

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 117-31
OFFERED BY MR. CURTIS OF UTAH

At the appropriate place in division D, insert the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . SANCTIONS RELATING TO DISTORTING INFORMA-**
2 **TION WITH RESPECT TO PUBLIC HEALTH**
3 **EMERGENCIES.**

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

8 (1) is a government official, or a senior asso-
9 ciate of such an official, that is responsible for, or
10 complicit in, ordering, controlling, or otherwise di-
11 recting, or financially benefits from, acts intended to
12 deliberately conceal or distort information, including
13 through forced detentions or disappearances of per-
14 sons, about a public health emergency of inter-
15 national concern, including COVID-19; or

16 (2) has materially assisted, sponsored, or pro-
17 vided financial, material, or technological support
18 for, or goods or services in support of, an act de-
19 scribed in paragraph (1).

1 (b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions de-
2 scribed in this subsection are the following:

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

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

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

13 (2) BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—

14 (A) IN GENERAL.—The blocking, in ac-
15 cordance with the International Emergency
16 Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et
17 seq.), of all transactions in all property and in-
18 terests in property of a foreign person if such
19 property and interests in property are in the
20 United States, come within the United States,
21 or are or come within the possession or control
22 of a United States person.

23 (B) EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTA-
24 TION OF GOODS.—

1 (i) IN GENERAL.—The authority to
2 block and prohibit all transactions in all
3 property and interests in property under
4 subparagraph (A) shall not include the au-
5 thority to impose sanctions on the importa-
6 tion of goods.

7 (ii) GOOD DEFINED.—In this subpara-
8 graph, the term “good” means any article,
9 natural or manmade substance, material,
10 supply, or manufactured product, including
11 inspection and test equipment, and exclud-
12 ing technical data.

13 (c) REQUESTS BY APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL
14 COMMITTEES.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days
16 after receiving a request that meets the require-
17 ments of paragraph (2) with respect to whether a
18 foreign person is described in subsection (a), the
19 President shall—

20 (A) determine if that person is so de-
21 scribed; and

22 (B) submit a classified or unclassified re-
23 port to the chairperson and ranking member of
24 the committee or committees that submitted the

1 request with respect to that determination that
2 includes—

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

6 (ii) if the President imposed or in-
7 tends to impose sanctions, a description of
8 those sanctions.

9 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—A request under para-
10 graph (1) with respect to whether a foreign person
11 is described in subsection (a) shall be submitted to
12 the President in writing jointly by the chairperson
13 and ranking member of one of the appropriate con-
14 gressional committees.

15 (d) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NATIONS
16 HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT AND LAW ENFORCEMENT
17 OBJECTIVES.—Sanctions under subsection (b)(1) shall
18 not apply to an individual if admitting the individual into
19 the United States—

20 (1) would further important law enforcement
21 objectives; or

22 (2) is necessary to permit the United States to
23 comply with the Agreement regarding the Head-
24 quarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Suc-
25 cess June 26, 1947, and entered into force Novem-

1 ber 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the
2 United States, or other applicable international obli-
3 gations of the United States.

4 (e) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH NATIONAL SECUR-
5 RITY.—The following activities shall be exempt from sanc-
6 tions under this section:

7 (1) Activities subject to the reporting require-
8 ments under title V of the National Security Act of
9 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.).

10 (2) Any authorized intelligence or law enforce-
11 ment activities of the United States.

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

21 (g) REPORTS REQUIRED.—Not later than 120 days
22 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually
23 thereafter, the President shall submit to the appropriate
24 congressional committees a report that includes—

1 (1) a list of each foreign person with respect to
2 which the President imposed sanctions under sub-
3 section (b) during the year preceding the submission
4 of the report;

5 (2) a description of the type of sanctions im-
6 posed with respect to each such person;

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

9 (A) imposed sanctions under subsection (b)
10 during that year; or

11 (B) terminated sanctions under subsection
12 (h) during that year;

13 (4) the dates on which such sanctions were im-
14 posed or terminated, as the case may be;

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

17 (6) a description of the efforts of the President
18 to encourage the governments of other countries to
19 impose sanctions that are similar to the sanctions
20 authorized by this section.

21 (h) **TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS.**—The President
22 may terminate the application of sanctions under this sec-
23 tion with respect to a person if the President determines
24 and reports to the appropriate congressional committees

1 not later than 15 days before the termination of the sanc-
2 tions that—

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

6 (2) the person has been prosecuted appro-
7 priately for the activity for which sanctions were im-
8 posed;

9 (3) the forced detention or disappearance of the
10 individual or individuals for whom the sanctions
11 have been imposed are no longer missing or de-
12 tained;

13 (4) the person has provided material informa-
14 tion that—

15 (A) leads to the location or liberation of
16 the missing or detained individual or individuals
17 in question; or

18 (B) leads to the arrest or prosecution of
19 others responsible for such acts described in
20 subsection (a); or

21 (5) the termination of the sanctions is in the
22 national security interests of the United States.

23 (i) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The President shall
24 issue such regulations, licenses, and orders as are nec-
25 essary to carry out this section.

1 (j) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

2 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
3 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
4 mittees” means—

5 (A) the Committee on Banking, Housing,
6 and Urban Affairs and the Committee on For-
7 eign Relations of the Senate; and

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

11 (2) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign per-
12 son” means a person that is not a United States
13 person.

14 (3) PERSON.—The term “person” means an in-
15 dividual or entity.

16 (4) PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OF INTER-
17 NATIONAL CONCERN.—The term “public health
18 emergency of international concern” means a public
19 health emergency determined to be a public health
20 emergency of international concern by the World
21 Health Organization.

22 (5) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term
23 “United States person” means—

1 (A) an individual who is a United States
2 citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for perma-
3 nent residence to the United States; or

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

