

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6265

To require a strategy by the United States Government to disrupt and dismantle the Captagon trade and narcotics networks of Bashar al-Assad in Syria.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 14, 2021

Mr. HILL (for himself and Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Intelligence (Permanent Select), Armed Services, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require a strategy by the United States Government to disrupt and dismantle the Captagon trade and narcotics networks of Bashar al-Assad in Syria.

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 “Countering Assad’s
5 Proliferation Trafficking And Garnering Of Narcotics
6 Act” or the “CAPTAGON Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INTERAGENCY STRATEGY TO DISRUPT AND DIS-**
2 **MANTLE NARCOTICS PRODUCTION AND**
3 **TRAFFICKING AND AFFILIATED NETWORKS**
4 **LINKED TO THE REGIME OF BASHAR AL-**
5 **ASSAD IN SYRIA.**

6 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
7 gress that—

8 (1) the Captagon trade linked to the regime of
9 Bashar al-Assad in Syria is a transnational security
10 threat; and

11 (2) the United States should develop and imple-
12 ment an interagency strategy to deny, degrade, and
13 dismantle Assad-linked narcotics production and
14 trafficking networks.

15 (b) REPORT AND STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later
16 than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
17 the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Sec-
18 retary of the Treasury, the Administrator of the Drug En-
19 forcement Administration, the Director of National Intel-
20 ligence, and the heads of other appropriate Federal agen-
21 cies shall provide to the appropriate congressional commit-
22 tees a written strategy to disrupt and dismantle narcotics
23 production and trafficking and affiliated networks linked
24 to the regime of Bashar al-Assad in Syria. Such strategy
25 shall include each of the following:

1 (1) A strategy to target, disrupt, and degrade
2 networks that directly or indirectly support the nar-
3 cotics infrastructure of the Assad regime, particu-
4 larly through diplomatic and intelligence support to
5 law enforcement investigations and to build counter-
6 narcotics capacity to partner countries through as-
7 sistance and training to law enforcement services in
8 countries, other than Syria, that are receiving or
9 transiting large quantities of Captagon.

10 (2) Information relating to the use of statutory
11 authorities, including the Caesar Syria Civilian Pro-
12 tection Act of 2019 (22 U.S.C. 8791 note), the For-
13 eign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act (popularly
14 referred to as the “Kingpin Act”), section 489 of the
15 Foreign Assistance Act (relating to the international
16 narcotics control strategy report), and associated ac-
17 tions to target individuals and entities directly or in-
18 directly associated with the narcotics infrastructure
19 of the Assad regime.

20 (3) Information relating to the use of global
21 diplomatic engagements associated with the eco-
22 nomic pressure campaign against the Assad regime
23 to target its narcotics infrastructure.

24 (4) A strategy for leveraging multilateral insti-
25 tutions and cooperation with international partners

1 to disrupt the narcotics infrastructure of the Assad
2 regime.

3 (5) A strategy for mobilizing a public commu-
4 nications campaign to increase awareness of the ex-
5 tent of the connection of the Assad regime to illicit
6 narcotics trade.

7 (6) A description of the countries receiving or
8 transiting large shipments of Captagon, and an as-
9 sessment of the counter-narcotics capacity of such
10 countries to interdict or disrupt the smuggling of
11 Captagon, including an assessment of current
12 United States assistance and training programs to
13 build such capacity in such countries.

14 (c) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required under
15 subsection (b) shall be submitted in an unclassified form,
16 but may contain a classified annex.

17 (d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—
18 In this section, the term “appropriate congressional com-
19 mittees” means—

20 (1) the Committee on Armed Services, the
21 Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on For-
22 eign Affairs, the Committee on Financial Services,
23 the Committee on Appropriations, and the Perma-
24 nent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House
25 of Representatives; and

1 (2) the Committee on Armed Services, the
2 Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on For-
3 eign Relations, the Committee on Banking, Housing,
4 and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Appropria-
5 tions, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of
6 the Senate.

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