

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-33  
OFFERED BY MR. MACKENZIE OF PENNSYLVANIA

At the end of subtitle \_\_ of title \_\_, insert the following new section:

SEC. 12\_\_. TARGETED ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES RELATING TO THE INTERIM SYRIAN  
AUTHORITIES.

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

(1) the United States supports accountability for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and acts of persecution committed in Syria, including against religious and ethnic minority communities;

(2) reports indicate ongoing incidents of unlawful detention, sectarian violence fueled by unpunished hate speech targeting minorities, abduction of women and minors, collective termination from employment, enforced disappearances, intimidation leading to loss of private property and work, covert forced displacements, police abuse of power, government-sponsored looting, forced religious conversions, and extrajudicial killings targeting vulnerable religious and ethnic populations;

(3) the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom and other credible international human rights monitors have documented continuing violations of religious freedom and ethnoreligious persecution in Syria;

(4) credible reports indicate that the interim Syrian authorities have—

(A) failed to adequately include religious and ethnic minorities in governance and transitional processes;

(B) failed to sufficiently investigate or prosecute crimes committed against such communities; and

(C) failed to comply with or submit required documentation and reporting related to conditions established under the lifting of sanctions pursuant to the Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act of 2019;

(5) the interim Syrian authorities have failed to comply with congressionally mandated reporting and certification requirements related to the protection and inclusion of religious and ethnic minority communities; and

(6) the interim Syrian authorities have failed to remove foreign fighters from senior roles in the Government of Syria, including those in state and security institutions, and have instead integrated such fighters into independent divisions.

(b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States that the President should utilize existing authorities to impose targeted sanctions on specific Syrian officials, security personnel, affiliated militia leaders, and other foreign persons connected to the interim Syrian President or members of the interim cabinet determined to be responsible for, complicit in, or to have materially assisted such abuses.

(c) REPORT AND DETERMINATION.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees—

- (1) a report identifying senior Syrian officials and affiliated persons credibly alleged to have participated in, directed, facilitated, or concealed serious human rights abuses or acts of persecution against religious or ethnic minorities in Syria; and
- (2) a determination as to whether targeted sanctions should be imposed on persons identified in the report required by paragraph (1) pursuant to existing United States sanctions authorities.

(d) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—Targeted sanctions considered pursuant to subsection (b) may include—

- (1) blocking sanctions and asset freezes pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.);
- (2) visa restrictions and exclusion from the United States pursuant to section 212(a)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)); and
- (3) any other measures authorized under existing United States law relating to terrorism, corruption, war crimes, or serious human rights abuses.

(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the reimposition of broad-based sectoral sanctions or comprehensive economic restrictions previously authorized under the Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act of 2019.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means—

- (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives; and
- (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.

(2) INTERIM SYRIAN AUTHORITIES.—The term ‘interim Syrian authorities’ means the governing authority that assumed control of Syria following the fall of the Assad regime in December 2023, including its affiliated security forces and associated entities.