

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1637

To impose certain measures with respect to Hizballah-dominated areas in Lebanon and to impose sanctions with respect to senior foreign political figures in Lebanon supporting Hizballah.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 13, 2021

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. TILLIS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

A BILL

To impose certain measures with respect to Hizballah-dominated areas in Lebanon and to impose sanctions with respect to senior foreign political figures in Lebanon supporting Hizballah.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Hizballah Money
5 Laundering Prevention Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. MEASURES WITH RESPECT TO HIZBALLAH-DOMI-**
2 **NATED AREAS IN LEBANON.**

3 (a) DETERMINATION REGARDING JURISDICTIONS OF
4 LEBANON.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
7 retary of the Treasury shall determine, under section
8 5318A of title 31, United States Code, whether rea-
9 sonable grounds exist for concluding that any of the
10 jurisdictions of Lebanon described in paragraph (2)
11 are jurisdictions of primary money laundering con-
12 cern.

13 (2) JURISDICTIONS DESCRIBED.—The jurisdic-
14 tions of Lebanon described in this paragraph are the
15 following:

16 (A) The Nabatieh Governorate.

17 (B) The Haret Hreik municipality in the
18 Baabda district in the Dahieh suburbs south of
19 Beirut.

20 (C) The Chiyah municipality in the
21 Baabda district in the western suburbs of Bei-
22 rut.

23 (D) The Hadeth Beirut municipality in the
24 Baabda district in the suburbs of Beirut.

25 (E) The Hermel district in the Baalbek-
26 Hermel Governorate.

1 (F) The Baalbek and Temnin el-Foka mu-
2 nicipalities in the Baalbe-Hermel Governorate.

3 (G) The Tyre district in the South
4 Governorate.

5 (b) PROHIBITIONS OR CONDITIONS ON OPENING OR
6 MAINTAINING CERTAIN CORRESPONDENT OR PAYABLE-
7 THROUGH ACCOUNTS.—If the Secretary of the Treasury
8 determines under subsection (a) that reasonable grounds
9 exist for concluding that any jurisdiction described in that
10 subsection (a) is a jurisdiction of primary money laun-
11 dering concern, the Secretary, in consultation with the
12 Federal functional regulators (as defined in section 509
13 of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (15 U.S.C. 6809)), shall
14 impose the special measures described in section
15 5318A(b)(5) of title 31, United States Code, with respect
16 to the Central Bank of Syria.

17 (c) REPORT REQUIRED.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
19 making a determination under subsection (a) with
20 respect to whether a jurisdiction is a jurisdiction of
21 primary money laundering concern, the Secretary of
22 the Treasury shall submit to the appropriate con-
23 gressional committees a report that includes the rea-
24 sons for the determination.

1 (2) FORM.—A report required by paragraph (1)
2 shall be submitted in unclassified form but may in-
3 clude a classified annex.

4 (3) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
5 TEES DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “ap-
6 propriate congressional committees” means—

7 (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations
8 and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and
9 Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

10 (B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and
11 the Committee on Financial Services of the
12 House of Representatives.

13 **SEC. 3. SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO SENIOR FOREIGN**
14 **POLITICAL FIGURES IN LEBANON SUP-**
15 **PORTING HIZBALLAH.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose the
17 sanctions described in section 1263(b) of the Global
18 Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F
19 of title XII of Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note)
20 with respect to each individual on the list required by sub-
21 section (b).

22 (b) LIST.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days
24 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
25 President shall submit to the appropriate congres-

1 sional committees a list of individuals who are senior
2 foreign political figures in Lebanon that the Presi-
3 dent determines—

4 (A) have knowingly provided material sup-
5 port to or engaged in a significant transaction
6 with Hizballah; or

7 (B) meet the criteria for the imposition of
8 sanctions under—

9 (i) the Hizballah International Fi-
10 nancing Prevention Act of 2015 (Public
11 Law 114–102; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note); or

12 (ii) the Global Magnitsky Human
13 Rights and Accountability Act (subtitle F
14 of title XII of Public Law 114–328; 22
15 U.S.C. 2656 note).

16 (2) FORM.—The list required by paragraph (1)
17 shall be submitted in unclassified form but may con-
18 tain a classified annex.

19 (c) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NATIONS
20 HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT; ENFORCEMENT.—Sub-
21 sections (e) and (f) of section 1263 of the Global
22 Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (22 U.S.C.
23 2656 note) apply with respect to the imposition of sanc-
24 tions under this section to the same extent as such sub-

1 sections apply with respect to the imposition of sanctions
2 under such section 1263.

3 (d) WAIVER.—The President may waive the imposi-
4 tion of sanctions under subsection (a) with respect to an
5 individual if the President—

6 (1) determines that such a waiver is in the na-
7 tional interests of the United States; and

8 (2) submits to the appropriate congressional
9 committees notice of, and a justification for, the
10 waiver.

11 (e) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The President shall
12 issue such regulations, licenses, and orders as are nec-
13 essary to carry out this section.

14 (f) EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF
15 GOODS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The authorities and require-
17 ments to impose sanctions under this section shall
18 not include the authority or requirement to impose
19 sanctions on the importation of goods.

20 (2) GOOD DEFINED.—In this subsection, the
21 term “good” means any article, natural or man-
22 made substance, material, supply or manufactured
23 product, including inspection and test equipment,
24 and excluding technical data.

1 (g) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES

2 DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate con-
3 gressional committees” means—

4 (1) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
5 the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-
6 fairs of the Senate; and

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

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