

meeting the unique needs of our autism community. I look forward to their future contributions and the change we can affect for individuals and families in Guam and throughout the Nation.

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PROTECTING SEMICONDUCTOR SUPPLY CHAIN MATERIALS FROM AUTHORITARIANS ACT

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SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 7372, the Protecting Semiconductor Supply Chain Materials from Authoritarians.

H.R. 7372 will require the President to establish a semiconductor supply chain working group and submit to Congress reports on potential disruptions to the supply chain.

We must always ensure that geopolitical dynamics do not impede or disrupt the United States' semiconductor supply.

Semiconductors were first developed in the United States for transmitter use. Since then, the industry has boomed with the creation of various types of Semiconductors that are used in everything from computers to cars, and from watches to washing machines.

Large semiconductor companies such as Intel and Texas Instruments rely on certain minerals to maintain manufacturing demands.

These threatened materials include palladium, neon gas, helium, and C4F6, which are necessary for the operation of electronic devices.

Semiconductors are essential to the American economy and day to day American life. A semiconductor shortage is a threat to National Security.

We need to plan ahead and anticipate the potential impact that Russia and other autocratic, authoritarian regimes may have on these supplies.

This bill will require the Secretary of State to submit a report analyzing Russia's impact on supply chains and the global economy while also recommending potential steps to bolster semiconductor production and secure necessary materials.

Taiwan is the world's largest supplier of semiconductors, so it is important to account for any geopolitical factors that might impact them. The bill requires these considerations in future reports as well as issues with health and natural disasters.

Through this report, Congress can stay updated for threats to the global supply chain for semiconductors and prepare for future geopolitical developments.

I urge all members to join me in voting for H.R. 7372, the Protecting Semiconductor Supply Chain Materials from Authoritarians.

IN HONOR OF THE EXTRAORDINARY CAREER OF ART FRANKLIN, CBS 42 NEWS ANCHOR IN BIRMINGHAM, AL

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2022

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the leadership and extraordinary accomplishments of Art Franklin, who is stepping down from his position as co-lead anchor of the CBS 42 Evening News on April 29, 2022.

A native of Detroit, Art is a graduate of the University of Michigan. Upon completing his education, he began his broadcasting career at the WDZZ-FM 93 radio station in Flint, Michigan, before leaving to join the WILX-TV 10, the NBC station in Lansing, Michigan. While at WILX, Art worked as a Capital Reporter and Business Reporter becoming the first African American male in Lansing to regularly anchor a broadcast newscast.

Continuing to work within the NBC network, Art transitioned to WAVY-TV 10 in Norfolk, Virginia, where he served as the station's military affairs correspondent and anchor of the Bottom Line, the station's public service program. In addition to regularly reporting from the Pentagon, Art also began covering international assignments traveling to Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Bahrain, Italy, Spain, France, Germany, and the Caribbean. As a trailblazer in broadcast journalism, Art continued to make history upon moving to Birmingham in 1991, becoming Birmingham's first primetime African American male anchor during his 12 years at WBRC-TV. Throughout his career, Art reported on major world events such as the conflict in the Persian Gulf, the 9-11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City, and the terrorist attack at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta. He also transitioned to political reporting, covering several United States presidents, including Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, and Barack Obama.

Leaving Birmingham in 2003, Art moved to Atlanta joining another NBC affiliate, WXIA 11 Alive News, before becoming an anchor at WAGA-TV FOX5. Though he left television to start a Public Relations firm, Art's passion and dedication to his craft brought him back to Birmingham to launch the CBS 42 Morning News with Art Franklin. While at CBS 42, Art has served as a managing editor and as anchor of the 4:00 P.M., 5:00 P.M., 6:00 P.M., and 10:00 P.M. newscast.

For over three decades, Art has immersed himself in the world of journalism, serving in exclusive positions such as the producer of the National Association of Black Journalists Awards show, which aired on Black Entertainment Television (BET) and guest journalism instructor at the Poynter Institute for Media Studies in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Diversifying his career outside of journalism, Art has served as the C.E.O. of 285 Records, an Atlanta based independent record company; background actor for multiple award-winning television shows including *How to Get Away with Murder* and *Greys Anatomy*. He is also the author of the book *Give It All You Got* and the founder of the Art Franklin Collection, a clothing line of male clothing, accessories, and custom suits. As a vibrant member of his

community, his civic affiliations include board member of the Jefferson County Family Resource Center and member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Art has received over 100 community and journalism awards for his exemplary career and contributions to the journalism profession, including most notably, an Emmy Award for Outstanding Achievement for spotnews coverage in Atlanta in 2005, and most recently an Edward R. Murrow Award for Excellence in Innovation as anchor of CBS 42's Coronavirus House Calls in 2021. Art is also the recipient of the Outstanding Achievement Television Programming Excellence Award in 1995, Scrips Howard Excellence in journalism Award in 1994, RTNDA Best Documentary in 1994, and Alabama Associated Press Award for the Best Documentary in 1994, and Best Reporter in 1995. Securing his place in history as one of the best news anchors of a generation, in 2017, Art was named Alabama's Best News Anchor by the Alabama Broadcasting Association. In 2019, the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Silver Circle recognized him for over 25 years in the industry.

On a personal note, Art has always been the consummate professional. His mere presence on air has been a source of great inspiration for little black boys and girls in Alabama. Art delivers the news with clarity and purpose which has made him my "go-to" anchor for the nightly news. We will miss him on CBS 42, but I know that Art will continue to make significant contributions to our community. I congratulate Art, and extend best wishes in all of his future endeavors.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary career of Art Franklin and his exemplary contributions to broadcast journalism.

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COUNTERING MALIGN RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA ACT

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SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 7311, the Countering Malign Russian Activities in Africa Act, which requires the Department of State to report to Congress a strategy and implementation plan outlining U.S. efforts to counter Russia's malign influence and activities in Africa.

This bill directs the Secretary of State to develop and submit to Congress a strategy and implementation plan outlining United States efforts to counter the malign influence and activities of the Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa.

Russia has been aggressively pursuing its strategic objectives in Africa in recent years by:

- securing a foothold in the eastern Mediterranean,
- gaining naval port access in the Red Sea,
- expanding natural resource extraction opportunities,
- displacing Western influence,
- and promoting alternatives to democracy as a regional norm.

A report from the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change shows how Russia is reviving

Soviet-era ties with African states to extract resources from the region, and in exchange, become a security provider.

Russia has a vested interest in the deployment of private military contractors (PMCs) in the region.

Instead of bringing peace, Russia is thriving on instability in African states and among Africa's leadership.

Africa is home to some of the fast-growing economies in the world and is abundant in natural resources.

With the U.S. and French military drawdown in Africa, Russia is looking to prove itself as an alternative.

Its deployment to Mali in December 2021 demonstrated the rapid support Moscow can offer struggling regimes, however Russia is also influencing from within.

Since Putin's embrace of the region in the last decade, political strategists have been sent to African governments, including those

of the Central African Republic (CAR) and Madagascar, to counsel their leaders.

The funding of pro-Russian television channels in Africa and electoral interference are other methods to sway sentiment among Africans.

The growing tendency to request PMC support for mounting security challenges, as Russian influence increases among African societies, is a clear indicator of a deepening authoritarian footprint on the continent.

It seems that African countries are viewed by Russia cynically as vehicles for accrual of geostrategic advantage and exploitation rather than as partners for legitimate economic investment for trade or security assistance.

The "partnerships" that Russia seeks in Africa are not state based, but elite based.

By helping these often illegitimate and unpopular leaders to retain power, Russia is cementing Africa's indebtedness to Moscow.

Russia's engagements are inherently destabilizing for the citizens of African countries, resulting in stunted economic development, human rights abuses, disenfranchisement of African citizens, the perpetuation of illegitimate governments, and social polarization.

African stability is not a priority for Russia, as it is largely pursued on a patron-client basis with compromised African leaders.

Russia's unofficial strategy runs counter to the interests of many African citizens.

We must work more closely with African members of the UN Security Council so that shared interests of security and development are advanced at these international assemblies.

I ask my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 7311 because the United States can help Africa become less of a permissive environment for Russian imperialism.

It is imperative that we try to help save African stability, sovereignty, and democracy.