

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To express the sense of Congress regarding the conduct by the Netanyahu administration in Gaza and to impose sanctions to discourage governments from obstructing humanitarian assistance, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. WYDEN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To express the sense of Congress regarding the conduct by the Netanyahu administration in Gaza and to impose sanctions to discourage governments from obstructing humanitarian assistance, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Accountability for Withholding Aid and Relief Essentials
6 Act of 2026” or the “AWARE Act of 2026”.

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

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings.
- Sec. 3. Sense of Congress.
- Sec. 4. Statement of policy.
- Sec. 5. Identification of covered persons obstructing humanitarian assistance.
- Sec. 6. Imposition of sanctions.
- Sec. 7. Waiver for national security interests.
- Sec. 8. Termination of sanctions.
- Sec. 9. Congressional oversight.
- Sec. 10. Sunset.
- Sec. 11. Severability.
- Sec. 12. Definitions.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) According to many credible nongovern-
4 mental organizations, such as Doctors Without Bor-
5 ders, the Government of Israel under the leadership
6 of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has heavily
7 restricted the distribution of food, fuel, medicine,
8 and other humanitarian assistance to civilians in
9 Gaza.

10 (2) The United States has at times had to take
11 extraordinary measures to work around the
12 Netanyahu administration's restrictions in order to
13 provide aid to the people of Gaza.

14 (3) In a longitudinal, cross-sectional study pub-
15 lished in "The Lancet" in October 2025, medical
16 scholars from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School
17 of Public Health and the United Nations Relief and
18 Works Agency found that, between January 2024
19 and August 2025, during the Netanyahu administra-
20 tion, tens of thousands of preschool-aged children in

1 Gaza were suffering from preventable acute mal-
2 nutrition and faced an increased risk of mortality.

3 (4) The entire population of the Gaza Strip, an
4 estimated 2,200,000 people, is facing acute levels of
5 hunger and, according to the United Nations, since
6 January 2025, more than 20,000 children have been
7 identified as suffering from acute malnutrition, a
8 telltale sign of imminent famine. To a great extent,
9 this is a result of the policies of Prime Minister
10 Netanyahu.

11 (5) The United Nations Relief and Works
12 Agency states that the amount of aid allowed into
13 Gaza must reach a minimum of 500 to 600 truck-
14 loads of meaningful aid per day to meet the nec-
15 essary minimum to prevent starvation.

16 (6) During the Netanyahu administration, from
17 May 19, 2025, through January 7, 2026, according
18 to the Monitoring and Tracking Dashboard of the
19 United Nations Office for Project Services, fewer
20 than 17,000 trucks of humanitarian aid had made
21 it to any of the crossings along Gaza's perimeter.

22 (7) According to the Netanyahu administra-
23 tion's Ministry of Diaspora Affairs and Combating
24 Antisemitism, nongovernmental organizations wish-
25 ing to supply humanitarian assistance in Gaza must

1 be registered with and approved by an inter-ministe-
2 rial team led by the Director General of Ministry of
3 Diaspora Affairs and Combating Antisemitism.

4 (8) According to the Netanyahu administra-
5 tion's Ministry of Defense of the State of Israel,
6 Israel's Coordinator of Government Activities in the
7 Territories office, which assists in determining the
8 eligibility of a nongovernmental organization in the
9 registration approval process, requires additional
10 clearance for and coordination with nongovernmental
11 organizations.

12 (9) There already exist established, universal
13 standards, such as the Sphere standards and the
14 United Nations coordinated response guidance, that
15 an organization must meet in order to function as
16 a credible, legitimate humanitarian organization.

17 (10) Prime Minister Netanyahu has repeatedly
18 denied the existence of mass hunger and starvation
19 in Gaza.

20 (11) According to Doctors Without Borders and
21 Human Rights Watch, Palestinians in Gaza in need
22 of aid receive contradictory and counterproductive
23 information regarding aid availability, often with
24 very little notice from the Netanyahu administration,
25 which leads to confusion, puts them in dangerous

1 situations, and diminishes their ability to actually
2 secure aid.

3 (12) According to a July 23, 2025, statement
4 from more than 100 nongovernmental organizations,
5 the Netanyahu administration's Coordinator of Gov-
6 ernment Activities in the Territories office heavily
7 restricted the humanitarian assistance distributed
8 outside of the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation net-
9 work.

10 (13) On July 1, 2025, more than 170 non-
11 governmental organizations, such as Doctors With-
12 out Borders, called for the dismantling of the Gaza
13 Humanitarian Foundation as a result of its viola-
14 tions of international norms associated with humani-
15 tarian work and concerns of harm to civilians at dis-
16 tribution centers of the Gaza Humanitarian Founda-
17 tion.

18 (14) During the Netanyahu administration, the
19 Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for
20 Human Rights has reported that more than 1,000
21 Palestinians in Gaza have been killed seeking food,
22 more than 800 of whom were killed at or around
23 distribution sites of the Gaza Humanitarian Foun-
24 dation.

1 (15) During the Netanyahu administration,
2 Human Rights Watch has reported that multiple
3 sources, including former staff of the Gaza Humani-
4 tarian Foundation, have witnessed instances of the
5 Israel Defense Forces opening fire on aid-seeking
6 Palestinians with live ammunition near distribution
7 sites of the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation.

8 (16) The Gaza Humanitarian Foundation re-
9 ceived on-ground logistical and security support
10 from Safe Reach Solutions and UG Solutions.

11 (17) The Government of Israel and Hamas en-
12 tered into a ceasefire on October 10, 2025.

13 (18) The Gaza Humanitarian Foundation sus-
14 pended its operations on October 10, 2025, following
15 the start of the ceasefire.

16 (19) Despite the suspension of operations by
17 the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, numerous non-
18 governmental organizations have reported that Safe
19 Reach Solutions and UG Solutions plan to continue
20 operations in Gaza.

21 (20) Despite the ceasefire and the proposed in-
22 crease in humanitarian assistance, restrictions on
23 delivery and distribution persist under the
24 Netanyahu administration and actual levels of hu-

1 humanitarian assistance remain well below what is
2 needed.

3 (21) More than 40 nongovernmental organiza-
4 tions operating on the ground in Gaza issued a
5 statement on October 23, 2025, stating that, despite
6 the ceasefire, Israeli authorities under the
7 Netanyahu administration have continued to arbi-
8 trarily reject shipments of humanitarian assistance
9 into Gaza, including items such as blankets, mat-
10 tresses, food and nutrition supplies, hygiene kits,
11 sanitation materials, assistive devices, and children's
12 clothing, and have caused almost \$50,000,000 of es-
13 sential goods to sit stockpiled at the crossings, un-
14 able to be distributed.

15 (22) The Director General of the Ministry of
16 Diaspora Affairs and Combating Antisemitism, the
17 Minister of Diaspora Affairs and Combating Anti-
18 semitism, the Coordinator of Government Activities
19 in the Territories, the General Staff of the Israel
20 Defense Forces, the Chief of the General Staff of
21 Israel Defense Forces, the Defense Minister of
22 Israel, and the Prime Minister of Israel all have au-
23 thorities to help ensure the delivery of humanitarian
24 assistance to Palestinian civilians in Gaza.

1 (23) The Minister of Diaspora Affairs and
2 Combating Antisemitism, the Defense Minister of
3 Israel, and the Prime Minister of Israel all have au-
4 thority to change policy to ensure the distribution of
5 humanitarian aid in Gaza.

6 (24) International humanitarian law, including
7 customary norms and treaty law, prohibits the use
8 of starvation as a method of warfare and requires
9 the protection of civilians' access to humanitarian
10 assistance.

11 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

12 It is the sense of Congress that—

13 (1) Israel has the right to self-defense and the
14 United States is committed to helping Israel safe-
15 guard its people from future aggression;

16 (2) Hamas should be condemned in the
17 harshest terms for its premeditated, coordinated,
18 and brutal terrorist attacks on Israel;

19 (3) Hamas's abductions and threats made
20 against hostages, including threats to use hostages
21 as human shields, are abhorrent;

22 (4) Hamas should immediately cease its attacks
23 against Israel and return the body of the deceased
24 hostage;

1 (5) the people killed by Hamas's terrorist at-
2 tacks deserve to be commemorated, and the hos-
3 tages, people wounded, and their families deserve the
4 support of the people of the United States;

5 (6) all countries should unequivocally condemn
6 Hamas's war on Israel, including Hamas's inten-
7 tional targeting of, and attacks against, civilians;

8 (7) the United States appreciates the global ad-
9 vocacy efforts calling for the release of all hostages;

10 (8) Iran's support for global terrorism, includ-
11 ing its support for terrorist groups, such as Hamas
12 and Palestinian Islamic Jihad, should be condemned
13 and opposed by all available means;

14 (9) the blocking of the borders of Gaza by the
15 administration of Prime Minister Benjamin
16 Netanyahu in 2025, which prohibited entry of food,
17 medicine, infant formula, fuel, and other humani-
18 tarian assistance and essential services, should be
19 condemned;

20 (10) the vast majority of men, women, and es-
21 pecially children in Gaza, are civilians and not
22 agents of Hamas;

23 (11) actions by the Netanyahu administration
24 that have contributed to the humanitarian crisis and
25 acute suffering of Palestinians are horrifying;

1 (12) occupying powers have a responsibility to
2 ensure the safety and well-being of the civilians in
3 the occupied territory;

4 (13) the Netanyahu administration has imple-
5 mented policies that have regularly and deliberately
6 undermined the delivery and distribution of humani-
7 tarian assistance to Palestinians in Gaza, exacer-
8 bating the humanitarian crisis in Gaza;

9 (14) the restrictions on aid are being carried
10 out by the political appointees and senior military
11 leadership of the Netanyahu administration;

12 (15) the restriction of aid by the Netanyahu ad-
13 ministration is not consistent with the State of
14 Israel's core values and commitment to human
15 rights;

16 (16) the Netanyahu administration's conduct
17 has eroded the State of Israel's standing in the
18 world by undermining the rule of law and violating
19 fundamental human rights;

20 (17) the United States can support the State of
21 Israel's right to exist while opposing the policies and
22 conduct of the Netanyahu administration;

23 (18) the United States condemns the
24 Netanyahu administration for restricting aid, but it

1 continues to greatly value its relationship with the
2 State of Israel;

3 (19) the Netanyahu administration's restric-
4 tions on aid create dire conditions for the civilians
5 of Gaza, including death from starvation;

6 (20) children dying of starvation serves no mili-
7 tary aims for Israel;

8 (21) such dire conditions undermine Israel's fu-
9 ture security;

10 (22) Prime Minister Netanyahu or his successor
11 should immediately facilitate the delivery of neutral,
12 independent, impartial, and safe distribution of hu-
13 manitarian assistance by all legitimate local and
14 international actors to end the humanitarian crisis
15 in Gaza as soon as possible;

16 (23) legitimate local and international actors
17 delivering and distributing humanitarian assistance
18 should at all times be safe from deliberate, inci-
19 dental, and collateral harm from operations by Israel
20 and its surrogates, including under the Netanyahu
21 administration; and

22 (24) the President, the Secretary of State, and
23 the heads of other relevant United States Govern-
24 ment agencies should urgently use all available diplo-
25 matic tools—

1 (A) to maintain the ceasefire and hostage
2 release agreement agreed to by Israel and
3 Hamas on October 10, 2025;

4 (B) to bring about an immediate and sus-
5 tained surge in humanitarian assistance to Pal-
6 estinian civilians in Gaza; and

7 (C) to lay the groundwork for a broader
8 regional peace through implementation of the
9 20-point plan included in the agreement de-
10 scribed in subparagraph (A).

11 **SEC. 4. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

12 It is the policy of the United States that—

13 (1) protected persons are entitled at all times to
14 sufficient humanitarian assistance;

15 (2) if a government is unable or unwilling to
16 ensure delivery and distribution of sufficient human-
17 itarian assistance to a territory under its control,
18 that government must allow any and all United
19 States and internationally recognized humanitarian
20 organizations to deliver and distribute sufficient hu-
21 manitarian assistance to the protected persons in
22 that territory; and

23 (3) any covered persons acting on behalf of a
24 government found to be restricting, diminishing, un-
25 dermining, or preventing the delivery and distribu-

1 tion of sufficient humanitarian assistance to pro-
2 tected persons, including protected persons residing
3 in a territory under the government's control, are in
4 violation of the policy described in paragraphs (1)
5 and (2).

6 **SEC. 5. IDENTIFICATION OF COVERED PERSONS OB-**
7 **STRUCTING HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
9 date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter,
10 the President shall submit to the appropriate congres-
11 sional committees and leadership a report that includes—

12 (1) a list of all covered persons the President
13 determines are in violation of the policy described in
14 section 4;

15 (2) for each such person—

16 (A) a justification for inclusion of the per-
17 son on the list, including a description of the in-
18 formation supporting the inclusion of the per-
19 son;

20 (B) a statement of which, if any, of the
21 sanctions described in section 6 have been im-
22 posed, or will be imposed, with respect to the
23 person within 30 days of the submission of the
24 report; and

1 (C) if sanctions under section 6 have not
2 been imposed and will not be imposed within 30
3 days of the submission of the report with re-
4 spect to the person—

5 (i) an identification of the specific au-
6 thority under which otherwise applicable
7 sanctions are being waived, have otherwise
8 been determined not to apply, or are not
9 being imposed; and

10 (ii) a complete justification of the de-
11 cision to waive or otherwise not apply the
12 sanctions;

13 (3) if few or no such persons have been added
14 to that list during the year preceding submission of
15 the report, a description, prepared jointly by the
16 Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of
17 State, of the reasons for not adding more such per-
18 sons to the list; and

19 (4) a description, prepared jointly by the Sec-
20 retary of the Treasury and the Secretary of State,
21 of efforts by the executive branch to encourage the
22 governments of other countries to impose sanctions
23 that are similar to the sanctions imposed under this
24 Act.

25 (b) FORM OF REPORT.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by para-
2 graph (2), each report required by subsection (a)
3 shall be submitted in an unclassified form.

4 (2) EXCEPTION.—The name of a person to be
5 included in the list required by subsection (a)(1)
6 may be submitted in a classified annex to the report
7 required by subsection (a) only if the President—

8 (A) determines that it is vital for the na-
9 tional security interests of the United States to
10 do so;

11 (B) uses the annex in a manner consistent
12 with the intent of Congress and the purposes of
13 this Act; and

14 (C) not less than 15 days before submit-
15 ting the name in a classified annex, provides to
16 the appropriate congressional committees and
17 leadership—

18 (i) notice of, and a justification for,
19 including or continuing to include the per-
20 son in the classified annex despite any
21 publicly available credible information indi-
22 cating that the person engaged in an activ-
23 ity in violation of the policy described in
24 section 4; and

1 (ii) notice of, and a justification for
2 the issuance of any waiver issued with re-
3 spect to the person.

4 (3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The unclassified
5 portion of the report required by subsection (a) shall
6 be made available on a publicly available internet
7 website of the Federal Government not later than 30
8 days after the report is submitted to the appropriate
9 congressional committees and leadership.

10 **SEC. 6. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose sanc-
12 tions under subsections (b) and (c) with respect to each
13 covered person included in the list required by section
14 5(a)(1).

15 (b) DIPLOMATIC SANCTIONS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—A covered person included in
17 the list required by section 5(a)(1) is—

18 (A) inadmissible to the United States;

19 (B) ineligible for a visa or other docu-
20 mentation to enter the United States; and

21 (C) otherwise ineligible to be admitted or
22 paroled into the United States or to receive any
23 other benefit under the Immigration and Na-
24 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

1 (2) VISA AND OTHER ENTRY DOCUMENTATION
2 REVOCATION.—

3 (A) IN GENERAL.—The issuing consular
4 officer, the Secretary of State, or the Secretary
5 of Homeland Security (or a designee of one of
6 such Secretaries) shall, in accordance with sec-
7 tion 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality
8 Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)), revoke any visa or other
9 entry documentation issued to any covered per-
10 son included in the list required by section
11 5(a)(1), regardless of when the visa or other
12 entry documentation was issued.

13 (B) IMMEDIATE EFFECT.—The revocation
14 of a visa or other entry documentation under
15 subparagraph (A) shall—

16 (i) take effect immediately; and
17 (ii) automatically cancel any other
18 valid visa or entry documentation that is in
19 the possession of the covered person.

20 (3) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH INTER-
21 NATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State
23 may issue a visa otherwise prohibited under
24 paragraph (1) or not revoke a visa otherwise re-
25 quired to be revoked under paragraph (2) if the

1 Secretary determines that doing so is nec-
2 essary—

3 (i) to enable the President to receive
4 an ambassador or other public minister
5 under section 3 of Article II of the Con-
6 stitution of the United States in a manner
7 consistent with the Vienna Conventions; or
8 (ii) to permit the United States to
9 comply with the Agreement regarding the
10 Headquarters of the United Nations,
11 signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947,
12 and entered into force November 21, 1947,
13 between the United Nations and the
14 United States, or with any other applicable
15 international obligations.

16 (B) LIMITS ON EXCEPTIONAL VISAS.—A
17 visa issued pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall
18 be strictly limited in scope and duration to the
19 minimum required for the purpose for which
20 the visa is issued.

21 (c) FINANCIAL SANCTIONS.—

22 (1) BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—The President
23 shall exercise all powers granted by the International
24 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701
25 et seq.) (except that the requirements of section 202

1 of such Act (50 U.S.C. 1701) shall not apply) to the
2 extent necessary to block and prohibit all trans-
3 actions in all property and interests in property of
4 a covered person included in the list required by sec-
5 tion 5(a)(1) if such property and interests in prop-
6 erty are in the United States, come within the
7 United States, or are or come within the possession
8 or control of a United States person.

9 (2) EXCEPTIONS.—

10 (A) NATIONAL SECURITY.—Sanctions
11 under paragraph (1) shall not apply to a cov-
12 ered person if the President determines that not
13 applying the sanctions with respect to the per-
14 son is vital for the national security interests of
15 the United States.

16 (B) HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.—Sanc-
17 tions under paragraph (1) may not be imposed
18 with respect to a transaction or the facilitation
19 of a transaction for the provision of humani-
20 tarian assistance to protected persons, including
21 a transaction relating to—

22 (i) the delivery and distribution of hu-
23 manitarian assistance to protected persons;
24 or

1 (ii) transporting goods or services that
2 are necessary to carry out the delivery and
3 distribution of humanitarian assistance to
4 protected persons.

5 (C) RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF
6 GOODS.—

7 (i) IN GENERAL.—The authorities and
8 requirements to impose sanctions under
9 this Act shall not include the authority or
10 a requirement to impose sanctions on the
11 importation of goods.

12 (ii) GOOD DEFINED.—In this clause,
13 the term “good” means any article, natural
14 or manmade substance, material, supply or
15 manufactured product, including inspection
16 and test equipment, and excluding tech-
17 nical data.

18 (3) ENFORCEMENT.—

19 (A) PENALTIES.—A person that violates,
20 attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or
21 causes a violation of paragraph (1) or any regu-
22 lation, license, or order issued to carry out that
23 paragraph shall be subject to the penalties set
24 forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206
25 of the International Emergency Economic Pow-

1 ers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as
2 a person that commits an unlawful act de-
3 scribed in subsection (a) of such section.

4 (B) REQUIREMENTS FOR FINANCIAL INSTI-
5 TUTIONS.—Not later than 120 days after the
6 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
7 of the Treasury shall prescribe or amend regu-
8 lations to require each financial institution that
9 is a United States person and has within its
10 possession or control property or interests in
11 property of a covered person included in the list
12 required by section 5(a)(1) to certify to the Sec-
13 retary that, to the best of the knowledge of the
14 financial institution, the financial institution
15 has blocked all such property and interests in
16 property.

17 (C) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The Sec-
18 retary of the Treasury shall issue such regula-
19 tions, licenses, and orders as are necessary to
20 carry out this subsection.

21 **SEC. 7. WAIVER FOR NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
23 sion of law, the President may, for renewable periods not
24 to exceed 180 days each, waive, in part or in whole, the

1 application of sanctions under this Act with respect to a
2 covered person if the President—

3 (1) determines that such a waiver is in the na-
4 tional security interests of the United States;

5 (2) submits to the appropriate congressional
6 committees and leadership a report that describes
7 the waiver or renewal and the reasons for that waiv-
8 er or renewal; and

9 (3) a joint resolution of disapproval relating to
10 the report submitted under subsection (b) is not en-
11 acted into law pursuant to section 9.

12 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—For each waiver granted under
13 subsection (a), the President shall—

14 (1) limit the duration and scope of the waiver
15 to the minimum required to serve the national secu-
16 rity interests for which the waiver is issued; and

17 (2) upon expiration of the waiver, immediately
18 determine whether the covered person covered by the
19 waiver still meets the criteria for inclusion in the list
20 required by section 5(a)(1).

21 (c) PERSONS MEETING CRITERIA FOR SANCTIONS.—

22 If the President determines under subsection (b)(2) that
23 a covered person still meets the criteria for inclusion in
24 the list required by section 5(a)(1) after the expiration of

1 a waiver applicable to the person, the President shall apply
2 sanctions under section 6 with respect to the person.

3 (d) PERSONS NOT MEETING CRITERIA FOR SANC-
4 TIONS.—If the President determines under subsection
5 (b)(2) that a covered person no longer meets the criteria
6 for inclusion in the list required by section 5(a)(1) after
7 the expiration of a waiver applicable to the person, the
8 President shall—

9 (1) pursuant to sections 8 and 9, notify Con-
10 gress of the intent of the President to terminate the
11 application of sanctions under this Act with respect
12 to the person; and

13 (2) resume making annual determinations with
14 respect to whether the person meets the criteria for
15 inclusion in the list required by section 5(a)(1).

16 **SEC. 8. TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS.**

17 (a) TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS ON INDIVIDUAL
18 PERSONS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President may termi-
20 nate the application of sanctions under this Act with
21 respect to a covered person if—

22 (A) the President determines that—

23 (i) credible and verifiable information
24 exists that the person never met the cri-

1 teria for inclusion in the list required by
2 section 5(a)(1);

3 (ii) credible and verifiable information
4 exists that the person—

5 (I) no longer meets such criteria;
6 and

7 (II) has credibly committed to
8 not engage in any activity that would
9 meet such criteria in the future; or
10 (iii) the termination of the sanctions
11 is in the national security interests of the
12 United States;

13 (B) the President submits to the appro-
14 priate congressional committees and leadership
15 a report that includes—

16 (i) a request to terminate the applica-
17 tion of sanctions under this Act with re-
18 spect to the person; and

19 (ii) a description of the reasons for
20 that request; and

21 (C) a joint resolution of disapproval relat-
22 ing to the report submitted under subparagraph
23 (B) is not enacted into law pursuant to section
24 9.

1 (2) CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROPRIETARY INFOR-
2 MATION.—Proprietary information that can be asso-
3 ciated with a request to terminate sanctions with re-
4 spect to a specific covered person may be included
5 in a report submitted under paragraph (1)(B) only
6 if—

7 (A) the appropriate congressional commit-
8 tees and leadership provide assurances of con-
9 fidentiality; or

10 (B) the covered person consents in writing
11 to the inclusion of the information.

12 (b) TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS PROGRAM.—The
13 President may terminate the application of all sanctions
14 under this Act with respect to a country if—

15 (1) the President determines that there no
16 longer exists any covered person in that country that
17 meets the criteria for inclusion in the list required
18 by section 5(a)(1);

19 (2) the President submits to the appropriate
20 congressional committees and leadership a report
21 that includes—

22 (A) a request to terminate the application
23 of sanctions under this Act; and

24 (B) a description of the reasons for that
25 request; and

1 (3) a joint resolution of disapproval relating to
2 the report submitted under paragraph (2) is not en-
3 acted into law pursuant to section 9.

4 **SEC. 9. CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT.**

5 (a) CONGRESSIONAL REQUESTS FOR DETERMINA-
6 TIONS OF SPECIFIC COVERED PERSONS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after
8 receiving a request from the chairman and ranking
9 member of one of the appropriate congressional com-
10 mittees with respect to whether a covered person
11 meets the criteria for inclusion in the list required
12 by section 5(a)(1), the President shall—

13 (A) determine if the person meets those
14 criteria; and

15 (B) submit to the chairman and ranking
16 member a report with respect to that deter-
17 mination that includes a statement of whether
18 or not the President imposed or intends to im-
19 pose sanctions under this Act with respect to
20 the person.

21 (2) FORM.—Each report submitted under para-
22 graph (1)(B) shall be submitted in unclassified form,
23 but may include a classified annex if necessary.

24 (b) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS OF PROPOSED AC-
25 TION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
2 provision of law, before taking any action described
3 in paragraph (2), the President shall submit to the
4 appropriate congressional committees and leadership
5 a report that describes the proposed action and the
6 reasons for that action.

7 (2) ACTIONS DESCRIBED.—An action described
8 in this paragraph is—

9 (A) an action to waive the application of
10 any sanctions pursuant to section 7; or

11 (B) an action to terminate the application
12 of any sanctions pursuant to section 8.

13 (c) CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF REQUESTS FOR
14 PROPOSED ACTION.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—During the period of 30 cal-
16 endar days beginning on the date on which the
17 President submits a report under section 7 or 8, the
18 appropriate congressional committees should, as ap-
19 propriate, hold hearings and briefings and otherwise
20 obtain information in order to fully review the re-
21 port.

22 (2) EXCEPTION.—The period for congressional
23 review under paragraph (1) of a report submitted
24 under section 7 or 8 shall be 60 calendar days if the

1 report is submitted on or after July 10 and on or
2 before September 7 in any calendar year.

3 (3) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING INITIAL
4 CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW PERIOD.—Notwithstanding
5 any other provision of law, during the period for
6 congressional review provided for under paragraph
7 (1) of a report submitted under section 7 or 8, in-
8 cluding any additional period for such review as ap-
9 plicable under the exception provided in paragraph
10 (2), the President may not take the requested action
11 unless a joint resolution of approval with respect to
12 that action is enacted in accordance with subsection
13 (d).

14 (4) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING PRESI-
15 DENTIAL CONSIDERATION OF A JOINT RESOLUTION
16 OF DISAPPROVAL.—Notwithstanding any other pro-
17 vision of law, if a joint resolution of disapproval re-
18 lating to a report submitted under section 7 or 8
19 passes both Houses of Congress in accordance with
20 subsection (d), the President may not take that ac-
21 tion for a period of 12 calendar days after the date
22 of passage of the joint resolution of disapproval.

23 (5) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING CONGRES-
24 SIONAL RECONSIDERATION OF A JOINT RESOLUTION
25 OF DISAPPROVAL.—Notwithstanding any other pro-

1 vision of law, if a joint resolution of disapproval re-
2 lating to a report submitted under section 7 or 8
3 passes both Houses of Congress in accordance with
4 subsection (d), and the President vetoes the joint
5 resolution, the President may not take that action
6 for a period of 10 calendar days after the date of
7 the President's veto.

8 (6) EFFECT OF ENACTMENT OF A JOINT RESO-
9 LUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—Notwithstanding any
10 other provision of law, if a joint resolution of dis-
11 approval relating to a report submitted under sec-
12 tion 7 or 8 is enacted in accordance with subsection
13 (d), the President may not take that action.

14 (d) JOINT RESOLUTIONS OF APPROVAL OR DIS-
15 APPROVAL DEFINED.—

16 (1) JOINT RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL.—In this
17 subsection, the term “joint resolution of approval”
18 means only a joint resolution of either House of
19 Congress—

20 (A) the title of which is as follows: “A joint
21 resolution approving the President's proposal to
22 waive or terminate the application of certain
23 sanctions with respect to the obstruction of hu-
24 manitarian assistance.”; and

1 (B) the sole matter after the resolving
2 clause of which is the following: “Congress ap-
3 proves of the action relating to the application
4 of sanctions imposed with respect to the ob-
5 struction of humanitarian assistance set forth
6 in the report submitted to Congress under
7 _____ of the Accountability for
8 Withholding Aid and Relief Essentials Act of
9 2026 on _____ relating to
10 _____.”, with the first blank space
11 being filled with either section 7 or 8, as appli-
12 cable, the second blank space being filled with
13 the appropriate date, and the third blank space
14 being filled with a short description of the pro-
15 posed action.

16 (2) JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—The
17 term “joint resolution of disapproval” means only a
18 joint resolution of either House of Congress—

19 (A) the title of which is as follows: “A joint
20 resolution disapproving the President’s proposal
21 to waive or terminate the application of certain
22 sanctions with respect to the obstruction of hu-
23 manitarian assistance.”; and

24 (B) the sole matter after the resolving
25 clause of which is the following: “Congress dis-

1 approves of the action relating to the applica-
2 tion of sanctions imposed with respect to the
3 obstruction of humanitarian assistance set forth
4 in the report submitted to Congress under
5 _____ of the Accountability for
6 Withholding Aid and Relief Essentials Act of
7 2026 on _____ relating to
8 _____.”, with the first blank space
9 being filled with either section 7 or 8, as appli-
10 cable, the second blank space being filled with
11 the appropriate date, and the third blank space
12 being filled with a short description of the pro-
13 posed action.

14 (3) INTRODUCTION.—During the period of 30
15 calendar days provided for under subsection (c), in-
16 cluding any additional period as applicable under the
17 exception provided in paragraph (2) of that sub-
18 section, a joint resolution of approval or joint resolu-
19 tion of disapproval may be introduced—

20 (A) in the Senate, by the majority leader
21 (or the majority leader’s designee) or the mi-
22 nority leader (or the minority leader’s des-
23 ignee); and

24 (B) in the House of Representatives, by
25 the majority leader or the minority leader.

1 (4) FLOOR CONSIDERATION IN HOUSE OF REP-
2 REPRESENTATIVES.—If a committee of the House of
3 Representatives to which a joint resolution of ap-
4 proval or joint resolution of disapproval has been re-
5 ferred has not reported the joint resolution within
6 10 calendar days after the date of referral, that
7 committee shall be discharged from further consider-
8 ation of the joint resolution.

9 (5) CONSIDERATION IN THE SENATE.—

10 (A) COMMITTEE REFERRAL.—A joint reso-
11 lution of approval or joint resolution of dis-
12 approval introduced in the Senate shall be re-
13 ferred to the Committee on Foreign Relations
14 of the Senate.

15 (B) REPORTING AND DISCHARGE.—If the
16 Committee on Foreign Relations has not re-
17 ported the joint resolution within 10 calendar
18 days after the date of referral of the joint reso-
19 lution, that committee shall be discharged from
20 further consideration of the joint resolution and
21 the joint resolution shall be placed on the ap-
22 propriate calendar.

23 (C) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—
24 Notwithstanding Rule XXII of the Standing
25 Rules of the Senate, it is in order at any time

1 after the Committee on Foreign Relations re-
2 ports a joint resolution of approval or joint res-
3 olution of disapproval to the Senate or has been
4 discharged from consideration of such a joint
5 resolution (even though a previous motion to
6 the same effect has been disagreed to) to move
7 to proceed to the consideration of the joint reso-
8 lution, and all points of order against the joint
9 resolution (and against consideration of the
10 joint resolution) are waived. The motion to pro-
11 ceed is not debatable. The motion is not subject
12 to a motion to postpone. A motion to reconsider
13 the vote by which the motion is agreed to or
14 disagreed to shall not be in order.

15 (D) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON PROCE-
16 DURE.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair
17 relating to the application of the rules of the
18 Senate to the procedure relating to a joint reso-
19 lution of approval or joint resolution of dis-
20 approval shall be decided without debate.

21 (E) CONSIDERATION OF VETO MES-
22 SAGES.—Debate in the Senate of any veto mes-
23 sage with respect to a joint resolution of ap-
24 proval or joint resolution of disapproval, includ-
25 ing all debatable motions and appeals in con-

1 nection with the joint resolution, shall be lim-
2 ited to 10 hours, to be equally divided between,
3 and controlled by, the majority leader and the
4 minority leader or their designees.

5 (6) RULES RELATING TO SENATE AND HOUSE
6 OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

7 (A) TREATMENT OF SENATE JOINT RESO-
8 LUTION IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—In
9 the House of Representatives, the following pro-
10 cedures shall apply to a joint resolution of ap-
11 proval or a joint resolution of disapproval re-
12 ceived from the Senate (unless the House of
13 Representatives has already adopted a joint res-
14 olution relating to the same proposed action):

15 (i) The joint resolution shall be re-
16 ferred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs
17 of the House of Representatives.

18 (ii) If the Committee on Foreign Af-
19 fairs has not reported the joint resolution
20 within 2 calendar days after the date of re-
21 ferral, that committee shall be discharged
22 from further consideration of the joint res-
23 olution.

24 (iii) Beginning on the third legislative
25 day after the Committee on Foreign Af-

1 fairs reports the joint resolution to the
2 House of Representatives or has been dis-
3 charged from further consideration thereof,
4 it shall be in order to move to proceed to
5 consider the joint resolution in the House
6 of Representatives. All points of order
7 against the motion are waived. Such a mo-
8 tion shall not be in order after the House
9 of Representatives has disposed of a mo-
10 tion to proceed on the joint resolution. The
11 previous question shall be considered as or-
12 dered on the motion to its adoption with-
13 out intervening motion. The motion shall
14 not be debatable. A motion to reconsider
15 the vote by which the motion is disposed of
16 shall not be in order.

17 (iv) The joint resolution shall be con-
18 sidered as read. All points of order against
19 the joint resolution and against its consid-
20 eration are waived. The previous question
21 shall be considered as ordered on the joint
22 resolution to final adoption without inter-
23 vening motion except 2 hours of debate
24 equally divided and controlled by the spon-
25 sor of the joint resolution (or a designee)

1 and an opponent. A motion to reconsider
2 the vote on adoption of the joint resolution
3 shall not be in order.

4 (B) TREATMENT OF HOUSE OF REP-
5 RESENTATIVES JOINT RESOLUTION IN SEN-
6 ATE.—

7 (i) RECEIPT OF HOUSE RESOLUTION
8 BEFORE ADOPTION OF SENATE RESOLU-
9 TION.—If, before the adoption by the Sen-
10 ate of a joint resolution of approval or a
11 joint resolution of disapproval, the Senate
12 receives an identical joint resolution from
13 the House of Representatives, the following
14 procedures shall apply:

15 (I) That joint resolution shall not
16 be referred to a committee.

17 (II) With respect to that joint
18 resolution—

19 (aa) the procedure in the
20 Senate shall be the same as if no
21 joint resolution had been received
22 from the House of Representa-
23 tives; but

24 (bb) the vote on adoption
25 shall be on the joint resolution

1 from the House of Representa-
2 tives.

3 (ii) RECEIPT OF HOUSE RESOLUTION
4 AFTER ADOPTION OF SENATE RESOLU-
5 TION.—If, following adoption of a joint
6 resolution of approval or a joint resolution
7 of disapproval in the Senate, the Senate
8 receives an identical joint resolution from
9 the House of Representatives, that joint
10 resolution shall be placed on the appro-
11 priate Senate calendar.

12 (iii) NO SENATE COMPANION.—If a
13 joint resolution of approval or a joint reso-
14 lution of disapproval is received from the
15 House of Representatives, and no com-
16 panion joint resolution has been introduced
17 in the Senate, the Senate procedures under
18 this subsection shall apply to the joint res-
19 olution from the House.

20 (C) APPLICATION TO REVENUE MEAS-
21 URES.—The provisions of this paragraph shall
22 not apply in the House of Representatives to a
23 joint resolution of approval or a joint resolution
24 of disapproval that is a revenue measure.

1 (7) RULES OF SENATE AND HOUSE OF REP-
2 REPRESENTATIVES.—This subsection is enacted by Con-
3 gress—

4 (A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power
5 of the Senate and the House of Representa-
6 tives, respectively, and as such is deemed a part
7 of the rules of each House of Congress, respec-
8 tively, and supersedes other rules only to the
9 extent that it is inconsistent with such rules;
10 and

11 (B) with full recognition of the constitu-
12 tional right of either House to change the rules
13 (so far as relating to the procedure of that
14 House) at any time, in the same manner, and
15 to the same extent as in the case of any other
16 rule of that House.

17 **SEC. 10. SUNSET.**

18 This Act shall terminate on the date that is 10 years
19 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

20 **SEC. 11. SEVERABILITY.**

21 If any provision of this Act, or the application of any
22 such provision to any person or circumstance, is held to
23 be unconstitutional, the remainder of the provisions of this
24 Act, and the application of those provisions to any other
25 person or circumstance, shall not be affected.

1 **SEC. 12. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

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

6 (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of
7 the Senate; and

8 (B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
9 the House of Representatives.

10 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
11 TEES AND LEADERSHIP.—The term “appropriate
12 congressional committees and leadership” means—

13 (A) the appropriate congressional commit-
14 tees;

15 (B) the majority leader and the minority
16 leader of the Senate; and

17 (C) the Speaker, the majority leader, and
18 the minority leader of the House of Representa-
19 tives.

20 (3) COVERED PERSON.—The term “covered
21 person” means a foreign person who is any of the
22 following:

23 (A) The prime minister or head of state of
24 a foreign government or any official in the of-
25 fice of the prime minister or head of state in a
26 foreign government.

1 (B) A cabinet member or any official serv-
2 ing in the office of a cabinet member of a for-
3 eign government.

4 (C) Any official of a foreign government
5 who reports to a cabinet official.

6 (D) Any official of a foreign government
7 overseeing civilian coordination.

8 (E) Any official of a foreign government
9 facilitating humanitarian projects.

10 (F) Any official of a foreign government
11 facilitating infrastructure projects.

12 (G) Any commissioned officer serving in
13 the military of a foreign country with a rank
14 equivalent to the rank of lieutenant colonel or
15 higher in the United States Armed Forces.

16 (H) Any other individual of equivalent
17 rank serving in a security agency affiliated
18 with, associated with, or working on behalf of
19 a foreign government.

20 (I) Any entity, including a foundation or
21 economic conglomerate, overseen by an indi-
22 vidual described in any of subparagraphs (A)
23 through (H), or owned or controlled by such an
24 individual, that is complicit in financing or

1 resourcing the restriction of humanitarian as-
2 sistance to protected persons.

3 (J) Any person determined by the Presi-
4 dent—

5 (i)(I) to be complicit in financing or
6 resourcing the restriction of humanitarian
7 assistance to protected persons; and

8 (II) appointed by an individual de-
9 scribed in any of subparagraphs (A)
10 through (H) to a position—

11 (aa) as an official of a foreign
12 government; or

13 (bb) the head of a nongovern-
14 mental entity;

15 (ii) to have materially assisted, spon-
16 sored, or provided financial, material, or
17 technological support for, or goods or serv-
18 ices to or in support of any person the
19 property and interests in property are
20 blocked pursuant to section 6(c);

21 (iii) to be owned or controlled by, or
22 to have acted or purported to act for or on
23 behalf of, directly or indirectly any person
24 the property and interests in property of

1 which are blocked pursuant to section 6(c);
2 or
3 (iv) to be a member of the board of
4 directors or a senior executive officer of
5 any person the property and interests in
6 property of which are blocked pursuant to
7 section 6(c).

8 (4) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign per-
9 son” means an individual or entity that is not a
10 United States person.

11 (5) HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.—The term
12 “humanitarian assistance” includes the provision of
13 food, water, shelter, health services and medicines,
14 hygiene products, clothing, essential services, and
15 basic service delivery items, such as fuel.

16 (6) PROTECTED PERSON.—The term “protected
17 person” means an individual who—

18 (A) is a civilian, noncombatant, and takes
19 no part in hostilities; and

20 (B) performs no work for, and provides no
21 material support to, any United States recog-
22 nized terrorist or insurgent organization.

23 (7) UNITED STATES AND INTERNATIONALLY
24 RECOGNIZED HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION.—The
25 term “United States and internationally recognized

1 humanitarian organization” means any international
2 organization or nongovernmental organization
3 that—

4 (A) provides humanitarian assistance that
5 is recognized by and in good standing with the
6 United Nations and the United States Govern-
7 ment; or

8 (B) complies with established professional
9 standards, such as the Sphere humanitarian
10 standards or the United Nations coordinated
11 response guidance.

12 (8) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term
13 “United States person” means—

14 (A) a United States citizen or an alien law-
15 fully admitted for permanent residence to the
16 United States;

17 (B) an entity organized under the laws of
18 the United States or any jurisdiction within the
19 United States, including a foreign branch of
20 such an entity; or

21 (C) any person in the United States.

22 (9) UNITED STATES RECOGNIZED TERRORIST
23 OR INSURGENT ORGANIZATION.—The term “United
24 States recognized terrorist or insurgent organiza-
25 tion” means an organization that is designated as a

1 foreign terrorist organization under section 219 of
2 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
3 1189).

4 (10) VIENNA CONVENTIONS.—The term “Vi-
5 enna Conventions” means—

6 (A) the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic
7 Relations, done at Vienna April 18, 1961 (23
8 UST 3227); and

9 (B) the Convention on Consular Relations,
10 done at Vienna April 24, 1963 (21 UST 77).