

SUBCHAPTER VII—SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN SYRIA

§ 8791. Imposition of sanctions with respect to certain persons who are responsible for or complicit in human rights abuses committed against citizens of Syria or their family members

(a) In general

The President shall impose sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to each person on the list required by subsection (b).

(b) List of persons who are responsible for or complicit in certain human rights abuses

(1) In general

Not later than 120 days after August 10, 2012, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a list of persons who are officials of the Government of Syria or persons acting on behalf of that Government that the President determines, based on credible evidence, are responsible for or complicit in, or responsible for ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing, the commission of serious human rights abuses against citizens of Syria or their family members, regardless of whether such abuses occurred in Syria.

(2) Updates of list

The President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an updated list under paragraph (1)—

(A) not later than 300 days after August 10, 2012, and every 180 days thereafter; and

(B) as new information becomes available.

(3) Form of report; public availability

(A) Form

The list required by paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

(B) Public availability

The unclassified portion of the list required by paragraph (1) shall be made available to the public and posted on the websites of the Department of the Treasury and the Department of State.

(4) Consideration of data from other countries and nongovernmental organizations

In preparing the list required by paragraph (1), the President shall consider credible data already obtained by other countries and nongovernmental organizations, including organizations in Syria, that monitor the human rights abuses of the Government of Syria.

(c) Sanctions described

The sanctions described in this subsection are sanctions pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), including blocking of property and restrictions or prohibitions on financial transactions and the exportation of property, subject to such regulations as the President may prescribe.

(Pub. L. 112–158, title VII, §702, Aug. 10, 2012, 126 Stat. 1265.)

TERMINATION OF SECTION

For termination of section, see section 8795 of this title.

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The International Emergency Economic Powers Act, referred to in subsec. (c), is title II of Pub. L. 95–223, Dec. 28, 1977, 91 Stat. 1626, which is classified generally to chapter 35 (§1701 et seq.) of Title 50, War and National Defense. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1701 of Title 50 and Tables.

SHORT TITLE

For short title of this subchapter as the “Syria Human Rights Accountability Act of 2012”, see section 701 of Pub. L. 112–158, set out as a note under section 8701 of this title.

§ 8792. Imposition of sanctions with respect to the transfer of goods or technologies to Syria that are likely to be used to commit human rights abuses

(a) In general

The President shall impose sanctions described in section 8791(c) of this title with respect to—

(1) each person on the list required by subsection (b); and

(2) any person that—

(A) is a successor entity to a person on the list;

(B) owns or controls a person on the list, if the person that owns or controls the person on the list had actual knowledge or should have known that the person on the list engaged in the activity described in subsection (b)(2) for which the person was included in the list; or

(C) is owned or controlled by, or under common ownership or control with, the person on the list, if the person owned or controlled by, or under common ownership or control with (as the case may be), the person on the list knowingly engaged in the activity described in subsection (b)(2) for which the person was included in the list.

(b) List

(1) In general

Not later than 120 days after August 10, 2012, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a list of persons that the President determines have knowingly engaged in an activity described in paragraph (2) on or after August 10, 2012.

(2) Activity described

(A) In general

A person engages in an activity described in this paragraph if the person—

(i) transfers, or facilitates the transfer of, goods or technologies described in subparagraph (C) to Syria; or

(ii) provides services with respect to goods or technologies described in subparagraph (C) after such goods or technologies are transferred to Syria.

(B) Applicability to contracts and other agreements

A person engages in an activity described in subparagraph (A) without regard to

whether the activity is carried out pursuant to a contract or other agreement entered into before, on, or after August 10, 2012.

(C) Goods or technologies described

Goods or technologies described in this subparagraph are goods or technologies that the President determines are likely to be used by the Government of Syria or any of its agencies or instrumentalities to commit human rights abuses against the people of Syria, including—

- (i) firearms or ammunition (as those terms are defined in section 921 of title 18), rubber bullets, police batons, pepper or chemical sprays, stun grenades, electroshock weapons, tear gas, water cannons, or surveillance technology; or
- (ii) sensitive technology.

(D) Sensitive technology defined

(i) In general

For purposes of subparagraph (C), the term “sensitive technology” means hardware, software, telecommunications equipment, or any other technology, that the President determines is to be used specifically—

- (I) to restrict the free flow of unbiased information in Syria; or
- (II) to disrupt, monitor, or otherwise restrict speech of the people of Syria.

(ii) Exception

The term “sensitive technology” does not include information or informational materials the exportation of which the President does not have the authority to regulate or prohibit pursuant to section 1702(b)(3) of title 50.

(3) Special rule to allow for termination of sanctionable activity

The President shall not be required to include a person on the list required by paragraph (1) if the President certifies in writing to the appropriate congressional committees that—

- (A) the person is no longer engaging in, or has taken significant verifiable steps toward stopping, the activity described in paragraph (2) for which the President would otherwise have included the person on the list; and
- (B) the President has received reliable assurances that the person will not knowingly engage in any activity described in paragraph (2) in the future.

(4) Updates of list

The President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an updated list under paragraph (1)—

- (A) not later than 300 days after August 10, 2012, and every 180 days thereafter; and
- (B) as new information becomes available.

(5) Form of report; public availability

(A) Form

The list required by paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

(B) Public availability

The unclassified portion of the list required by paragraph (1) shall be made avail-

able to the public and posted on the websites of the Department of the Treasury and the Department of State.

(Pub. L. 112–158, title VII, § 703, Aug. 10, 2012, 126 Stat. 1266.)

TERMINATION OF SECTION

For termination of section, see section 8795 of this title.

§ 8793. Imposition of sanctions with respect to persons who engage in censorship or other forms of repression in Syria

(a) In general

The President shall impose sanctions described in section 8791(c) of this title with respect to each person on the list required by subsection (b).

(b) List of persons who engage in censorship

(1) In general

Not later than 120 days after August 10, 2012, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a list of persons that the President determines have engaged in censorship, or activities relating to censorship, in a manner that prohibits, limits, or penalizes the legitimate exercise of freedom of expression by citizens of Syria.

(2) Updates of list

The President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an updated list under paragraph (1)—

- (A) not later than 300 days after August 10, 2012, and every 180 days thereafter; and
- (B) as new information becomes available.

(3) Form of report; public availability

(A) Form

The list required by paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

(B) Public availability

The unclassified portion of the list required by paragraph (1) shall be made available to the public and posted on the websites of the Department of the Treasury and the Department of State.

(Pub. L. 112–158, title VII, § 704, Aug. 10, 2012, 126 Stat. 1268.)

TERMINATION OF SECTION

For termination of section, see section 8795 of this title.

§ 8794. Waiver

The President may waive the requirement to include a person on a list required by section 8791, 8792, or 8793 of this title or to impose sanctions pursuant to any such section if the President—

- (1) determines that such a waiver is in the national security interests of the United States; and
- (2) submits to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the reasons for that determination.

(Pub. L. 112–158, title VII, § 705, Aug. 10, 2012, 126 Stat. 1268.)