

Everyone in this body agrees that we need to start rewarding our doctors for the quality of their work rather than the quantity of their work. After months of hearings in the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in conjunction with our colleagues on the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance, we put our heads together and came up with a common-sense proposal to pay our doctors under Medicare for the next decade. Everyone agrees that this policy makes sense and should be adopted. We have work to do to find pay-fors for the legislation, but that is not an insurmountable task. Congress should be moving full steam ahead to find offsets for the policy we all agree on, rather than doing yet another short-term patch that will make a permanent fix more expensive and ultimately harder to attain.

Our constituents are tired of gimmickry and want real results. We should not have to deal with this issue on an annual basis. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting against H.R. 4302 and instead come together to find the necessary offsets to make a permanent fix to the Sustainable Growth Rate a reality.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I oppose this bill because we need to provide a permanent solution rather than just a band-aid approach to maintaining seniors' access to quality health care.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in opposition to H.R. 4302, the so-called "Protecting Access to Medicare Act," which extends current Medicare physician reimbursement rates for one year.

I strongly support providing adequate compensation to our physicians who serve Medicare patients. Medicare patients in every state make up 10% or more of those who have health insurance.

I oppose H.R. 4302 because it does not provide a long-term fix for Medicare payments to physicians, and the misvalued services under the physician payment system has not been addressed.

The core purpose of the bill is found in its name, the "Sustainable Growth Rate," but that purpose is not being met because the reimbursement rate to physicians is not sustainable for a robust medical care safety net for our nation's seniors.

CMS has made changes to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule and other Medicare payment policies to improve efficiency and accuracy in Medicare payment and the quality of care for our beneficiaries.

CMS has improved payment for primary care services, while enhancing efforts to address payment for misvalued services under the physician payment system.

CMS has begun to implement important delivery system reforms included in the Affordable Care Act, which includes the value-based payment modifier that provides incentives for physicians and physician groups to furnish high-quality, efficient care.

Congress needs to do its part in implementing a reimbursement rate that reflects the reality of providing the care our nation's seniors need and expect.

Medicare patients and the medical payments made to their physicians and medical service providers' is critical to our nation's health care economy.

It is important for our seniors to know that Medicare will be there when they need it. But

it is equally important that there are physicians who are willing to attend to them without going broke.

That is why we have a Sustainable Growth Rate or "SGR." Medicare reimbursement enables rural physicians and hospitals to remain open for business.

This bill should not impose another round of arbitrary provider payment reductions to maintain a dysfunctional policy that many member of this House knows should be ended.

This bill undermines the future passage of the framework that was part of the original bipartisan SGR bill that the House had the chance to vote on earlier this month.

We should return to that bill and pass it without any gimmicks so that the modernization of the Medicare health care delivery and payment innovations that can strengthen the program can be implemented.

Mr. Speaker, I have always strongly supported providing adequate compensation to our physicians who serve Medicare patients because it is important for our seniors to know that Medicare will be there when they need it.

Thus, it is critical that we not disrupt timely and adequate payment to Medicare providers.

The bill before us will provide payment certainty for one year, but only for one year. This is not acceptable—if we do not press the issue of reform now—when will it be addressed?

This is better than nothing but what must really be done to provide our seniors and physicians the certainty and security they deserve is to reach an agreement on a permanent replacement for the SGR that is fair, responsible, and fiscally sustainable.

Instead of wasting time trying to repeal, impede, or undermine the Affordable Care Act, or making it more difficult for physicians who care for the elderly we should be working together to reach an agreement on a permanent replacement for the SGR and the \$138 billion in offsets needed to pay for that legislation.

That is what the American people sent us here to do.

□ 1030

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4302, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

UKRAINE SUPPORT ACT

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4278) to support the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Ukraine, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4278

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Ukraine Support Act".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.
Sec. 2. United States policy.

TITLE I—ASSISTANCE PROVISIONS

Sec. 101. Support for democratic governance and civil society in Ukraine.
Sec. 102. Economic reform in Ukraine.
Sec. 103. United States international programming to Ukraine and neighboring regions.
Sec. 104. Overseas Private Investment Corporation.
Sec. 105. Enhanced assistance for law enforcement and the judicial system in Ukraine.
Sec. 106. Enhanced security cooperation among Central and Eastern European NATO member states.
Sec. 107. United States-Ukraine security assistance.
Sec. 108. Recovery of assets linked to corruption in Ukraine.
Sec. 109. European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.
Sec. 110. Offset.

TITLE II—SANCTIONS PROVISIONS

Sec. 201. Continuation in effect of sanctions with respect to the blocking of certain persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine.
Sec. 202. Imposition of additional sanctions on persons responsible for violence or who undermine the independence, sovereignty, or territorial or economic integrity of Ukraine.
Sec. 203. Imposition of additional sanctions on persons complicit in or responsible for significant corruption in the Russian Federation.
Sec. 204. Report on certain foreign financial institutions.
Sec. 205. Sense of Congress on human rights in the Russian Federation.
Sec. 206. Certification described and submission to Congress.
Sec. 207. Sense of Congress on suspension of all activities and meetings of the NATO-Russia Council.
Sec. 208. Definitions.

TITLE III—REPORTING PROVISIONS

Sec. 301. Annual report on security developments in the Russian Federation and their effects on Ukrainian sovereignty.
Sec. 302. Presidential determination and report on compliance by Russian Federation of its obligations under INF Treaty.
Sec. 303. Report on geopolitical impact of energy exports.
Sec. 304. Amendment to the Iran, North Korea, and Syria Nonproliferation Act.

SEC. 2. UNITED STATES POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to support the right of the people of Ukraine to freely determine their future, including their country's relationship with other nations and international organizations, without interference, intimidation, or coercion by other countries;

(2) to support the people of Ukraine in their desire to address endemic corruption,

consolidate democracy, and achieve sustained prosperity;

(3) to support the efforts of the Government of Ukraine to bring to justice those responsible for the acts of violence against peaceful protestors and other unprovoked acts of violence related to the anti-government protests that began on November 21, 2013;

(4) to support the efforts of the Government of Ukraine to identify, investigate, recover, and return to the Ukrainian state assets unaccounted for under the leadership and departure from Ukraine of former President Yanukovich, his family, and other current and former members of the Ukrainian government, along with others legitimately charged by government authorities with similar offenses;

(5) to assist the Government of Ukraine in preparations for the presidential election scheduled for May 25, 2014, and to participate in efforts to ensure that this election is conducted in accordance with international standards;

(6) to promote democratic values, transparent and accountable government institutions, and advance United States national security interests through United States international broadcasting, including the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), Incorporated;

(7) to support needed economic structural reforms in Ukraine, including in the fiscal, energy, pension, and banking sectors, among others;

(8) to support energy diversification initiatives to reduce Russian control of energy supplies to Ukraine and other European countries, including United States promotion of increased natural gas exports to, and energy efficiency in, Ukraine, which could be enhanced by advances in new energy technologies;

(9) to condemn the armed intervention of the Russian Federation in Ukraine, including its continuing political, economic, and military aggression against that country;

(10) to work with United States allies and partners in Europe and around the world, including at the United Nations, to ensure that all nations refuse to recognize the illegal annexation of Crimea by the Russian Federation and reaffirm the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Ukraine;

(11) to refuse to recognize the legitimacy of the illegal referendum in Crimea on March 16, 2014, on the status of that region of Ukraine, which was held under conditions of occupation and coercion by Russian forces;

(12) to support the deployment of international monitors to Ukraine to assess the current status of its territorial integrity and the safety of all people in Ukraine;

(13) to encourage the Government of Ukraine to continue to respect and protect the rights of all ethnic, religious, and linguistic minorities;

(14) to encourage the Government of Ukraine to promote and protect the human rights, as recognized by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, of all individuals as they seek freedom, democracy, and equality under the law;

(15) to work with United States allies and partners to condemn any violation by Russian Federation occupation forces or their proxies of the rights of ethnic, religious, and linguistic minorities in Crimea, including the region's Tatar population;

(16) to call on all Ukrainians to respect the legitimate government authorities, as well as all Ukrainian laws and the Constitution of Ukraine in all regions of Ukraine, including Crimea;

(17) to maintain existing sanctions against and consider all available options for further

sanctions on the Russian Federation until Ukrainian sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity are not being violated by the Russian Federation; and

(18) to honor and abide by its commitments undertaken pursuant to Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty, signed at Washington, District of Columbia, on April 4, 1949, and entered into force on August 24, 1949.

TITLE I—ASSISTANCE PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. SUPPORT FOR DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND CIVIL SOCIETY IN UKRAINE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized and encouraged to provide assistance to support democracy and civil society, including community-based and faith-based organizations, in Ukraine by undertaking the activities described in subsection (b).

(b) ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.—The activities described in this subsection are—

(1) improving democratic governance, transparency, accountability, rule of law, and anti-corruption efforts;

(2) supporting Ukrainian efforts to foster greater unity among people and regions of the country, combat anti-Semitism and discrimination, and promote respect for religious freedom;

(3) supporting the people and Government of Ukraine in preparing to conduct and participate in free and fair elections, including through domestic and international election monitoring;

(4) assisting Ukraine in diversifying its economy, trade, and energy supplies, including at the national, regional, and local levels;

(5) strengthening democratic institutions and political and civil society organizations; and

(6) expanding free and unfettered access to independent media of all kinds in Ukraine and assisting with the protection of journalists and civil society activists who have been targeted for free speech activities.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the President \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2014 to carry out this section.

SEC. 102. ECONOMIC REFORM IN UKRAINE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Ukrainian economy is weak and vulnerable, as evidenced by short-term debt interest rates as high as 15 percent, a high proportion of foreign exchange-denominated government debt that will mature in 2014 and 2015, a banking sector with non-performing loans at the high level of 14 percent, a financing gap which the Government of Ukraine has estimated will amount to \$35 billion over the next two years, and a large underground economy. This economic condition undermines democratic prospects in Ukraine.

(2) Years of poor economic management and performance have undermined and may continue to undermine political stability and unity within Ukraine.

(3) On March 6, 2014, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4152, to redirect previously appropriated funds to cover the cost of roughly \$1 billion in loan guarantees for Ukraine.

(b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the policy of the United States to work with other countries and international institutions to stabilize the Ukrainian economy, while promoting critically needed structural economic reforms in Ukraine, including—

(1) cutting the massive natural gas subsidies that have led to market inefficiencies;

(2) reducing the bloated public sector;

(3) maintaining a market-determined exchange rate;

(4) strengthening the vulnerable banking sector;

(5) promoting a robust, independent, and impartial judiciary, due process, and uniform application of law; and

(6) reducing corruption, such as by supporting reform efforts of the Government of Ukraine to pass legislation related to greater accountability for government officials, greater protection of private property, and increased transparency of government funds.

(c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that loan guarantees provided by the United States for Ukraine should be used to promote government, banking and energy sector reform, and anti-corruption efforts in Ukraine.

SEC. 103. UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMING TO UKRAINE AND NEIGHBORING REGIONS.

(a) FINDINGS AND DECLARATIONS.—Congress finds and declares the following:

(1) The Russian Government has deliberately blocked the Ukrainian people's access to uncensored sources of information and has provided alternative news and information that is both inaccurate and inflammatory.

(2) United States international programming exists to advance the United States interests and values by presenting accurate and comprehensive news and information, which is the foundation for democratic governance.

(3) The opinions and views of the Ukrainian people, especially those people located in the eastern regions and Crimea, are not being accurately represented in Russian dominated mass media.

(4) Russian forces have seized more than five television stations in Crimea and taken over transmissions, switching to a 24/7 Russian propaganda format; this increase in programming augments the already robust pro-Russian programming to Ukraine.

(5) United States international programming has the potential to combat this anti-democratic propaganda.

(b) PROGRAMMING.—Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), Incorporated, and the Voice of America service to Ukraine and neighboring regions shall—

(1) provide news and information that is accessible, credible, and accurate;

(2) emphasize investigative and analytical journalism to highlight inconsistencies and misinformation provided by Russian or pro-Russian media outlets;

(3) prioritize programming to areas where access to uncensored sources of information is limited or non-existent, especially populations serviced by Russian supported media outlets;

(4) increase the number of reporters and organizational presence in eastern Ukraine, especially in Crimea;

(5) promote democratic processes, respect for human rights, freedom of the press, and territorial sovereignty; and

(6) take necessary preparatory steps to continue and increase programming and content that promotes democracy and government transparency in Russia.

(c) PROGRAMMING SURGE.—RFE/RL, Incorporated, and Voice of America programming to Ukraine and neighboring regions shall—

(1) prioritize programming to eastern Ukraine, including Crimea, and Moldova, and to ethnic and linguistic Russian populations, as well as to Tatar minorities;

(2) prioritize news and information that directly contributes to the target audiences' understanding of political and economic developments in Ukraine and Moldova, including countering misinformation that may originate from other news outlets, especially Russian supported news outlets;

(3) provide programming content 24 hours a day, seven days a week to target populations, using all available and effective distribution outlets, including—

(A) at least 8 weekly hours of total original television and video content in Ukrainian, Russian, and Tatar languages, not inclusive of live video streaming coverage of breaking news, to be distributed on satellite, digital, and through regional television affiliates by the Voice of America; and

(B) at least 14 weekly hours the total audio content in Ukrainian, Russian, and Tatar languages to be distributed on satellite, digital, and through regional radio affiliates of RFE/RL, Incorporated;

(4) expand the use, audience, and audience engagement of mobile news and multimedia platforms by RFE/RL, Incorporated, and the Voice of America, including through Internet-based social networking platforms; and

(5) partner with private sector broadcasters and affiliates to seek and start co-production for new, original content, when possible, to increase distribution.

(d) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2014, in addition to funds otherwise made available for such purposes, up to \$10,000,000 to carry out programming in the Ukrainian, Balkan, Russian, and Tatar language services of RFE/RL, Incorporated, and the Voice of America, for the purpose of bolstering existing United States programming to the people of Ukraine and neighboring regions, and increasing programming capacity and jamming circumvention technology to overcome any disruptions to service.

(e) **REPORT.**—Not later than 15 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Broadcasting Board of Governors shall submit to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Foreign Relations and Appropriations of the Senate a detailed report on plans to increase broadcasts pursuant to subsections (a) and (b).

SEC. 104. OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION.

It is the sense of Congress that the Overseas Private Investment Corporation should prioritize investments in Ukraine.

SEC. 105. ENHANCED ASSISTANCE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM IN UKRAINE.

(a) **STATEMENT OF POLICY.**—It shall be the policy of the United States—

(1) to assist Ukraine to eliminate the human rights abuses associated with the Berkut forces in order to foster a democratically reformed police force with strong public oversight, which is critical to fostering political unity and stability throughout Ukraine; and

(2) to assist Ukraine to develop a robust, independent, and impartial judicial system at national, regional, and local levels, which is essential to ensure that the rights of all citizens are respected, and maintain appropriate checks and balances between the co-equal branches of government.

(b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated \$8,000,000 for fiscal year 2014 to enhance United States efforts to assist Ukraine to strengthen law enforcement capabilities and maintain the rule of law.

SEC. 106. ENHANCED SECURITY COOPERATION AMONG CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN NATO MEMBER STATES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate United States departments and agencies, shall seek to provide enhanced security cooperation with Central and Eastern European North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) member states by undertaking the activities described in subsection (b).

(b) **ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.**—The activities described in this subsection are—

(1) enhancing existing security cooperation, including defense and military-to-military cooperation, among Central and Eastern European NATO member states;

(2) enhancing security relationships among the United States, the European Union, and Central and Eastern European NATO member states;

(3) providing defense articles, defense services, and military training to Central and Eastern European NATO member states;

(4) expanding the scope and frequency of military exercises among Central and Eastern European NATO member states; and

(5) supporting greater reform, professionalism, and capacity-building efforts within the military, intelligence, and security services in Central and Eastern European NATO member states.

SEC. 107. UNITED STATES-UKRAINE SECURITY ASSISTANCE.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds that—

(1) in fiscal year 2013 the United States provided Ukraine with nearly \$2,000,000 in assistance under chapter 5 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2347 et seq.; relating to International Military Education Training) and nearly \$7,000,000 in assistance under section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2763; relating to the Foreign Military Financing Program); and

(2) Ukraine has been a longstanding member of NATO's Partnership for Peace.

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

(1) United States assistance to Ukraine under chapter 5 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act should be increased;

(2) consistent with section 506(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2318(a)), the President is encouraged to draw down defense articles from the stocks of the Department of Defense, in order to provide security assistance, which could include communication equipment, clothing, fuel and other forms of appropriate assistance, to the Government of Ukraine; and

(3) the Government of Ukraine should make greater efforts to secure the protection of classified information and military equipment.

(c) **STATEMENT OF POLICY.**—It shall be the policy of the United States, in consultation with the Government of Ukraine, to enhance Ukraine's self defense, including through appropriate assistance to improve the capabilities of the country's armed forces.

(d) **REVIEW OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate United States departments and agencies, shall submit to Congress a report on the results of a review of all United States security assistance to the Government of Ukraine.

(2) **FORM.**—The report required by paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

SEC. 108. RECOVERY OF ASSETS LINKED TO CORRUPTION IN UKRAINE.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the Administration should provide expedited assistance to the Government of Ukraine through appropriate United States Government and multilateral programs, including the Department of Justice's Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Initiative, the Egmont Group, the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative, the Camden Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network, and the Asset Recovery Focal Point Initiative, to identify, investigate, secure, and recover assets missing

from the Government of Ukraine or linked to purported acts of corruption by former President Viktor Yanukovich, members of his family, other former or current senior foreign political figures of the Government of Ukraine, and their accomplices in any jurisdiction.

(b) **DEFINITION.**—In this section, the term "senior foreign political figure" has the meaning given the term in section 208.

SEC. 109. EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—The Congress finds the following:

(1) Article 1 of the Agreement Establishing the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) states that the EBRD should support investments in countries that are committed to and applying the principles of multiparty democracy, pluralism, and market economics, and the EBRD has recognized that Russian "progress in the application of these principles . . . has been uneven".

(2) Russia received 21 percent of the investments made by the EBRD in 2013, which is more than any other country received from the EBRD in that year, and has received an inordinate ratio of investment from the EBRD since the 2006 Capital Resources Review.

(b) **SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of the Congress that the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) should increase investments in Ukraine and cease new investments in the Russian Federation, and the United States Government should press the EBRD to support new investment in Ukraine and halt consideration of new investment in Russia.

SEC. 110. OFFSET.

Section 102(a) of the Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act of 2009 (22 U.S.C. 8412(a); Public Law 111-73; 123 Stat. 2068) is amended by striking "\$1,500,000,000" and inserting "\$1,430,000,000".

TITLE II—SANCTIONS PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. CONTINUATION IN EFFECT OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE BLOCKING OF CERTAIN PERSONS CONTRIBUTING TO THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—United States sanctions described in subsection (b), as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, shall remain in effect until the earlier of—

(1) the date that is 90 days after the date on which the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees the certification described in subsection (a) of section 206 in accordance with subsection (b) of such section; or

(2) the date that is 30 days after any date subsequent to January 1, 2020, on which the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees in writing a determination that the termination of such sanctions imposed is in the vital national security interests of the United States.

(b) **SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.**—United States sanctions described in this subsection are sanctions imposed under the following executive orders:

(1) Executive Order 13660 (March 6, 2014; relating to blocking property of certain persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine).

(2) Executive Order 13661 (March 16, 2014; relating to blocking property of additional persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine).

(3) Executive Order 13662 (March 20, 2014; relating to blocking property of additional persons contributing to the situation in Ukraine).

SEC. 202. IMPOSITION OF ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS ON PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR VIOLENCE OR WHO UNDERMINE THE INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY, OR TERRITORIAL OR ECONOMIC INTEGRITY OF UKRAINE.

(a) **STATEMENT OF POLICY.**—It shall be the policy of the United States to impose sanctions with respect to those individuals within and outside of the Government of the Russian Federation whom the President determines wield significant influence over the formation and implementation of Russian foreign policy, in particular with respect to the violation of Ukraine's sovereignty, democracy, and territorial integrity.

(b) **CRITERIA FOR IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.**—A foreign person or an alien is subject to sanctions under subsection (c) in accordance with the provisions of such subsection if the foreign person or alien, on or after November 21, 2013—

(1) is knowingly responsible for or complicit in, or engaged in, directly or indirectly—

(A) actions that significantly undermine democratic processes or institutions in Ukraine;

(B) actions that significantly threaten the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Ukraine;

(C) acts of significant corruption in Ukraine, or the seizure or expropriation of significant economic assets from Ukraine, including the expropriation of private or state assets for personal gain, or the facilitation or transfer of the proceeds of such expropriation to foreign jurisdictions; or

(D) the commission of serious human rights abuses against citizens of Ukraine or citizens of the Russian Federation;

(2) is a current or former senior foreign political figure of the Government of the Russian Federation who has engaged in any activity described in paragraph (1);

(3) operates in the arms or related materiel sector in the Russian Federation that has engaged in any activity described in paragraph (1);

(4) is a current or former senior foreign political figure of an entity that has, or whose members have, knowingly engaged in any activity described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3) or of an entity whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this section;

(5) has knowingly materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, any activity described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3) or of any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this section; or

(6) is owned or controlled by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to this section.

(c) **SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The sanctions described in this subsection are the following:

(A) **ASSET BLOCKING.**—With respect to a foreign person who the President, acting through the Secretary of the Treasury and in consultation with the Secretary of State (or their designees), determines meets the requirements described in subsection (b) (and, if the President determines such foreign person is a senior foreign political figure, such foreign person is not included in the classified annex of a report submitted to the appropriate congressional committees under subsection (e)(1)), the President, acting through the Secretary of the Treasury and in consultation with the Secretary of State (or their designees), shall to the extent necessary investigate, block during the pendency of an investigation, regulate, direct and

compel, nullify, void, prevent or prohibit, any acquisition, holding, withholding, use, transfer, withdrawal, transportation, or exportation of, or dealing in, or exercising any right, power, or privilege with respect to, or transactions involving, any property or interests in property of such person to the extent such property or interests in property are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, pursuant to the applicable provisions of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.).

(B) **ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.**—

(i) **VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.**—An alien who the Secretary of State or the Secretary of Homeland Security (or a designee of one of such Secretaries) knows, or has reason to believe, meets any of the criteria described in subsection (b) is—

(I) inadmissible to the United States;

(II) ineligible to receive a visa or other documentation to enter the United States; and

(III) otherwise ineligible to be admitted or paroled into the United States or to receive any other benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

(ii) **CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.**—

(I) **IN GENERAL.**—The issuing consular officer, the Secretary of State, or the Secretary of Homeland Security (or a designee of one of such Secretaries) shall revoke any visa or other entry documentation issued to an alien who meets any of the criteria described in subsection (b), regardless of when issued.

(II) **EFFECT OF REVOCATION.**—A revocation under subclause (I)—

(aa) shall take effect immediately; and

(bb) shall automatically cancel any other valid visa or entry documentation that is in the alien's possession.

(2) **PENALTIES.**—A person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of paragraph (1)(A) or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out paragraph (1)(A) 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.

(3) **REGULATORY AUTHORITY.**—The President shall, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, promulgate regulations as necessary for the implementation of this section.

(4) **EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.**—Sanctions under paragraph (1)(B) shall not apply to an alien if admitting the alien into the United States 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.

(5) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the authority of the President to impose additional sanctions pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), relevant executive orders, regulations, or other provisions of law.

(d) **WAIVER.**—The President may waive the application of sanctions under subsection (c) with respect to a foreign person or alien if the President—

(1) determines that such a waiver is vital to the national interest of the United States; and

(2) not less than 15 days after the waiver takes effect, submits to the appropriate congressional committees a notice of the waiver and a justification for such waiver.

(e) **REPORT.**—

(1) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and at least once every 180 days thereafter for a period not to exceed 2 years, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a detailed report with respect to senior foreign political figures of the Russian Federation that have been determined to have engaged in activities described in subsection (b).

(B) **FORM.**—The report required by subparagraph (A) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

(2) **REQUESTS BY CHAIRPERSON AND RANKING MEMBER OF APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—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 senior foreign political figure of the Russian Federation is responsible for engaging in activities described in subsection (b), the President shall submit a response to the chairperson and ranking member of the committee which made the request with respect to the status of the person.

(B) **FORM.**—The President may submit a response required by subparagraph (A) in classified form if the President determines that it is necessary for the national security interests of the United States to do so.

(f) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **ADMITTED.**—The term “admitted” has the meaning given such term in section 101(a)(13)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(13)(A)).

(2) **ALIEN.**—The term “alien” has the meaning given such term in section 101(a)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(3)).

(3) **FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.**—The term “financial institution” has the meaning given that term in section 5312 of title 31, United States Code.

(4) **FOREIGN PERSON.**—The term “foreign person” means—

(A) an individual who is not a United States person;

(B) a corporation, partnership, or other nongovernmental entity which is not a United States person; or

(C) any representative, agent or instrumentality of, or an individual working on behalf of a foreign government.

(5) **PAROLED.**—The term “paroled” means paroled into the United States under section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(d)(5)).

(6) **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.

(g) **TERMINATION.**—This section and any sanction imposed by this section shall remain in effect until the earlier of—

(1) the date that is 90 days after the date on which the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees the certification described in subsection (a) of section 206 in accordance with subsection (b) of such section; or

(2) the date that is 30 days after any date subsequent to January 1, 2020, on which the

President submits to the appropriate congressional committees in writing a determination that the termination of this section and the sanctions imposed by this section is in the vital national security interests of the United States.

SEC. 203. IMPOSITION OF ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS ON PERSONS COMPLICIT IN OR RESPONSIBLE FOR SIGNIFICANT CORRUPTION IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) On March 20, 2014, the Department of the Treasury designated four individuals and one financial institution for acting for or on behalf of or materially assisting, sponsoring, or providing financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, a senior official of the Government of the Russian Federation.

(2) Widespread corruption at senior levels of the Government of the Russian Federation, in combination with the suppression of political freedoms and the concentration of enormous wealth in the hands of individuals exercising extensive influence over government policy, has contributed to the establishment of an authoritarian system that does not respect the rights of the Russian people.

(b) AUTHORITY FOR IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—

(1) ASSET BLOCKING.—The President, acting through the Secretary of the Treasury and in consultation with the Secretary of State (or their designees), is authorized to impose sanctions described in paragraph (1)(A) of section 202(c) in accordance with the provisions of such section against a foreign person if the foreign person is a senior foreign political figure or a close associate of such senior foreign political figure with respect to whom the President, acting through the Secretary of the Treasury and in consultation with the Secretary of State (or their designees), determines meets one or more of the criteria described in subsection (c).

(2) ALIENS INELIGIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—The Secretary of State or the Secretary of Homeland Security (or a designee of one of such Secretaries) is authorized to impose sanctions described in paragraph (1)(B) of section 202(c) in accordance with the provisions of such section against an alien if the alien is a senior foreign political figure or a close associate of such senior foreign political figure with respect to whom the Secretary of State or the Secretary of Homeland Security (or a designee of one of such Secretaries) knows, or has reason to believe, meets one or more of the criteria described in subsection (c).

(c) CRITERIA FOR IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—The criteria described in this subsection are the following:

(1) The foreign person or alien is responsible for, or complicit in, or responsible for ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing, acts of significant corruption in the Russian Federation, 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.

(2) The foreign person or alien has materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services in support of, an act described in paragraph (1).

(d) WAIVER.—The waiver provisions of subsection (d) of section 202 shall apply with respect to this section and any sanction imposed by this section to the same extent and in the same manner as such waiver provisions apply to section 202 and any sanction imposed by such section.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms “foreign person” and “alien” have the meanings given such terms in section 202(f).

SEC. 204. REPORT ON CERTAIN FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) On February 26, 2014, the Department of the Treasury’s Financial Crimes Enforcement Network advised United States financial institutions of their responsibility to take reasonable, risk-based steps regarding the potential suspicious movement of assets related to Viktor Yanukovich departing Kyiv and abdicating his responsibilities and other senior officials resigning from their positions or departing Kyiv.

(2) United States financial institutions are required to apply enhanced scrutiny to private banking accounts held by or on behalf of senior foreign political figures and to monitor transactions that could potentially represent misappropriated or diverted state assets, the proceeds of bribery or other illegal payments, or other public corruption proceeds.

(3) On March 3, 2014, the Government of Ukraine announced that it had initiated criminal proceedings against a number of former Ukrainian officials or close associates of former Ukrainian officials.

(4) On March 5, 2014, the European Union, based on information from Ukraine’s Prosecutor General, issued a Council Regulation requiring the European Union to freeze the funds and economic resources of various former Ukrainian officials and their close associates.

(5) The Government of Canada has taken similar action against the same individuals.

(6) The measures being taken against these former Ukrainian officials and their close associates increase the risk that they will seek to move their assets in a deceptive fashion.

(7) Foreign financial institutions should apply similar, enhanced due-diligence and reporting requirements.

(8) The United States has a strong interest in seeing the international financial system protected from illicit financial activity, including money laundering, terrorism and proliferation financing, transnational organized crime, and the misappropriation of state assets, and international sanctions evasion, among others.

(9) The Department of the Treasury possesses a range of authorities to insulate the United States financial system from entities or jurisdictions that pose an illicit financing risk.

(b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the policy of the United States to use all of its regulatory and statutory authorities to closely scrutinize all foreign financial institutions, including those in the Russian Federation, that may be complicit in enabling foreign persons and transnational criminal enterprises to evade or otherwise circumvent United States and international sanctions, launder the proceeds of criminal activity, finance acts of terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, or any other illicit activity that presents risks and vulnerabilities to the United States financial system.

(c) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter for a period not to exceed 2 years, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Treasury shall jointly submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on—

(A) foreign financial institutions that are in direct control of Government of Ukraine state-owned or controlled assets in a manner determined by the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Treasury to be contrary

to the interests of the Government of Ukraine;

(B) foreign financial institutions determined by the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Treasury to be complicit in illicit financial activity, including money laundering, terrorism and proliferation financing, transnational organized crime, or misappropriation of state assets, that are—

(i) organized under the laws of the Russian Federation; or

(ii) owned or controlled by a foreign person described in section 202(b); and

(C) foreign financial institutions that are directly or indirectly assisting or otherwise aiding the violation of Ukrainian sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity, including the Crimea.

(2) FORM.—The report required to be submitted under this subsection shall be submitted in an unclassified form, to the extent appropriate, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 205. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

It is the sense of Congress that the President should greatly expand the list of 18 Russian officials and others published on April 12, 2013, who were engaged in actions described in section 404 of the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act of 2012 (title IV of Public Law 112-208; 22 U.S.C. 5811) regarding the death of Sergei Magnitsky, illegal activity by officials of the Government of the Russian Federation, or violations of human rights and other offenses in Russia.

SEC. 206. CERTIFICATION DESCRIBED AND SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A certification described in this section is a certification of the President to Congress that Ukrainian sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity is not being violated by the Russian Federation or any other state actor.

(b) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall submit the certification described in subsection (a) to the appropriate congressional committees in writing and shall include a justification for the certification.

(2) FORM OF CERTIFICATION.—The certification described in subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

SEC. 207. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON SUSPENSION OF ALL ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS OF THE NATO-RUSSIA COUNCIL.

It is the sense of Congress that the United States should work to temporarily suspend all activities and meetings of the NATO-Russia Council.

SEC. 208. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—Except as otherwise provided, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on Ways and Means, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

(B) Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate.

(2) SENIOR FOREIGN POLITICAL FIGURE.—The term “senior foreign political figure” has the meaning given the term in section 1010.605 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations.

TITLE III—REPORTING PROVISIONS**SEC. 301. ANNUAL REPORT ON SECURITY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND THEIR EFFECTS ON UKRAINIAN SOVEREIGNTY.**

(a) **REPORT.**—Not later than September 30, 2014, and September 30 of each year thereafter through 2020, the Secretary of State shall submit to the specified congressional committees a report, in both classified and unclassified form, on the current and future security and foreign policy posture of the Russian Federation (in this section referred to as “Russia”).

(b) **MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.**—The report required under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An assessment of the security situation in regions neighboring Russia, including Crimea.

(2) The goals and factors shaping the security strategy of the Government of Russia, including potential annexation of non-Russian territory.

(3) Trends in Russian security behavior that would be designed to achieve, or that are consistent with, the goals described in paragraph (2).

(4) An assessment of the global and regional security objectives of the Government of Russia, including objectives that would affect the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Middle East, or the People’s Republic of China.

(5) A detailed assessment of the sizes, locations, and capabilities of the nuclear, special operations, land, sea, and air forces of the Government of Russia and how they affect neighboring countries, including Ukraine.

(6) Developments in Russian military doctrine and training and whether the developments have differed from before the annexation of Crimea.

(7) Other security developments involving Russia that the Secretary of State considers relevant to United States national security.

(c) **SPECIFIED CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “specified congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.

SEC. 302. PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION AND REPORT ON COMPLIANCE BY RUSSIAN FEDERATION OF ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER INF TREATY.

(a) **FINDING.**—Congress finds that there are reports that the Russian Federation is in material breach of its obligations under the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles, commonly referred to as the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, signed at Washington December 8, 1987, and entered into force June 1, 1988.

(b) **REPORT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report that includes a determination as to whether or not the Russian Federation is in material breach of its obligations under the INF Treaty.

(2) **ADDITIONAL MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.**—If the President determines that the Russian Federation is in material breach of its obligations under the INF Treaty, the report shall also include the following:

(A) A description of the measures taken to hold the Russian Federation accountable for its violation of its obligations under the INF Treaty.

(B) A description of the measures being taken to ensure that the Russian Federation completely and verifiably eliminates any military system that constitutes a material breach of its obligations under the INF Treaty.

(3) **FORM.**—The report required by this subsection shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

SEC. 303. REPORT ON GEOPOLITICAL IMPACT OF ENERGY EXPORTS.

(a) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Department of State’s Special Envoy and Coordinator for International Energy Affairs shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a detailed, quantitative, and substantive report on the potential short, medium, and long-term impacts of increased United States natural gas and oil exports on Russia’s economic and political influence over Ukraine and other European countries.

(b) **DEFINITION.**—In this subsection, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.

SEC. 304. AMENDMENT TO THE IRAN, NORTH KOREA, AND SYRIA NONPROLIFERATION ACT.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds the following:

(1) Iran continues its longstanding effort to obtain banned components for its nuclear and missile programs in violation of its obligations under successive United Nations Security Council Resolutions.

(2) Russian entities, including Rosoboroneport, have been sanctioned with respect to proliferation activities, particularly sanctions under the Iran, North Korea, and Syria Nonproliferation Act (Public Law 106-178; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note).

(3) The Department of State must expeditiously restore the deterrent effect of the Iran, North Korea, and Syria Nonproliferation Act by fully applying and enforcing such Act.

(b) **AMENDMENT.**—Section 2 of the Iran, North Korea, and Syria Nonproliferation Act (Public Law 106-178; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f) **PLAN TO EXPEDITE REPORTS AND SANCTIONS UNDER THIS ACT.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of the Ukraine Support Act, the President shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations in the Senate, a plan, to include specific timetables, to expedite the implementation of this Act with respect to submission of reports required under subsection (a) and the application of measures to certain foreign persons under section 3.

“(2) **SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON SYRIA.**—In the submission of reports required under subsection (a) and in accordance with the plan required under paragraph (1), the President is encouraged to place a special emphasis on any foreign person in Russia, including any Russian Federation official, that is engaged in any activity described in subsection (a) with respect to the government of President Bashar al-Assad and any affiliates thereof.

“(3) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to preclude or exempt the President from fulfilling or otherwise deviating from the requirements under subsection (b).”

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous materials in the RECORD.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, President Vladimir Putin’s decision to forcibly annex Crimea was based on his calculation that the price would be bearable.

Now, in fact, Russia is susceptible to pressure. Seventy percent of all the exports from Russia are from oil and gas; 52 percent of the budget that goes to the power behind Mr. Putin’s military and his government comes from that monopoly pricing on natural gas. That supplies the budget for Russia. That is what gives him the power to manipulate the situation, the monopoly over gas that he has in Eastern Europe, to manipulate this situation with respect to Ukraine.

If we want to check aggression from Russia, we must push back, and we must work together quickly, not only to confront this monopoly circumstance that exists there, but also to quickly impose tough sanctions on President Putin and on those who have been his accomplices in carrying out this aggression.

Diplomatically, our European allies have helped to eject Russia from the G8 and have suspended all other engagement with Russia until this crisis is peacefully resolved. Economically, they have also imposed sanctions, including asset freezes and visa bans, against many Russian leaders. Our targets must include government officials as well as those who hold no formal position but who, nevertheless, exercise great influence over President Putin’s policy and have supported aggression. That includes the so-called oligarchs and others who have amassed enormous wealth through corruption and through other illegitimate means.

We must make clear that if they do not end this crisis—which they have deliberately created, by the way—or if they choose to go even further, then we and our allies will ratchet up the sanctions pressure.

We must also move quickly to strengthen Ukraine by reinforcing its sovereignty, its independence and territorial integrity, and assist the new government in meeting the enormous challenges it faces.

This bill provides assistance to strengthen civil society in Ukraine, to combat corruption, to help recover assets stolen by former Ukrainian officials, to reform the police and the justice sector, to promote the independent

media, to strengthen Ukraine's defense, and to help prepare for the run-up to the Presidential election, which is scheduled now on May 25.

And I will add that, in several weeks, I will be leading a bipartisan delegation from this House, with the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL), to Ukraine. And I will add that his forefathers, in fact, come from Ukraine. We will be there to meet with the Parliament, the leadership, and the electoral commission in advance of that election.

This bill also directs the assistance already approved by the House to help get the Ukrainian economy back on its feet, including by promoting fundamental economic reforms in the country. Those tough reforms will be essential.

Mr. Speaker, Moscow is using propaganda to sow confusion and fear and unrest inside Ukraine right now, which it then exploits to justify its actions. To counter that effort, this legislation enhances funding for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and the Voice of America to expand broadcasting in the Russian language, in Ukrainian, in Tatar in order to provide the accurate news and information on the ground across Ukraine. No amount of aid will help Ukraine if Russian propaganda rules the day.

Another priority must be to end Russia's ability to use its energy reserves to blackmail Ukraine and other countries, including many of our NATO allies. Russia supplies 100 percent of Lithuania's natural gas. Well, it might not be that surprising, then, that Lithuania pays the highest price for gas of any country in Eastern Europe. And it supplies two-thirds of Poland's gas.

Energy sales earn Russia not only dollars, but they earn Russia influence because Russia, in the dead of winter, has turned off the valves. Russia's state-controlled gas company, Gazprom, threatened to cut off supplies to Ukraine earlier this month, as it did during the winters of 2006 and 2009. Gazprom has stated that it is preparing to double the price Ukraine pays for its natural gas, which could cripple the country's already weak economy.

Now, we have a powerful tool to counter this pressure, one that is just waiting to be used, and that is our own energy reserves. We must remove restrictions on the export of U.S. crude oil and natural gas into Eastern Europe. We have, in fact, a letter to the Speaker of the House from the heads of state of Poland, of the Czech Republic, of Slovakia, of Hungary, asking us—to direct resources, to sell resources.

Listen, at the end of the day, if we do this, we end the flaring of gas here in the United States because of the glut. We are able to help our balance of payments. It will help to reduce our deficits. It increases Russia's deficits, frankly. It produces jobs here in the United States. But it comes at a time when Vladimir Putin has a grip on the

necks of the decisionmakers in Eastern Europe with respect to his power on monopoly over gas.

Lifting, frankly, these self-imposed sanctions on ourselves in terms of not exporting our excess gas would not only boost the U.S. economy and create American jobs, as I indicated, but would reduce the energy revenues that comprise 52 percent of the budget for the military and the government in Russia. We must break Putin's energy grip over Ukraine and Eastern Europe. This is a strategic issue.

I am pleased, by the way, to have worked closely with Ranking Member ELIOT ENGEL of New York and with all of the members of the committee to produce this strong, effective, and much-needed bipartisan bill, and I look forward to its passage today and to working with our Senate colleagues to have the President sign the bill into law as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC., March 26, 2014.

Hon. ED ROYCE,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROYCE: I am writing with respect to H.R. 4278, the "Ukraine Support Act," which the Committee on Foreign Affairs ordered reported favorably on March 25, 2014. As a result of your having consulted with us on provisions in H.R. 4278 that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary, I agree to discharge our Committee from further consideration of this bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor for consideration.

The Judiciary Committee takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 4278 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that our Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues in our jurisdiction. Our Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and asks that you support any such request.

I would appreciate a response to this letter confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 4278, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during Floor consideration of H.R. 4278.

Sincerely,
BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC., March 26, 2014.

Hon. BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN GOODLATTE: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Foreign Affairs on H.R. 4278, the Ukraine Support Act, and for agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of that bill. The suspension text contains edits to portions of the bill within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary that were requested by your committee.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way dimin-

ish or alter the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this resolution or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 4278 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the resolution. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work with the Committee on the Judiciary as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,
EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC., March 26, 2014.

Hon. EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROYCE: On March 25, 2014, the Committee on Foreign Affairs considered H.R. 4278, the Ukraine Support Act, and ordered it, as amended, to be reported favorably to the House. As a result of your having consulted with the Committee on Financial Services concerning provisions of the bill that fall within our Rule X jurisdiction both before and since your markup, I agree not to seek a sequential referral of the measure to my committee so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

The Committee on Financial Services takes this action with our mutual understanding that, by foregoing a request for a sequential referral of H.R. 4278, as amended, at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that our committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may continue to address any issues that fall within our Rule X jurisdiction. Our committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and requests your support for any such request.

Finally, I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 4278, as amended, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in your committee's report to accompany the legislation and/or in the Congressional Record during floor consideration thereof.

Sincerely,
JEB HENSARLING,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC., March 26, 2014.

Hon. JEB HENSARLING,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HENSARLING: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Foreign Affairs on H.R. 4278, the Ukraine Support Act, and for agreeing to forgo a sequential referral request on that bill. The suspension text contains edits to portions of the bill within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Financial Services that were requested by your committee.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of the Committee on Financial Services, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this resolution or similar legislation in the future. I

would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 4278 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the resolution. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work with the Committee on the Financial Services as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC., March 26, 2014.

Hon. EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROYCE: I am writing concerning H.R. 4278, the "Ukraine Support Act," which was favorably reported out of your Committee on March 25, 2014.

Given that certain provisions in the bill are within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means, I appreciate that you have addressed these provisions in response to the Committee's concerns. As a result, in order to expedite floor consideration of the bill, the Committee on Ways and Means will forgo action on H.R. 4278. Further, the Committee will not oppose the bill's consideration on the suspension calendar, based on our understanding that you will work with us as the legislative process moves forward to ensure that our concerns continue to be addressed. This is also being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 4278, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during Floor consideration.

Sincerely,

DAVE CAMP,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC., March 26, 2014.

Hon. DAVE CAMP,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CAMP: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Foreign Affairs on H.R. 4278, the Ukraine Support Act, and for agreeing to forgo a sequential referral request on that bill. The suspension text contains edits to the bill related to the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on the Ways and Means that were requested by your committee.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this resolution or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 4278 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the resolution. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work with the Committee on the Ways and Means as

this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 4278, the Ukraine Support Act.

Let me begin by thanking the chairman of our Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. ROYCE, for his strong leadership on Ukraine. As always, he is working with us in a bipartisan and constructive manner on this very important and timely bill. I am very pleased to be the lead Democratic cosponsor. I would also like to thank my other Democratic and Republican colleagues on the Foreign Affairs Committee for their important contributions.

The United States has long been a steadfast supporter of a democratic, prosperous, and independent Ukraine, and with the people of Ukraine now in dire need of assistance and under imminent threat, there has never been a more critical moment to show our support.

President Putin's invasion of Crimea is a flagrant violation of international law and Russia's commitments to its neighbor. The phony and illegal referendum Putin orchestrated at the barrel of a gun has resulted in the first outright annexation of territory in Europe since the end of World War II. And now Putin is amassing troops on Ukraine's border, threatening to seize more Ukrainian territory and incite further violence and conflict.

Putin's destabilizing and dangerous moves threaten not only Ukraine, but other states in the region, including Moldova and Georgia and, indeed, all of Europe. The United States, our European partners, and the entire international community must take a stand against Putin's naked aggression.

This legislation reaffirms our strong support for the people of Ukraine at this critical time. It authorizes assistance for Ukraine as it attempts to right its struggling economy, increase energy security, strengthen civil society, and prepare for democratic elections this spring. It supports Ukraine's efforts to recover missing assets, to bolster the rule of law, and to professionalize its law enforcement. It supports additional broadcasting to Ukraine—and Chairman ROYCE has been a champion of that—and other countries in the region to counter the dangerous and hateful propaganda coming from the Kremlin and its media outlets. And it endorses the deployment of significant numbers of international monitors throughout Ukraine to help reduce tensions and ensure the security of all Ukrainians.

The legislation also sends a clear message to Putin and his cronies that their landgrab and reckless actions will have serious consequences. Specifically, it supplements the President's efforts to sanction those responsible for violating Ukraine's sovereignty and

international integrity, looting Ukraine's economy, and violating human rights in Ukraine.

And here I would like to applaud President Obama for imposing measures which have already impacted Putin's inner circle, for taking the lead in suspending Russia's participation in the G8, and for rallying support and coordinating actions with our European partners and others throughout the world.

Finally, the bill expresses support for continuing U.S. security assistance to Ukraine and reaffirms our commitment to the security of NATO, the security of our NATO partners in Eastern and Central Europe.

Mr. Speaker, the coming days, weeks, and months will be very difficult for Ukraine. Its leaders must continue the process of reconciliation and reach out to all regions of the country. They must scrupulously respect minority and human rights, and they must make the hard decisions and take the difficult steps that will return their country to political and economic health. And they must do all of this in the face of opposition and likely provocations from Putin and his cronies.

But as they do so, they and the people of Ukraine should know that they have our support. By passing this bill, we are making clear that the United States stands with Ukraine, that we are committed to helping its people build a more democratic, prosperous, secure, and just state for themselves and their children.

You know, if we continue to work with Ukraine and continue to help Ukraine and turn them westward, rather than eastward, then Putin will have lost. He may have a landgrab in Crimea, but he will lose the rest of Ukraine. And we should be doing everything possible to make sure that our European allies are working closely with Ukraine, offering them the incentives they need so that they will look westward and not eastward.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

Finally, I want to say, foreign policy should be bipartisan whenever possible. I think this is bipartisanship as its best.

□ 1045

We send a clear message to the people of Ukraine that the United States stands with them. It is not a Republican or a Democratic stand. It is an American stand, and I am proud to be part of it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR), our respected majority leader.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman, the gentleman from California.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong support of the Ukraine Support Act. Vladimir Putin's recent military invasion and illegal annexation of Crimea

stand in direct violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and international law. His aggression may only continue unless we in America, along with our allies, respond with strength.

Newspaper reports indicate that Putin may not be content with swallowing Crimea whole and that he is now amassing troops on the border with eastern Ukraine and may soon have his eyes on Moldova.

The eyes of the world are on the United States and our EU and NATO partners. Adversaries and allies around the world are watching to see how we respond to this outrageous provocation, to see whether we mean it when we say Putin's actions are unacceptable.

It is vitally important that the United States, in conjunction with our EU and NATO allies, send an unmistakable signal that this aggression will not be tolerated. Together we must be prepared to exact a significant cost for Russia's behavior and that Mr. Putin's actions will be met with the firmest of resolve.

This bill is a first step towards supporting the Ukrainians and our Central and Eastern European partners and imposing truly significant costs on Moscow—but it is only a first step. We must fundamentally reassess our assumptions about Russia and acknowledge that Putin himself scrapped the administration's "reset" policy a long time ago. We need a new strategy that understands Putin for who he is, not who we wish him to be.

We need a new grand strategy. We need a foreign policy that stands up for our allies and stands up to our adversaries. We need to prioritize defense in our budget so that we maintain a military that can respond promptly to contingencies around the world and that instills fear in our enemies while reassuring our allies.

Mr. Speaker, I hope this bill, modest though it may be, will prove to be the first step on a long march to restore America's defenses and alliances. Now, more than ever, the threats to the very fabric of the international system require an America that leads.

I want to thank very much the gentleman from California, Chairman ROYCE, and Ranking Member ENGEL and the rest of the Committee on Foreign Affairs for their bipartisan work and for all of their efforts on this issue. I urge my colleagues in the House to support our friends in Ukraine by passing this bill.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY), a very distinguished member of our committee.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend. I also congratulate the ranking member, Mr. ENGEL, and the chairman, Mr. ROYCE, for their bipartisan leadership on this critical, critical resolution.

Mr. Speaker, apparently, once a KGB agent, always a KGB agent. Mr. Putin seems to have learned nothing from

history other than that there is power at the end of the barrel of a gun. To cite the fact that there are Russian speakers in Crimea as a rationale for one of the most audacious power grabs of the 21st century—in Europe, no less—forgets history.

Let us not forget that Crimea was settled by Stalin when he expelled and executed the native Tatars, and this recent so-called referendum in Crimea was also done at the end of the barrel of a gun.

Russian interests were never threatened in the Crimea after the revolution in Kiev. The new government in Kiev never abrogated the treaty that allowed Russia naval privileges through 2042. The Ukrainians didn't occupy military stations in Crimea and around the region. It was the other way around.

For the United States and its allies to allow this naked aggression to go unaddressed would be truly an abrogation of our moral responsibility and would be to turn our backs on the very lessons we should have learned from the 20th century's tragic history.

Mr. Speaker, we need to stop talking about the he-better-not-go-further argument. I am stuck at Crimea, and I hope my colleagues are, too. It is wrong. It cannot be allowed to stand, and we must make him pay a price.

The difference between now and Stalin's time is that his economy is integrated into the global economy. The ruble will fall. The stock market in Russia will pay a price, and investment will suffer because we will help make it so unless he relents, until they pay a price that is so great—systematic and comprehensive—that he will understand that we no longer operate by the rule of the jungle in Europe or, indeed, anywhere else on this planet, not with our blessing and not with our apology.

So I strongly support the legislation before us and urge my colleagues to join with all of us in telling Mr. Putin we will not stand idly by with history doomed to repeat itself.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Ukraine Support Act. I want to thank my friends and colleagues, Chairman ROYCE and Ranking Member ENGEL, for introducing this comprehensive legislation to support Ukraine in its urgent effort to meet its current crisis, including by building up its democratic institutions.

Mr. Speaker, Russia's landgrab in Crimea violates the core principles of several bilateral and multilateral agreements and treaties between Ukraine and Russia, the Budapest Memorandum, and the United Nations Charter, as well as the Helsinki Final

Act. This legislation includes strong sanctions against Russians directly responsible for the aggression.

H.R. 4278 also authorizes targeted sanctions against Ukrainians involved in undermining the democratic processes and provides assistance to the Ukrainian Government for identifying and recovering stolen assets. It is, after all, these criminal officials, including and especially Yanukovich and his cronies, who have so harmed the Ukrainian people and placed the country in the vulnerable position which Russia has exploited.

Another key provision of the bill provides support for Ukraine's democracy and civil society; and I want to here recognize the importance of supporting, as well, the faith-based groups and organizations that played such a prominent role, particularly on the humanitarian side, in supporting the movement for democracy and the rule of law.

The Ukrainian democracy movement is, in large part, a religious movement. Orthodox and Catholic clergy, for example, were prominent in the protests, and the drama of priests carrying icons confronting soldiers became as much a symbol of the democratization movement as anything else. And, again, when people were wounded and when people were being dragged away, it was the clergy that tried to step in to mitigate the violence against them.

Let me also point out a Catholic News Service article that just hit the wire that points out that members of the Ukrainian Catholic Church are fleeing Crimea to escape threats of arrest and property seizures.

Father Milchakovskiy, a parish rector in Crimea, said:

The situation remains very serious, and we don't know what will happen—the new government here is portraying us all as nationalists and extremists.

The article also says:

Officials from Russia's Federal Security Service, or FSB, had called him in for questioning about his community and to ask whether or not he "recognized the new order."

He pointed out that one priest in particular was actually beaten by Russian forces. And, again, Members will recall, and I remember during the 1980s when I first came here, how so many within the church, including the orthodox church, were beaten and sent to the gulag because of their religious faith. This could be the harbinger of a new wave of repression against people of faith. The Ukrainian Catholic Church, by way of reminder, was one of those churches that was outlawed during Soviet times, and now we see the same kind of repetition of that kind of repression.

This legislation is a clear step in the right direction. No piece of legislation will do it all. We have to appeal to the Russians to stop this, but, again, to cease their persecution of people in the Crimea.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is now my pleasure to yield 3 minutes to the

gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the Democratic whip.

Mr. HOYER. I thank my friend, the ranking member, Mr. ENGEL from New York, and I thank Mr. ROYCE, the chairman of the committee, for bringing this bill to the floor and working in a bipartisan fashion to effect an objective that I strongly support. I thank both of them for their work.

Mr. Speaker, the ongoing Russian aggression against Ukraine is unacceptable and a gross violation of international law. I agree with President Obama that Russia is acting from a position of weakness, however. Strong nations do not invade and annex territory from their smaller neighbors by force, and strong nations do not suppress the free expression of ideas and the voices of dissent within their own society. Those are the hallmarks not of a great nation but of an insecure bully.

Great nations are those that stand together to reaffirm the principles of liberty and international order. Great nations are those that commit to peaceful diplomacy while protecting free and open debate among our citizens.

The American people continue to stand with the people of Ukraine, Mr. Speaker, because we believe they have a right to join the nations of the world that are free and able to shape their own future. That is why, through this bill, we pledge our support as the new government in Kiev works to stabilize its economy, provide security to its citizens, and ensure that all Ukrainians are afforded the opportunities that come with vibrant, democratic institutions and basic freedoms. That is what this bill offers the people of Ukraine.

What it offers President Putin and his associates is an opportunity to end their misguided, unjustified, and the illegal incursion into Ukraine's internal affairs, because it affords them a choice, Mr. Speaker: adhere to international law and end their aggression or face increasingly punitive sanctions that will further isolate Russia from the global community.

The one item missing from this otherwise strong bill, unfortunately, is ratification of IMF quota reform, and I hope the House will take action on that piece soon.

However, this is a good bill. We ought to support this bill. We ought to pass this bill and send Mr. Putin a clear message that the United States Congress and the Nation we represent will not stand for Russia's actions and that we are ready to help Ukraine reach for the future it so richly deserves.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER), chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats.

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this legislation, and I realize that I am a lone voice—or almost a lone voice—in this discussion today.

I see this legislation as a bipartisan green light to reigniting the cold war. Unfortunately, many of my friends and colleagues, both colleagues today and my friends from the time when I spent in the Reagan White House, 7 years, many of these people feel that the cold war is not over, that it never did end. They are more comfortable with treating Russia as if it were still under Communist rule. Well, Putin is not a Communist leader. Putin is a nationalist who loves his country and he is looking out for the national interests of his country. For us to try to demonize him and to try to suggest that he is doing this as he did in the cold war and he is still KGB, et cetera, is not doing the cause of peace any good.

This is what started this whole slide in the wrong direction toward the type of confrontation we are having today. In Ukraine, a democratically elected President was removed from power, and that was a democratically elected President who is more inclined towards better relations with Russia. He was removed from power. And then the Russian Government, under Mr. Putin, decided to ensure the people of Crimea the right to self-determination. Because even Secretary of State Kerry has verified and testified before our committee that the people of Crimea obviously want to be part of Russia, this is not a power grab.

□ 1100

This is defending their right to self determination, and certainly the people of Crimea have the right to make that determination just as the people of Kosovo had their right to leave Serbia behind.

Our military action there to try to protect the right of self determination of the Kosovars, it cost many, many lives. This Russian military move, with all this power grab, et cetera, has resulted in the loss of one life. That is in stark contrast to when we bombed Belgrade, we bombed Serbia.

No, we should not permit ourselves to reignite a cold war. We should make sure that we realize that the actions we are taking here suggesting the United States must rush in and be the arbiter in every one of these type of conflicts is always stretching our budget. But in this particular bill, we are going to put our name on a loan of \$800 billion to a country that we are going have to borrow the money from China to get.

The United States can no longer afford to right every wrong in the world and be the arbiter. In this case we would be arbitrating in the wrong direction.

Mr. ROYCE. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, part of our problem here is with President Putin's definition of what is the Russian Nation in his speech to the Duma. When he says the Russian Nation is divided by borders, he is sending a message that, with respect not just to Crimea but other

areas throughout Europe, Russia may be staking a claim.

Here is the difficulty. In Crimea, yes, the population today is majority ethnic Russian, but there was a time when, before Joe Stalin moved a wide segment of the Tatars population into Siberia and before the forced collectivization, there was a time when the majority population was very different than it is today. Fifty-six percent of that ethnic group perished. But this is a problem that we also have in Eastern Europe and in eastern and southern Ukraine, because you had some 8 million Ukrainians also perish during Stalin's rule, and ethnic Russians came into that area as a consequence.

The thing we need to remember is that it is, in fact, the Russian-speaking population in the east, as well as the Ukrainians speaking in the west, that voted for independence for Ukraine, that voted strongly to have a separate state. And if this issue is allowed to stand without the world responding, the question is: Is that argument then made in Latvia and Estonia? Is that argument then made in Latvia and Estonia? Is that argument made in all of the former Russian states?

I do not think in any way this is comparable to Kosovo. In Kosovo, NATO responded to a brutal campaign of ethnic cleansing by former Yugoslavian forces. In Crimea, Russia attempted to justify its actions by fabricating the myth of widespread violence against the ethnic Russian population, even going as far as to equate it to the bloodshed occurring in Syria. Clearly, this is not true. We know it is not true.

In terms of the election itself, opponents were silenced. International monitors were barred. Crimean Tatars themselves boycotted the very election. Voters were not given the option of preserving Crimea's current status within Ukraine. Independence and de facto independence were the only options, and the bogus vote there was also unnecessary because the Ukrainian Government had made it clear that it was willing to discuss increased autonomy for Crimea.

Now, here is the problem going forward. We know the view taken internationally on this subject. The U.N. Security Council condemned Russia's unprovoked aggression against Ukraine, and Russia stood alone—stood absolutely alone in this case—because even Ukrainians themselves have gone to the sites of the Russian media-reported attacks against ethnic Russian minorities to show that that is not occurring. That is, in fact, propaganda. We can't let this stand.

One of the other things we are doing in this bill is improving our broadcasting into Ukraine and the region to dispel these myths and spread the truth about the situation there.

So I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the managers of this legislation, the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee and the ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, for their leadership and for their commitment, as I acknowledge the other body as well.

This morning, a bright announcement came from Mr. Putin that he was drawing Russians to a program of exercise in the name of labor and defense. Someone said it is reminiscent of past history, when other despots drew their Nation together in massive public exercises to show the world that they were not going to be part of the world order.

I believe in peace. I believe that we should be engaged, that diplomacy is right. I also don't believe in condemnation of a Nation purely for its ideological disagreement.

In this instance, it is important for the United States to make a public stand. As a member of the Inter-Parliamentary Exchange, meeting with Europeans over the years, I know that they are proud of the democracy that they have maintained since the horrors of World War II.

Today, the United States, with the passage of this legislation, and ultimately hopefully the signing by the President, will tell the world that the United States stands firmly with its own democratic principles. But the people of Ukraine, those in Kiev and places around, will still have the knowledge that America stands by it economically, with loan guarantees, but it also stands against a despot who has illegally moved into a sovereign Nation, with no provocation, undermining the military base of Ukraine. So I would ask my colleagues to join against a despot and for a people and support the underlying legislation.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE), chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for the time, and I also thank the chairman and the ranking member for bringing this legislation to the floor in a very speedy and efficient manner.

I will also say I have great respect for my friend from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER). He knows a lot about foreign affairs, but we disagree on what the evidence shows in this particular matter.

Mr. Speaker, Mark Twain once said that, "History doesn't repeat itself, but it does rhyme." Well, Russia is quite the poet these days.

In 2008, Russia invaded Georgia and confiscated one-third of that Nation's territory. The world watched, complained a little bit. The world moved on. There were no consequences. And the Russians, Mr. Speaker, are still there. Again, second verse, same as the first.

The "Napoleon of Siberia" has invaded Ukraine and seized Crimea.

Putin is bent on establishing a Soviet-style empire and allegedly uniting Russian-speaking people throughout the world. Well, who knows who his next target will be. It could be our friends in Moldova, the rest of Ukraine, or Estonia.

Russia has been able to maintain dominance over the region because of its vast energy sources, especially natural gas. Six countries in Europe rely 100 percent on Russia for their natural gas. Russia uses gas as a political and economic weapon to manipulate these countries.

I was in Ukraine in winter when Russia turned off the gas for political reasons. It was cold. It was dark. This bill helps disarm that hostage tactic. It includes my amendment that commits the U.S. to helping Ukraine use American natural gas.

There must be consequences for the bully, Putin, for invading other Nations like Ukraine. Justice requires there be consequences. Mr. Speaker, justice is what we do.

And that's just the way it is.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire about how much time each of us has?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOLDING). The gentleman from New York has 8 minutes remaining, and the gentleman from California's time has expired.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from California be allowed to control 3 minutes of my remaining time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

What we are doing this morning is the Congress at its best. What we are doing this morning is standing up to a bully and telling him that his actions will not stand. What we are doing is saying that in the 21st century it is no longer acceptable for dictators to invade other countries.

What we are saying to the people of Ukraine is that we stand behind you, we are with you, we haven't forgotten you, and we are going to do everything possible to make you whole again. We are going to do everything possible to let you know the West wants to partner with you. We are going to do everything possible to stand up for freedom and democracy with you.

I think that is a very noble cause. It is not pie in the sky. No one is advocating a war with boots on the ground against Russia, but we are advocating that there have to be some standards in the world.

If we let Putin get away with this, then it sends a green light to Putin that he can continue to do this and to every other despot and dictator around the world that they can do whatever they like and the world is just indifferent or too afraid to act.

I think this is an opportunity, and I think that this is a time when one day

we will be able to say to our grandchildren that we acted together.

I want to again commend Chairman ROYCE for working with me in a bipartisan fashion. We will be going to Ukraine together in a few short weeks to show the Ukrainian people that America stands with them.

I urge my colleagues again to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. MESSER), a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this important bipartisan bill. I commend Chairman ROYCE and Ranking Member ENGEL for bringing this measure forward.

Today's legislation makes clear that, as a Nation, we speak with one voice regarding Russia's aggression.

The situation in Ukraine is undoubtedly complex. The history between Crimea and Russia dates back centuries. Close to 60 percent of the population identifies as ethnic Russians.

Several facts are clear: Russia has massed troops and perpetrated a breach of international law with its unwarranted aggression.

The elections in Crimea took place under an illegal occupation. It did not resemble anything close to a real election. Consequently, the results should not and cannot be recognized.

Lastly, there is little doubt that if the world does not act, Russia's territorial aggression will expand and continue. Whatever the complexities, this invasion of a sovereign country is not justified, period.

Today's bill makes clear America will not tolerate Russia's territorial aggression in Ukraine or elsewhere. I urge my colleagues to support it.

□ 1115

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York has 3½ minutes remaining.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the ranking member of the Ways and Means Committee.

(Mr. LEVIN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill.

As Ukraine is fighting for its independence and the people of Ukraine are fighting to preserve and to deepen their democracy, we must stand squarely with them. It has been said here, including by the majority leader, that this is a first step.

I would like to make very clear, we really should be taking, in this bill, another step; we should be providing, in this bill, as was proposed in the Senate and by many of us, some assistance to make sure that the IMF can perform its fullest role.

That was the preference of President Obama. He made it clear we should act, the U.S. We should also be able to help the IMF to act as fully and effectively as possible.

So I think, today, instead of anybody here coming and criticizing the President, they should essentially be supporting him in his efforts to have the fullest array of assistance to Ukrainian democracy.

If this is only the first step, let's take some additional steps and stand together on a bipartisan basis, instead of at times, I think, taking partisan shots verbally at the President of the United States.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York has 1½ minutes remaining.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the esteemed ranking member of New York (Mr. ENGEL), a dear friend, for yielding time in support of the Ukraine Support Act, H.R. 4278, and for his leadership from the time we traveled to Ukraine together well over a decade ago; and to Congressman ROYCE, the chairman of the committee, to reaffirm America's strong support for liberty and the people of Ukraine at this really critical time in world history and the history of Central and Eastern Europe.

The assistance that is contemplated here is in the form of a loan guarantee and will aid Ukraine's efforts to recover its own missing assets to pay the money back. Ukraine is fully capable of earning its way forward. It is already the third largest grain exporter in the world, so this is nothing that can't be repaid.

In addition, the bill authorizes \$10 million for international broadcasting to Ukraine. I can guarantee you—I did an interview with Voice of America about a week ago—I received emails from people in Ukraine. They are waiting to hear the song of liberty.

Let us sing it loudly by passing this legislation quickly on a bipartisan basis and stand for freedom when it matters most.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

In closing, let me, again, say what a pleasure it is to work with Chairman ROYCE on a bipartisan basis. You can see, again, strong bipartisan support for this bill.

Ms. KAPTUR didn't mention that she was cochair of the Ukrainian Caucus. We have Members on both sides of the aisle all standing together to say the United States stands with the people of Ukraine. Please vote "yes."

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This is not a new cold war. President Reagan ended the cold war. The way he

did that, frankly, was by leading, but also with a strategy which drove down the price of oil and gas, which was the stranglehold, which not only Russia had over Eastern Europe, but also funded the ability of the former Soviet Union militarily to carry out an expansion program.

Today, you have the circumstance where President Putin relies almost solely—70 percent of the exports, 52 percent of the budget, as I indicated—from a monopoly position on oil and gas.

That is why I think it is very important that we understand what the polls and what the Hungarians understood when they exported 2 billion cubic yards of gas last year to Ukraine in order to try to keep the ability of Russia from manipulating the situation into leading to the very chaos that was brought about.

We need to understand, when the U.S.-EU annual summit just occurred and the EU asked us to be part of a program to ship gas into that market in order to offset this monopoly control and pricing by Russia, that we should be part of this. This is part of this bill.

Also part of the bill is the important consequence of communicating to the people in that region and offsetting the propaganda that Russia right now is sending into the country.

We address that issue, as well, in this legislation, as well as good governance issues, and the steps that are needed in order to reform the economy inside Ukraine in order to set up the rule of law, independent courts.

The polls are on the ground working on this issue right now. The United States needs to support that effort. This sends one last message that, if you are in the business of helping to invade a country, there will be consequences.

I urge an "aye" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4278, the "Ukraine Support Act." I support this legislation because I stand in solidarity with the freedom loving people of Ukraine, who are under siege from Russian encroachment.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4278 authorizes \$70 million in aid to Ukraine, including \$50 million for democracy and civil society efforts.

The bill also codifies and expands sanctions imposed this month by the Obama Administration against certain Russian officials and calls on President Obama to sanction Russian officials, corporations and those engaged in the Russian arms sector who have undermined the Ukrainian government or committed human rights abuses. The President is also authorized to examine whether Russia has violated a 1988 arms treaty and permits him to freeze assets and deny visas.

Specifically, the bill authorizes \$50 million for the President to provide assistance to support democracy and strengthen civil society in Ukraine. This assistance is to be used to improve transparency, rule of law, and anti-corruption efforts; strengthen political organizations; and protect independent media as Ukraine prepares for free and fair elections in May.

Additionally, up to \$10 million is authorized for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and Voice of America to increase broadcasts into eastern Ukraine (including Crimea), Moldova and other nearby ethnic Russian communities. The broadcasts should, in particular, counter misinformation from Russia-supported news outlets.

In addition to this direct aid, the bill also supports the people of Ukraine in the following ways:

1. Encourages the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) to prioritize investments in Ukraine;

2. Authorizes \$8 million to help Ukraine develop an independent judiciary and eliminate human rights abuses by law enforcement authorities;

3. Encourages increased U.S. security cooperation among NATO states in Central and Eastern Europe through military training, exercises and the exchange of defense articles, and directs the Secretary of State to report to Congress within 30 days of enactment with a review of U.S. security assistance to that country;

4. Expresses the sense of Congress that the administration should provide expedited assistance to the Ukrainian government to identify and recover assets stolen from the government or linked to corruption by former officials, including former President Viktor Yanukovich; and

5. Offsets the cost of assistance to Ukraine by reducing the \$1.5 billion authorized for Pakistan in the Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act of 2009 by \$70 million.

That is why I strongly support the codification of three Presidential executive orders issued in March sanctioning individuals involved in the violence in Ukraine or who undermine the independence, sovereignty, or territorial or economic integrity of Ukraine. Such sanctions could include the seizure of financial assets, the denial of visas, and other penalties.

The sanctions could be ended if the President certifies to Congress that Ukrainian sovereignty, independence or territorial integrity is not being violated by Russia or any other state actor, or after Jan. 1, 2020, if the President certifies that their termination is in the national security interest of the United States.

Finally, the bill requires the President, within 30 days of enactment and within 180 days thereafter for at least two years, to report to Congress on senior Russian political figures who are engaged in such activity.

It also requires the President, along identical timelines, to report to Congress on foreign financial institutions (especially Russian banks) to determine whether they are involved in the confiscation of Ukrainian assets; money laundering, terrorist or proliferation financing, or actively helping to skirt sanctions; or helping to annex Crimea.

The bill expresses the sense of Congress that the President should expand the list of Russian officials—currently at 18—sanctioned for gross human rights violations under the Magnitsky Act of 2012.

Mr. Speaker, it is right that the civilized world, led by the United States, opposes aggression and the violation of territorial sovereignty by the Putin regime.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting to pass H.R. 4278.

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 4278, the Ukraine

Support Act. One of the many important initiatives included in this legislation is language urging the President to greatly expand the list of Russian officials and others who have been sanctioned for gross human rights violations. Until this past week, only eighteen had been sanctioned. This is unacceptable. After the recent actions of the Russian Federation, we must expand this list beyond those involved in the death of the Russian anti-corruption lawyer Sergei Magnitsky, whose imprisonment and subsequent death was the impetus for the creation of these sanctions. I am glad to hear that the President just sanctioned 20 additional individuals, freezing their assets and barring U.S. travel. However, more must be done.

Others who deserve to be held accountable for their human rights abuses include militant anti-Westerner Dmitry Kiselyov—head of the Russian government-owned news agency and called the “Kremlin’s New Chief Propagandist” by the Moscow Times—who was recently sanctioned by the European Union, and Maxim Martsinkevich, head of Neo-Nazi extremist group “Occupy Pedophilia” which has engaged in kidnapping and torture. There are others who are allies and friends of Vladimir Putin whom the Administration seems to have avoided placing on the list to avoid Russian retaliation—but it is clear a policy of appeasement has done nothing to deter Putin’s government.

Last month, the State Department released its 2013 country report on human rights practices in Russia, which documented widespread human rights abuses under the Russian government. The report found that “[t]he government continued its crackdown on dissent that began after Vladimir Putin’s return to the presidency,” seeking “to harass, pressure, discredit, and/or prosecute individuals and entities that had voiced criticism of the government.” It depicted a suppressive environment where “law enforcement personnel engaged in torture, abuse, and violence to coerce confessions from suspects,” politically motivated disappearances continued to occur, and conditions in prisons could be harsh or life-threatening. The State Department noted that Russia had adopted several laws discriminating against LGBT individuals, continued to prosecute some religious minorities, and found some authorities “discriminated against ethnic minorities, arbitrarily detaining thousands of migrant workers amid a wave of anti-immigrant sentiment. Laws, actions, and official rhetoric restricting the rights of the LGBT community, migrants, and other minorities coincided with a marked increase in violent attacks against these groups.”

This scathing report makes clear there are more Russian individuals who belong on the sanctioned list. I strongly urge the President to hold these human rights abusers accountable for their crimes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4278, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 11 o’clock and 24 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1131

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HOLDING) at 11 o’clock and 31 minutes a.m.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 11 o’clock and 32 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1207

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK) at 12 o’clock and 7 minutes p.m.

PROTECTING ACCESS TO MEDICARE ACT OF 2014

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 4302) to amend the Social Security Act to extend Medicare payments to physicians and other provisions of the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

UKRAINE SUPPORT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4278) to support the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Ukraine, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 399, nays 19, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 148]

YEAS—399

Aderholt	DeLauro	Hurt
Bachmann	Denham	Israel
Bachus	Dent	Issa
Barber	DeSantis	Jackson Lee
Barletta	Deutch	Jeffries
Barr	Diaz-Balart	Jenkins
Barrow (GA)	Dingell	Johnson (GA)
Barton	Doggett	Johnson (OH)
Bass	Doyle	Johnson, E. B.
Beatty	Duckworth	Johnson, Sam
Becerra	Duffy	Jolly
Benishek	Duncan (SC)	Jordan
Bera (CA)	Edwards	Joyce
Bilirakis	Ellison	Kaptur
Bishop (GA)	Ellmers	Keating
Bishop (NY)	Engel	Kelly (IL)
Bishop (UT)	Enyart	Kelly (PA)
Black	Eshoo	Kennedy
Blackburn	Esty	Kildee
Blumenauer	Farenthold	Kilmer
Bonamici	Farr	Kind
Boustany	Fattah	King (IA)
Brady (PA)	Fincher	King (NY)
Brady (TX)	Fitzpatrick	Kingston
Braley (IA)	Fleischmann	Kinzing (IL)
Bridenstine	Fleming	Kirkpatrick
Brooks (AL)	Flores	Kline
Brooks (IN)	Forbes	Kuster
Brown (FL)	Fortenberry	LaMalfa
Brownley (CA)	Foster	Lamborn
Buchanan	Foxo	Lance
Bucshon	Frankel (FL)	Langevin
Bustos	Franks (AZ)	Lankford
Byrne	Frelinghuysen	Larsen (WA)
Calvert	Fudge	Larson (CT)
Camp	Gabbard	Latham
Cantor	Gallego	Latta
Capito	Garamendi	Lee (CA)
Capps	Garcia	Levin
Capuano	Gardner	Lewis
Cárdenas	Garrett	Lipinski
Carney	Gerlach	LoBiondo
Carson (IN)	Gibbs	Loebuck
Carter	Gingrey (GA)	Lofgren
Cartwright	Gohmert	Long
Cassidy	Goodlatte	Lowenthal
Castor (FL)	Gosar	Lowe
Castro (TX)	Gowdy	Lucas
Chabot	Granger	Luetkemeyer
Chaffetz	Graves (GA)	Lujan Grisham
Chu	Graves (MO)	(NM)
Cicilline	Green, Al	Lujan, Ben Ray
Clark (MA)	Green, Gene	(NM)
Clarke (NY)	Griffin (AR)	Lummis
Clay	Griffith (VA)	Lynch
Cleaver	Grijalva	Maffei
Clyburn	Grimm	Maloney
Coffman	Guthrie	Carolyn
Cohen	Hahn	Maloney, Sean
Cole	Hall	Marchant
Collins (GA)	Hanabusa	Marino
Collins (NY)	Hanna	Matheson
Conaway	Harper	Matsui
Connolly	Harris	McAllister
Conyers	Hartzler	McCarthy (CA)
Cook	Hastings (FL)	McCaul
Cooper	Hastings (WA)	McClintock
Costa	Heck (NV)	McCollum
Cotton	Heck (WA)	McDermott
Courtney	Hensarling	McGovern
Cramer	Herrera Beutler	McHenry
Crawford	Higgins	McIntyre
Crenshaw	Himes	McKeon
Crowley	Hinojosa	McKinley
Cuellar	Holding	McMorris
Culberson	Holt	Rodgers
Cummings	Horsford	McNerney
Daines	Hoyer	Meadows
Davis (CA)	Hudson	Meehan
Davis, Danny	Huelskamp	Meeks
Davis, Rodney	Huffman	Meng
DeFazio	Huizenga (MI)	Messer
DeGette	Hultgren	Mica
Delaney	Hunter	Michaud