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(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To impose sanctions on certain persons responsible for the March 4, 2018,  
attack on Sergei and Yulia Skripal, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. CASTRO of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To impose sanctions on certain persons responsible for the  
March 4, 2018, attack on Sergei and Yulia Skripal,  
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.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Stand with UK against  
5       Russia Violations Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds the following:

1           (1) On March 4, 2018, Sergei V. Skripal, and  
2 his daughter, Yulia Skripal, were found unconscious  
3 on a park bench in Salisbury, England.

4           (2) British Prime Minister Theresa May an-  
5 nounced on March 12, 2018, that the poison used in  
6 the attack was Novichok, a military-grade nerve  
7 agent developed by Soviet scientists for use on North  
8 Atlantic Treaty Organization troops, and that Rus-  
9 sia was responsible for the attack.

10          (3) On March 15, 2018, the United Kingdom,  
11 France, and Germany issued a joint statement hold-  
12 ing the Government of Russia responsible for the  
13 poisoning and characterizing the attack as “an as-  
14 sult on UK sovereignty”.

15 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

16 It is the sense of Congress that—

17          (1) The attempts of the Government of Russia  
18 to commit murders on British soil are unconscion-  
19 able and violate international law.

20          (2) The United States stands in strong soli-  
21 darity with the British government and its people as  
22 they respond to this violation.

23          (3) Russian aggression must be met with  
24 strength and resolve, including through sanctions to

1       deter future Russian attacks on dissidents, expatri-  
2       ates, and democratic activists.

3       **SEC. 4. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO RUS-**  
4                               **SIAN PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR MARCH 4**  
5                               **ATTACK.**

6       (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 60 days after the  
7       date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall im-  
8       pose the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect  
9       to any person that the President determines—

10               (1) knowingly engaged in, provided material  
11               support to, worked on behalf of, or acted as an  
12               agent or instrumentality of any person who per-  
13               petrated the attack against Sergei Skripal and Yulia  
14               Skripal on March 4, 2018; or

15               (2) is an officer, employee, or agent of the Gov-  
16               ernment of Russia and knowingly, on or after the  
17               date of the enactment of this Act, materially as-  
18               sisted, worked on behalf of, or acted as an agent or  
19               instrumentality of the Russian Government in the  
20               murder, attempted murder, or assault committed  
21               outside of Russia against any expatriate, dissident,  
22               or foreign national.

23       (b) **CONCURRENT REPORT.**—The President shall  
24       submit to Congress a report, concurrent with the imposi-  
25       tion of any sanction under subsection (a), that lists each

1 person determined to have engaged in the conduct result-  
2 ing in such sanction.

3 (c) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions de-  
4 scribed in this paragraph are the sanctions described in  
5 section 224(b) of the Countering America’s Adversaries  
6 Through Sanctions Act (22 U.S.C. 9524(b)).

7 **SEC. 5. PROHIBITION ON TRANSACTIONS RELATING TO**  
8 **NEW RUSSIAN SOVEREIGN DEBT.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the  
10 date of the imposition of a sanction pursuant to section  
11 4(a)(2), the President shall—

12 (1) issue regulations prohibiting United States  
13 persons from engaging in transactions with, pro-  
14 viding financing for, or in any other way dealing in  
15 Russian sovereign debt that is issued on or after the  
16 date that is 180 days after such date of imposition  
17 of sanctions; and

18 (2) exercise all powers granted to the President  
19 by the International Emergency Economic Powers  
20 Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary  
21 to block and prohibit all transactions in all property  
22 and interests in property of one or more of the fi-  
23 nancial institutions listed in subsection (c) if such  
24 property and interests in property are in the United  
25 States, come within the United States, or are or

1           come within the possession or control of a United  
2           States person.

3           (b) **RUSSIAN SOVEREIGN DEBT DEFINED.**—For pur-  
4 poses of this section, the term “Russian sovereign debt”  
5 means—

6           (1) bonds issued by the Russian Central Bank,  
7           the Russian National Wealth Fund, the Russian  
8           Federal Treasury, or agents or affiliates of any such  
9           institution, with a maturity of more than 14 days;

10          (2) new foreign exchange swap agreements with  
11          the Russian Central Bank, the Russian National  
12          Wealth Fund, or the Russian Federal Treasury, the  
13          duration of which agreement is longer than 14 days;  
14          and

15          (3) any other financial instrument, the duration  
16          or maturity of which is more than 14 days, that—

17                  (A) the President determines represents  
18                  the sovereign debt of Russia; or

19                  (B) is issued by a bank listed in subsection  
20                  (c).

21          (c) **RUSSIAN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.**—The finan-  
22          cial institutions listed in this subsection are the following:

23                  (1) Sberbank.

24                  (2) VTB Bank.

25                  (3) Gazprombank.

1 (4) Bank of Moscow.

2 (5) Rosselkhozbank.

3 (6) Promsvyazbank.

4 (7) Vnesheconombank.

5 (d) REQUIREMENT TO PROMPTLY PUBLISH GUID-  
6 ANCE.—The President shall concurrently publish guidance  
7 on the implementation of the regulations issued pursuant  
8 to subsection (a).

9 **SEC. 6. IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES; TERMINATION.**

10 (a) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exercise  
11 all authorities provided to the President under sections  
12 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic  
13 Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this  
14 Act.

15 (b) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, attempts to  
16 violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of section  
17 4 or 5, or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry  
18 out such sections, shall be subject to the penalties set forth  
19 in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the Inter-  
20 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C.  
21 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an  
22 unlawful act described in subsection (a) of that section.

23 (c) TERMINATION.—

24 (1) DISCRETIONARY TERMINATION OF SANC-  
25 TIONS.—The President may terminate the applica-

1       tion of a sanction imposed pursuant to section 4 or  
2       section 5(a)(2) if the President submits to Congress  
3       a determination that officers, employees, and agents  
4       of the Government of Russia no longer engage in the  
5       conduct described in section 4(a)(2).

6           (2) WAIVER.—The President may, on or after  
7       the date on which the President submits the deter-  
8       mination described in paragraph (1), waive a prohi-  
9       bition imposed pursuant to section 5(a)(1) with re-  
10      spect to Russian sovereign debt (as defined in such  
11      section) issued on or after such date if the President  
12      concurrently submits to Congress a notification that  
13      includes a justification of the basis for waiving such  
14      prohibition.

15          (3) SUNSET.—Notwithstanding paragraphs (1)  
16      and (2), any sanction imposed pursuant to section 4  
17      or section 5(a)(2) and any prohibition imposed pur-  
18      suant to section 5(a)(1) shall terminate on the date  
19      that is 5 years after the date of such imposition.

20   **SEC. 7. UNITED STATES PERSON DEFINED.**

21       In this Act, the term “United States person”  
22   means—

23          (1) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully  
24      admitted for permanent residence to the United  
25      States; and

1           (2) an entity organized under the laws of the  
2           United States or of any jurisdiction within the  
3           United States, including a foreign branch of such an  
4           entity.