guess what, as he went on, he began to realize it did not make any sense, the story that was being presented, which is that Magnitsky was being kept because he was exposing some Russians, government officials of corruption, as compared to he was being held because the Russian Government knew that there was $230 million in a tax liability that they did not have the funds that Mr. Browder was eligible, that was his tax liability.

So I think that this is a murky issue. It is not cut and dry. And I know that over and over again it has been repeated that it is cut and dry and it is not. And I have tried to be an honest person myself, and the bottom line is that we, by taking this name out, in no way are we changing the standard of what we have and what our Government is going to have when it comes to this type of behavior of foreign officials.

The downside of this, let me be very clear about this, the Russians feel it is a gratuitous slap just at them. And because of that, they have changed a law in Russia dealing with Americans' ability to adopt children, Russian children. Now, I would oppose them doing that, but that is what they did. And there is a side effect to this that is harming some children and some people here who would like to adopt Russian children who are in very much in need, and it is based not on trying to force us to change our standards, but at least trying to force us to take what they considered a gratuitous slap out of the title of the bill.

So with that said——

Mr. CONNOLLY. Would my friend yield for a question?

Mr. ROHRABACHER. I certainly will.

Mr. CONNOLLY. The name of the bill is the Magnitsky bill, not the Browder bill. Is that not correct?

Mr. ROHRABACHER. To the degree officially, that is correct.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Thank you.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. All right. But the name of the bill should be, instead of that, should be Human Rights Accountability Act and not anybody's name.

So with that said, I yield back the balance of my time. I appreciate my colleague yielding the time to me, and I yield back to him.

Mr. CHABOT. Reclaiming my time, I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Do any other members seek recognition to speak on this amendment?

Mr. Randy Weber of Texas.

Mr. WEBER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

When Edward Snowden was running from American officials he landed in Moscow eventually. American officials pushed Putin to either extradite him to America or to kick him out of Russia. Putin commented that he didn't have any control over who was in Russia.

Dana, you referenced The Wall Street Journal, so it reminded me that Dan Henninger in that article at that time said that that was ridiculous what Putin said because when Russian officials didn't want somebody in Russia, on Russian soil, they either removed him from it or put him under it. So that is their reputation.

I yield to my friend from Pennsylvania.

Mr. PERRY. Thank you for yielding to my good friend from Texas.

Just in response to my other good friend from California, which I must vehemently disagree with on this, when he says we are not sure of the facts, we are not sure of the facts, let me tell you what facts we are absolutely sure of. We are sure of the facts of the Terror-Famine in the 1930s where the Russian Government murdered by starvation up to 6 million Ukrainians and took their land. We are sure of the facts of the Katyn Forest massacre of World War II and the massacre of the Poles that were blamed on the Germans. We are sure of the facts of up to 45 million untimely deaths at the boot of communism and socialism under the Russian Government. And we are sure of the fact that Vladimir Putin is a former KGB agent and he is coalescing power not in a democratic way, but an authoritarian way, and is likely responsible for the untimely and unpleasant deaths of many that we don't know about. But we do know about this one.

I think it is our duty to remind the American people every single day that we can, until they change their ways, what the Russian Government, what the U.S.S.R. has stood for, what Communism and Socialism has meant for the world, world over, since World War II.

And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

Chairman ROYCE. Do any other members seek recognition? Hearing no further requests for recognition, the question occurs on the amendment.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the noes have it, and the amendment is not agreed to.

Are there any other requests for amendment at the desk. Hearing no further amendments, the Chair now moves that the committee agree to S. 284's amendment.

All those in favor, say aye.

All those opposed, no.

In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it, and S. 284, as amended, is agreed to. Without objection, S. 284, as amended, is ordered favorably reported as a single amendment in the nature of a substitute. Staff is directed to make any technical and conforming changes and the Chairman is authorized to seek House consideration under suspension of the rules.

So that concludes our business for today. I want to thank Ranking Member Engel and all of our committee members for their contributions and assistance with today's markup.

The committee is adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 11:22 a.m., the committee was adjourned.]

APPENDIX

Material Submitted for the Record

FULL COMMITTEE MARKUP NOTICE
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6128

Edward R. Royce (R-CA), Chairman

May 18, 2016

TO: MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

You are respectfully requested to attend an OPEN meeting of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, to be held in Room 2172 of the Rayburn House Office Building (and available live on the Committee website at http://www.ForeignAffairs.house.gov):

DATE: Wednesday, May 18, 2016

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

MARKUP OF: H. Res. 374, Recognizing the 50th anniversary of Singaporean independence and reaffirming Singapore's close partnership with the United States;

H. Res. 650, Providing for the safety and security of the Iranian dissidents living in Camp Liberty/Hurriya in Iraq and awaiting resettlement by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and permitting use of their own assets to assist in their resettlement;

H. Con. Res. 129, Expressing support for the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust victims live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years, and urging the Federal Republic of Germany to reaffirm its commitment to this goal through a financial commitment to comprehensively address the unique health and welfare needs of vulnerable Holocaust victims, including home care and other medically prescribed needs;

S. 284, Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act; and

S. 1252, Global Food Security Act of 2016.

By Direction of the Chairman

The Committee on Foreign Affairs seeks to make its facilities accessible to persons with disabilities. If you are in need of special accommodations, please call 202/225-5021 at least four business days in advance of the event, whenever practicable. Questions with regard to special accommodations in general (including availability of Committee materials in alternative formats and assistive listening devices) may be directed to the Committee.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF FULL COMMITTEE MARKUP

Day *Wednesday* Date *5/18/2016* Room *2172*

Starting Time *10:06* Ending Time *11:22*

Recesses [*0*] (____to____) (____to____) (____to____) (____to____) (____to____) (____to____)

Presiding Member(s)

Chairman Edward R. Royce

Check all of the following that apply:

Open Session [✓]
Executive (closed) Session [ ]
Televised [✓]

Electronically Recorded (taped) [✓]
Stenographic Record [✓]

BILLS FOR MARKUP: *(Include bill number(s) and title(s) of legislation.)*

See attached.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

See attached.

NON-COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

none

STATEMENTS FOR THE RECORD: *(List any statements submitted for the record.)*

IFR - Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, IFR - Rep. David Cicilline

ACTIONS TAKEN DURING THE MARKUP: *(Attach copies of legislation and amendments.)*

See markup summary.

RECORDED VOTES TAKEN (FOR MARKUP): *(Attach final vote tally sheet listing each member.)*

Subject	Yeas	Nays	Present	Not Voting

TIME SCHEDULED TO RECONVENE _____
or
TIME ADJOURNED *11:22*

Doug Anderson, General Counsel

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FULL COMMITTEE MARKUP

PRESENT	*MEMBER*
X	Edward R. Royce, CA
X	Christopher H. Smith, NJ
X	Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, FL
X	Dana Rohrabacher, CA
X	Steve Chabot, OH
X	Joe Wilson, SC
X	Michael T. McCaul, TX
X	Ted Poe, TX
X	Matt Salmon, AZ
	Darrell Issa, CA
X	Tom Marino, PA
X	Jeff Duncan, SC
X	Mo Brooks, AL
X	Paul Cook, CA
X	Randy Weber, TX
X	Scott Perry, PA
X	Ron DeSantis, FL
X	Mark Meadows, NC
X	Ted Yoho, FL
X	Curt Clawson, FL
X	Scott DesJarlais, TN
X	Reid Ribble, WI
X	Dave Trott, MI
X	Lee Zeldin, NY
X	Dan Donovan, NY

PRESENT	*MEMBER*
X	Eliot L. Engel, NY
X	Brad Sherman, CA
X	Gregory W. Meeks, NY
X	Albio Sires, NJ
X	Gerald E. Connolly, VA
X	Theodore E. Deutch, FL
X	Brian Higgins, NY
X	Karen Bass, CA
X	William Keating, MA
X	David Cicilline, RI
X	Alan Grayson, FL
X	Ami Bera, CA
X	Alan S. Lowenthal, CA
X	Grace Meng, NY
X	Lois Frankel, FL
X	Tulsi Gabbard, HI
X	Joaquin Castro, TX
X	Robin Kelly, IL
X	Brendan Boyle, PA
X	
X	

5/18/16 Foreign Affairs Committee Markup Summary

The Chair called the markup to order.

The Chair called up the following measures and amendments, to be considered *en bloc,* by unanimous consent:

1) H. Res. 374 (Heck), Recognizing the 50th anniversary of Singaporean independence and reaffirming Singapore's close partnership with the United States.

    a. Engel 78, an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H. Res. 374

2) H. Res. 650 (Poe), Providing for the safety and security of the Iranian dissidents living in Camp Liberty/Hurriya in Iraq and awaiting resettlement by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and permitting use of their own assets to assist in their resettlement.

    a. Engel 80, an amendment to H. Res. 650

3) H. Con. Res. 129 (Ros-Lehtinen), Expressing support for the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust victims live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years, and urging the Federal Republic of Germany to reaffirm its commitment to this goal through a financial commitment to comprehensively address the unique health and welfare needs of vulnerable Holocaust victims, including home care and other medically prescribed needs.

    a. Ros-Lehtinen 45, an amendment to H. Con. Res. 129

4) S. 1252 (Casey), Global Food Security Act of 2016

The measures and amendments considered *en bloc* were agreed to by voice vote. By unanimous consent, the measures were ordered favorably reported, as amended, and the Chair was authorized to seek House consideration of the measures under suspension of the rules.

The Chair then called up S. 284 (Cardin), Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act

By unanimous consent, S. 284, as modified by Royce 102, a Manager's amendment to S. 284, was considered base text for purposes of amendment.

1) Rohrabacher 49, an amendment to S. 284, was not agreed to by voice vote.

S. 284, as amended by Royce 102, was agreed to by voice vote. By unanimous consent, the measure, as amended, was ordered favorably reported as a single amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the Chair was authorized to seek House consideration under suspension of the rules.

The Committee adjourned.

MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD BY THE HONORABLE DANA ROHRABACHER, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Fighting Putin Doesn't Make You a Saint

Hedge fund star Bill Browder has been a strident anti-Putin voice. But why won't he testify about Russian wrongdoing?

BY **JASON MOTLAGH**

December 31, 2015

An American-born banker and one-time Putin supporter builds the most successful investment fund in Russia. One day he is declared a threat to national security and kicked out of the country, his company seized by corrupt government officials perpetrating a massive tax fraud scheme. The banker himself is later convicted in absentia of the same offense. But a man he employs, who uncovers the scheme and dares to name names, is arrested. After serving a year in prison he dies under suspicious circumstances. To avenge his loss, the banker morphs from activist financier into an anti-corruption crusader amid death threats from the Kremlin.

This is the origin story at the core of a relentless campaign Bill Browder has spearheaded over the past six years to tighten Western sanctions against Russia. In public appearances, news articles ("The Kremlin threatened to kill me", "Why I fear for my life"), a memoir, and on a dedicated website, the founder and CEO of Hermitage Capital Management has cultivated official support from London to Washington with astonishing results. In 2012, Congress passed the Magnitsky Act—named after Sergei Magnitsky, the deceased Browder employee—which bans those who benefited from the alleged tax fraud from entering the United States or using its banks. A year later, the U.S. Justice Department doubled-down by opening a civil forfeiture case against a holding company owned by a Russian businessman allegedly linked to the stolen money. Some $22 million of property assets in Manhattan were frozen on charges of money laundering.

Few would dispute that Browder's staggering success as an outsider money manager could make him a target in the murky realm of post-Soviet Russian finance. Many prominent Russian tycoons have fared worse. Yet attorneys for Denis Katsyv, the Moscow-based businessman who has been snared in the Justice Department's case, counter that overzealous prosecutors have gone too far, accepting Browder's account wholesale without independently verifying key details. They assert that a closer examination has revealed holes in his story, ones the government would rather avoid confronting given how much their case depends on Browder's word.

Katsyv, the 38-year-old son of a former Moscow region transport minister, was first linked to the money-laundering scheme back in September 2013, when the U.S. district attorney for the southern district of New York alleged companies he controls had bought real estate in New York City with some of the $230 million looted from the Russian government. Prosecutors say the cash was siphoned through a tangled web of shell companies with bank accounts in Russia and Eastern Europe, before a portion made its way to an investment company based in Cyprus, Prevezon Holdings, which Katsyv subsequently purchased.

Previous media investigations and insider leaks have suggested the involvement of Russian tax officials in the purported treasury heist. However, no proof has yet surfaced that Katsyv or his family ever profited from, or knew about, the wide-ranging scam, according to his lawyers. They note that Katsyv had no reason to suspect any of the cash was potentially tainted because the transfers were relatively small and pre-dated his ownership of the company.

Last year, U.S. District Judge Thomas P. Griesa loosened the freeze order on most of the real estate assets belonging to companies owned by Katsyv, who has since mounted his own offensive. In May, his lawyers filed a deposition transcript with the Manhattan federal court alleging that key parts of Browder's story are false. Notably, that his expulsion from Russia was not politically motivated as he has long maintained. In a letter to Judge Griesa, the lawyers wrote that Browder acknowledged under oath he had he "personally signed income tax returns that Russian tax courts found to contain false representations." They also said Browder did not deny claims his representatives had tried to bribe a Russian journalist who spoke with Magnitsky in prison and was told by him that bosses at Hermitage "set him up" to take the fall for Browder's alleged tax fraud.

Browder declined to comment for this story. In a May 13 *Wall Street Journal* article on challenges to his credibility, he said Katsyv's lawyers had misrepresented his testimony about his tax returns and dismissed the bribery claims. "The defendants," he asserted by email, "are obviously very upset that we informed the government about their alleged money laundering activity and seem to be trying to attack the people who informed on them as opposed to trying to defend themselves against the very serious allegations brought by the U.S. government."

Although Browder has been a willing interview in the press, getting him to make his case under oath has been a story in its own right. Browder gave up his U.S. citizenship in 1998 and has lived in the U.K. since leaving Russia. After a lengthy search, a process server finally managed to surprise him last summer in Aspen, Colorado,where he had given a speech. (A judge ruled the summons was not served properly due to lack of residence). Six months later, another server caught up with Browder in New York following an appearance on *The Daily Show*. When he charged forward to present subpoena papers, Browder slipped out of the side of his limousine and fled on foot. (The incident was captured on video). This time the judge ruled the subpoena was valid and the financier was deposed. Browder's lawyers have fought for nearly two years to keep their client from being cross-examined. For the defense, such elusive behavior raises a fair question: If Browder was indeed the victim of persecution in Russia and has enlisted the U.S. justice system to right the balance, why is he so reluctant to offer his sworn testimony in an American courtroom?

Katsyv's lawyers say the government has acknowledged that Browder was the main source of its allegations and is now avoiding a hostile cross-examination that would test the veracity of his allegations. "In any media space where Browder has promulgated his story, there is no one who would ask the kind of concrete, pointed questions he would need to answer without contradicting his previous statements," Natalia Veselnitskaya, a Russian lawyer representing Katsyv, told me. "How can a person who does not pay taxes [in the U.S.] have this kind of influence?"

This dizzying legal drama might be forgettable had Browder's lobbying efforts not had major foreign policy implications. In the wake of the Magnitsky Act, the Russian government banned Americans from adopting Russian children and drew up a blacklist of its own against U.S. officials, deepening a diplomatic row that some have likened to a new Cold War. While the U.S. government has every reason to track dirty foreign money with a history of flowing into the New York real estate market, lawyers for Prevezon say the stakes are too high to be hinged on one man's account.

The U.S. Attorney's case was scheduled to go to trial in early January, but has been delayed by motions made by Browder's lawyers. Whenever the case is finally heard in court, it's still not clear whether he will take the stand to testify. With all the favorable results his stateside advocacy has mustered since his ouster from Russia, the looming question is: Why not?

Hedge-Fund Manager's Credibility Questioned in Russian Laundering Case
Defendant Denis Katsyv's court filing takes aim at William Browder's allegations
By **CHRISTOPHER M. MATTHEWS**
May 13, 2015 6:53 p.m. ET

Hedge-fund manager William Browder has long portrayed himself as a crusading financier seeking justice for the death of his associate Sergei Magnitsky, who was allegedly beaten to death in a Russian prison in 2009 after exposing a tax fraud involving government officials there.

According to a Russian businessman accused in Manhattan federal court of laundering some of the proceeds of that alleged $230 million fraud, Mr. Browder's account is a lie.

Lawyers defending several companies owned by the businessman, Denis Katsyv, filed with the court on Wednesday the transcript of a nearly eight-hour-long deposition of Mr. Browder, which they say pokes holes in his account, detailed in Mr. Browder's recently released book "Red Notice."

Mr. Browder, who claims he is a victim of unjust prosecution in Russia, provided evidence to the Manhattan U.S. attorney's office that underpins their case against Mr. Katsyv's companies. Defense lawyers argue Mr. Browder spun prosecutors a sham.

Among other things, lawyers for Mr. Katsyv's companies allege Mr. Browder's 2013 conviction in absentia in Russia on tax-fraud charges wasn't politically motivated.

"Under oath, Browder acknowledged that he personally signed income tax returns that Russian tax courts found to contain false representations," the lawyers wrote in a letter to U.S. District Judge Thomas P. Griesa.

The lawyers also said that Mr. Browder, founder of Hermitage Capital Management Ltd., didn't deny claims that his representatives tried to bribe a Russian journalist who spoke with Mr. Magnitsky in prison and was told by him that his superiors at Hermitage "set him up" to take the fall for Mr. Browder's tax fraud.

"Browder asserted that he could not remember whether he 'ever [had] somebody suggest to Mr. Magnitsky that he should take responsibility for the ... tax returns,' " the lawyers wrote. "That is an astonishing failure of memory from someone who has made Magnitsky's death the center of his public relations campaign."

Mr. Browder said the lawyers misrepresented his testimony about his tax returns and called the bribery claims "nonsense."

"The defendants are obviously very upset that we informed the government about their alleged money laundering activity and seem to be trying to attack the people who informed on them as opposed to trying to defend themselves against the very serious allegations brought by the U.S. government," Mr. Browder said in an email.

The U.S. Attorney's office declined to comment.

Mr. Browder was an early investor in Russia and by 2005 was the largest foreign investor in the country with assets of around $4.5 billion. But, according to Mr. Browder, he was charged on trumped-up tax-fraud allegations. He was kicked out of the country in 2005 after being labeled a threat to national security. The Russian government has long denied Mr. Browder's allegations.

In 2007, Russian authorities seized documents from Hermitage's Moscow office in raids. Mr. Magnitsky, whom Mr. Browder has called his tax lawyer, then exposed a tax fraud involving government officials.

Mr. Magnitsky was arrested in 2008 and charged with committing tax fraud. He was denied medical help in prison and was handcuffed and beaten while in custody, his family has said. He died in prison in 2009. Prison officials have denied mistreating him.

Mr. Browder has campaigned against Mr. Magnitsky's persecutors, an effort that resulted in the U.S. Congress passing the 2012 Magnitsky Act, which bars those who benefited from the tax fraud from entering the U.S. or using its banks.

In 2013, the U.S. attorney's office brought a civil forfeiture case alleging that Mr. Katsyv used some of the laundered money to buy real estate in New York. Prosecutors say a portion of the funds traveled through several shell companies into Prevezon Holdings, a Cyprus-based real-estate company that laundered the money into its real-estate holdings.

Mr. Katsyv, the son of a former Russian minister, and Prevezon deny the allegations and have attacked prosecutors for allegedly accepting Mr. Browder's account without independently verifying it.
The U.S. attorney's case is scheduled to go to trial this fall. It is unclear if Mr. Browder will testify.

MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD BY THE HONORABLE DAVID CICILLINE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

The Daily Beast
REVISE AND DISSENT
05.18.16 1:00 AM ET

Putin's Dirty Game in the U.S. Congress

By Michael Weiss

The Kremlin wants to get rid of the Magnitsky Act, which fingers some of its state-approved gangsters, and it's using desperately needy children as pawns.

The Russian government and its sympathizers have embarked on a concerted campaign to keep ill-gotten Russian money, and the crooks behind it, in business in the United States.

To do that, they want to rewrite the history of one of the most notorious corruption scandals of the Putin era. And, strangely, some members of the U.S. Congress and European Parliament seem to be playing along.

It all dates back to the passage of the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act on Dec. 14, 2012. This landmark piece of U.S. legislation, named for a tax lawyer in Moscow who uncovered massive corruption and allegedly died for that sin, sought to sanction and bar from entry into the United States dozens of Russian officials and mobsters implicated in a $230 million tax fraud and its murderous cover-up.

Since then, the Kremlin has tried every trick in its playbook to have the law repealed.

Early on, it promoted a series of "counter-Magnitsky" measures. One of these was a vindictive satire on the original law, barring certain U.S. citizens from traveling to Russia (not that the blacklisted U.S. senators or federal prosecutors of Russian arms traffickers had much of a desire to visit in the first place).

Another, crueler "counter-Magnitsky" measure prevented Americans from adopting Russian orphans, many of whom are disabled or stricken with debilitating illnesses and languishing in substandard state institutions.

Jo Becker, the children's-rights advocacy director for Human Rights Watch, denounced the anti-adoption law for making "vulnerable children pawns in a cynical act of political retribution."

But to the Kremlin's enormous frustration, the U.S. law stayed on the books.

In four years, the Magnitsky Act has not been repealed. The Obama administration, which treats Russia as a kind of frenemy that's potentially useful in some areas even when it's criminal in others, has enforced the law only fitfully, but a handful of Russian officials have been publicly named and shamed by Congress.

Meanwhile, efforts to have the law replicated in other democratic jurisdictions, including the European Parliament, have gained momentum, thanks largely to the relentless activism of one American financier.

William Browder is the CEO of the Hermitage Fund, a onetime Moscow-based investment firm whose offices were raided and whose subsidiaries were stolen and reregistered for use in dummying up tax liabilities in 2007.

Sergei Magnitsky was Browder's tax lawyer, a Russian everyman who uncovered the fraud and took his findings to the authorities, expecting them to be relieved at the prospect of recovering money effectively stolen from the state.

Instead, Magnitsky was accused of plotting and perpetrating the crime himself. He was arrested by some of the same Interior Ministry officials he'd implicated in the Hermitage fraud, and there is strong evidence—corroborated by Russia's Presidential Council on Human Rights, no less—to suggest that he was deprived of life-saving medical treatment for gallstones and acute pancreatitis while in pretrial detention.

There is further evidence that Magnitsky was handcuffed to a bed and beaten by truncheon-wielding guards who left him to die in an isolation cell in Matrosskaya Tishina prison in Moscow.

Browder has spent nearly a decade promoting Magnitsky's investigative work about the fusion between organized crime and the state in Putin's Russia. Burdened by an enormous sense of guilt about the death of his attorney, Browder has become a full-time flame tender for the Magnitsky legacy, vowing to bring to justice those who took part in the frame-up job of an innocent man.

Now permanently based in London, Browder has come under unremitting vilification and legal attack from Moscow.

In 2013, a Moscow court put Browder on trial in absentia alongside the dead Magnitsky in the first posthumous prosecution in the history of Russia.

Browder has since defeated efforts to use an Interpol Red Notice to have him extradited back to Russia to face trial for what he insists are bogus tax-evasion charges.

Since the passage of the Magnitsky Act, much of the looted $230 million has been found or frozen. Some was in Swiss and Latvian bank accounts; some was in offshore companies technically "owned" by Russian concert cellist Sergei Roldugin (who happens to be Putin's best friend), and some was even in six-figure condos in Manhattan.

About $14 million of these assets, including cash deposited in U.S. bank accounts controlled by a Cyprus-registered company called Prevezon Holdings, Ltd., was confiscated by the U.S. Department of Justice.

As the investigations and asset seizures have begun to bite, a lobbying effort has gotten under way to try once again to have the Magnitsky Act repealed.

As before, disadvantaged Russian children are being dangled as bait, with a wink-and-a-nudge promise to have the Russian law rescinded if the American law is taken off the books.

As one U.S. official put it privately, the current messaging is being "led by ogres out of central casting. They're saying, 'You repeal Magnitsky and we'll let go of the kids.' And it's not even American kids. It's their own. And they're kids with Down syndrome and spina bifida."

In February, an organization calling itself the Human Rights Accountability Global Initiative Foundation, an obvious echo of the full name of the Magnitsky Act, was registered in Delaware. Little trace of the activities or provenance of this organization exist online, apart from its "under construction" website, whose homepage is written in ungrammatical English.

HRAGIF claims to be "working on analyzing legal and legislative options to help overturn this adoption ban," according to its site. "We would like to present our findings to the members of U.S. Congress, Administration and U.S. public and is planning to brief them on possible ways of resolution of this stalemate on adoptions."

The Daily Beast has seen an email sent to the Open Dialog Foundation, a Poland-based NGO, from a man named Anatoli Samochornov, who claimed to "represent" HRAGIF along with Natalia Veselnitskaya, identified in the email as "a Russian lawyer who conducted an extensive investigation of the Magnitsky case."

Both Samochornov and Veselnitskaya were seeking press accreditation to attend an event last month at the Open Dialog Foundation where Browder was slated to speak.

They were denied accreditation.

The Russian-born, partly U.S.-educated Samochornov is a former project manager at the Meridian International Center, a subcontracted nonprofit hired by the U.S. State Department where, according to his LinkedIn profile, he worked on programs to "establish an understanding of U.S. foreign policy goals and objectives for current and future international leaders," and served as an interpreter at "high level UN and private sector meetings for the Secretary of State and other VIPs."

Samochornov was also apparently a "program officer" at the FBI's field office in New York, according to an FBI press release.

The Daily Beast spoke briefly to Samochornov last week. He confirmed the authenticity of his email to the Open Dialog Foundation and his and Veselnitskaya's involvement in the setting up of HRAGIF. But he asked to be interviewed on the record alongside his colleague, who was not, at the time of the call, available to speak.

Then, after agreeing to such an interview, neither Samochornov nor Veselnitskaya responded to The Daily Beast's follow-up inquiries, and neither was available in time for the publication of this story. Their silence may owe to the fact that, unmentioned in Samochornov's email to the Open Dialog Foundation and nowhere apparent on HRAGIF's website, is Veselnitskaya's role as the family attorney for the owner of Prevezon Holdings, Ltd., the company accused in U.S federal court of money-laundering.

Veselnitskaya is not shy about her opinions of the Magnitsky Act, about Browder, or about journalism aimed at uncovering Russian corruption. Her Twitter feed and interviews on Russian state television reveal her to be a staunch adherent of the Kremlin's position on all of the above.

For instance, after the so-called Panama Papers disclosures about Putinist cronies stashing billions in offshore companies, Veselnitskaya tweeted that the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project, one of the partner organizations investigating the leaks, is a "cistern earning serious investments from Western investors in the sewer wars."

In an appearance on Russia's RBK TV on Dec. 12, 2014, Veselnitskaya said "there is no Magnitsky case, as such. There is Mr. Browder's case who used the death of this poor boy in his own personal interests." And: "Sergei Magnitsky did not uncover any theft referred to in the Magnitsky Act…No one tortured him and no one killed Sergei Magnitsky as it is stated in the Magnitsky Act."

HRAGIF was founded in February. Two months later, when four U.S. representatives took part in a congressional delegation to Moscow, they were given a letter marked "confidential" that makes much the same case as Veselnitskaya does about this notorious affair.

The delegation featured Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA), a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, a longtime admirer of Putin (they once arm-wrestled in a Washington, D.C., bar), an opponent of U.S. sanctions on Russia, and an outspoken advocate of closer bilateral cooperation between the two former Cold War enemies, particularly in the realm of combating Islamic terrorism. The confidential letter given to Rohrabacher, a copy of which The Daily Beast has reviewed, carries a litany of serious allegations against Browder, Magnitsky, the Hermitage Fund, and one of its U.S. investors, which the letter accuses of committing securities and tax fraud in the United States.

Browder, the letter states, is guilty of "an illegal scheme of buying up Gazprom shares without permission of the Government of Russia" between 1999 and 2006, Gazprom being Russia's state-owned gas company. "There is not a jot of truth in Browder's story, but this is the doctrinal essence of the story known as the 'Magnitsky case' put in as a basis for the U.S. Act that caused the most severe damage to the U.S.-Russian relations in recent years," the letter reads. Then its authors offer to bring the "collected evidence" before the House Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations and "other concerned U.S. government agencies."

The document ends with a conspicuous quid pro quo enticement: "Changing attitudes to the Magnitsky story in the Congress, obtaining reliable knowledge about real events and personal motives of those behind the lobbying of this destructive Act, taking into account the pre-election political situation may change the current climate in interstate relations. Such a situation could have a very favorable response from the Russian side on many key controversial issues and disagreements with the United States, *including matters concerning the adoption procedures.*" (Emphasis added.)

Rohrabacher's press secretary, Ken Grubbs, told The Daily Beast that the letter "came from the Russian government itself, as indeed most information from Russia comes from the government itself," but declined to specify who, exactly, in the Russian government presented the document to the California congressman and his colleagues.

As for the letter's contents, wherein a U.S. company is implicated in securities and tax crimes and the founding premise for a four-year-old U.S. law is deemed illegitimate, Grubbs did not wish to comment beyond saying: "The congressman simply wants to give [the document] careful consideration. He recognizes that various partisans are impatient for a conclusion, but he wants intellectual honesty to prevail, which requires some patience."

Careful consideration of these accusations was the stated reason for Rohrabacher's participation, three weeks ago, in temporarily deferring the markup of a new and expanded draft bill that would apply the economic measures of the Magnitsky Act on a global scale, making gross human-rights abusers from any country susceptible to U.S. asset freezes and visa bans.

That deferral more or less coincided with the scheduled debut in the European Parliament of a two-hour documentary, *The Magnitsky Affair Behind the Scenes*, reiterating many of the accusations made in the Russian government letter Rohrabacher received.

The documentary was directed by famed Russian filmmaker Andrei Nekrasov, who has a reputation as a critic of the Russian government. The documentary's debut was canceled at the last minute, however, owing to legal pressure brought by Browder, who considers it morally squalid in tone and libelously wrong on the facts, and also by the public outcry of several MEPs who agree with him.

But how did Nekrasov's work get to be slated for exhibition in Europe's legislature? Here the story gets even weirder. Heidi Hautala, a Finnish MEP from the Greens voting bloc whom Browder once considered to be a stalwart proponent of Magnitsky sanctions in Europe, hosted the abortive screening. (She is reportedly dating Nekrasov.)

Also in attendance were two invited guests whose presence raised eyebrows among those familiar with the real Magnitsky affair. The first was Maj. Pavel Karpov, one of the Interior Ministry policemen the lawyer identified as an accomplice to the Hermitage fraud and one of the first state officials to be sanctioned under the U.S. law.

The second was Natalia Veselnitskaya, who told state-controlled Russian television channel NTV from Brussels: "We have not yet unraveled the chain of all those nuances with which Mr. Browder has lived and keeps living. He alone knows for sure the reason for Magnitsky's death."

When the film was ultimately yanked, Veselnitskaya was incensed: "We are deeply outraged and…feel a sense of disgust. Withdrawal of the film from the premiere shows that freedom of speech in the European Parliament is granted only to one side."

Browder believes that Veselnitskaya played an integral role in the Nekrasov documentary. "The Russian press referred to her as one of its organizers and the person who provided input for this anti-Magnitsky film," he said. "It is certainly consistent with their own anti-Magnitsky sentiments."

Among the more contentious claims in *The Magnitsky Affair* is the suggestion that the lawyer was not really a lawyer (despite the fact that even Putin's presidential website describes him as such) and was never beaten by prison guards, despite postmortem photographs showing bruises about his arms and legs, an official death certificate that refers to a suspected cerebral cranial injury, and a Russian

government forensic team's findings that he suffered from blunt force trauma consistent with that inflicted by rubber truncheons.

Nekrasov also claims that Magnitsky never uncovered any involvement by Russian Interior Ministry officers in the theft of Hermitage subsidiaries and the subsequent tax heist, despite complaints that Magnitsky prepared and testimony he personally gave to Russia's FBI-like Investigative Committee outlining his findings in great detail.

Nekrasov's film, following the Kremlin's line, also blames Magnitsky and Browder for stealing the $230 million.

Rohrabacher appears to find that allegation persuasive. On May 4, the congressman tweeted: "Don't ignore courageous Ru journalist who exposes Putin's sins, Andrei Nekrasov. He reports Magnitsky case is a lie. Open Ur mind."

Many more tweets in a similar vein preceded and followed this one.

Curiously enough, as this article was being edited Tuesday, The Daily Beast learned about a further development in the the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, which is due to be marked up Wednesday in the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

According to a U.S. congressional staffer, former California Rep. Ron Dellums and someone named Rinat Akhmetshin showed up Tuesday without an appointment.

"They said they were lobbying on behalf of a Russian company called Prevezon and asked us to delay the Global Magnitsky Act or at least remove Magnitsky from the name," the staffer said. "Mr. Dellums said it was a shame that this bill has made it so Russian orphans cannot be adopted by Americans."

Rinat Akhmetshin was identified in February 2015 by *The New York Times* as the "director of a Washington think tank called the International Eurasian Institute."

Late Tuesday evening, The Daily Beast obtained a copy of Rep. Rohrabacher's proposed amendment to the bill for Wednesday's markup session. On Page 2, line 2, the congressman instructed the Foreign Affairs Committee, "Strike Magnitsky."

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