

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1929

To restrict United States nationals from traveling to countries in which foreign governments or anti-government forces allow foreign terrorist organizations to engage in armed conflict for purposes of participating in such armed conflict or from providing material support to entities that are engaged in such armed conflict, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 22, 2015

Mr. WITTMAN (for himself, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. COFFMAN, and Ms. SINEMA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To restrict United States nationals from traveling to countries in which foreign governments or anti-government forces allow foreign terrorist organizations to engage in armed conflict for purposes of participating in such armed conflict or from providing material support to entities that are engaged in such armed conflict, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “International Conflicts
3 of Concern Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. IDENTIFICATION OF COUNTRIES OF CONFLICT**
5 **CONCERN.**

6 (a) IDENTIFICATION.—Not later than 180 days after
7 the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall
8 submit to Congress a report that identifies each country
9 the government of which or anti-government forces in
10 which the President believes, based on all information
11 available to the President, is allowing one or more foreign
12 terrorist organizations to engage in armed conflict that is
13 occurring in such country.

14 (b) UPDATES.—The President shall update the re-
15 port required under subsection (a)—

- 16 (1) as new information becomes available; and
17 (2) not less frequently than semi-annually.

18 (c) FORM.—The report required under subsection (a)
19 and the updates required under subsection (b) shall be
20 submitted in unclassified form, but may contain a classi-
21 fied annex if necessary.

22 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF COUNTRIES OF CONFLICT CON-**
23 **CERN.**

24 (a) DESIGNATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall des-
2 ignate a country as a “Country of Conflict Concern”
3 if the President determines that—

4 (A) the government of such country or
5 anti-government forces in the country is allow-
6 ing one or more foreign terrorist organizations
7 to engage in armed conflict that is occurring in
8 such country as identified in the report required
9 under section 2(a) or any update to the report
10 required under section 2(b); and

11 (B) it is in the national security interest of
12 the United States to restrict travel by any
13 United States national to such country and to
14 restrict material support provided by United
15 States nationals to entities that are engaged in
16 armed conflict in such country.

17 (2) INITIAL DESIGNATION.—Syria shall be
18 deemed to have been designated by the President
19 under paragraph (1) as of the date of the enactment
20 of this Act and the President is not required to no-
21 tify Congress of such designation of Syria under
22 subsection (b).

23 (b) REPORT ON DESIGNATION.—Upon designating a
24 country as a Country of Conflict Concern under subsection

1 (a), the President shall submit to Congress a report noti-
2 fying Congress of the designation of the country.

3 (c) LICENSING REQUIREMENT.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to any country
5 designated as a Country of Conflict Concern under
6 subsection (a), the President shall exercise the au-
7 thorities of the International Emergency Economic
8 Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705 et seq.) without regard
9 to section 202 of such Act to require a United
10 States national to obtain a license—

11 (A) to travel to such country; or

12 (B) to provide material support to entities
13 that are engaged in armed conflict in such
14 country.

15 (2) EXCEPTION.—The requirement to obtain a
16 license under paragraph (1) shall not apply with re-
17 spect to United States national who is a full-time of-
18 ficer or employee of the United States Government
19 for purposes of carrying out official business of the
20 United States Government.

21 (d) PENALTIES.—The penalties provided for in sub-
22 sections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International
23 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) shall
24 apply to a person who violates paragraph (1) or (2) of
25 subsection (c), or a regulation prescribed under this Act,

1 to the same extent that such penalties apply to a person
2 that commits an unlawful act described in section 206(a)
3 of that Act (50 U.S.C. 1705(a)).

4 (e) TERMINATION OF DESIGNATION.—The designa-
5 tion of a country as a Country of Conflict Concern under
6 subsection (a) shall terminate on the date on which the
7 President submits to Congress a report that contains—

8 (1) a determination and certification that sub-
9 paragraph (A) or (B) of subsection (a)(1) (as the
10 case may be), or both, no longer applies with respect
11 to the country; and

12 (2) a justification for the determination and
13 certification.

14 **SEC. 4. REGULATIONS.**

15 The President is authorized to promulgate such regu-
16 lations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions
17 of this Act, including the promulgation of such regulations
18 under the authority of section 205 of the International
19 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1704).

20 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

21 In this Act:

22 (1) FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.—The
23 term “foreign terrorist organization” means any or-
24 ganization so designated by the Secretary of State

1 under section 219 of the Immigration and Nation-
2 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

3 (2) UNITED STATES NATIONAL.—The term
4 “United States national” means—

5 (A) a national of the United States (as de-
6 fined in section 101(a)(22) of the Immigration
7 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(22)); or

8 (B) an alien who is lawfully present in the
9 United States.

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