

1 **Subtitle F—The United States –**  
2 **Northern Triangle Enhanced**  
3 **Engagement Act**

4 **SEC. 351. SHORT TITLE.**

5 This subtitle may be cited as the “The United States  
6 – Northern Triangle Enhanced Engagement Act”.

7 **SEC. 352. STRATEGY TO ADVANCE PROSPERITY, COMBAT**  
8 **CORRUPTION, STRENGTHEN DEMOCRATIC**  
9 **GOVERNANCE, AND IMPROVE CIVILIAN SECU-**  
10 **RITY IN EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, AND**  
11 **HONDURAS.**

12 (a) **ELEMENTS.**—Not later than 180 days after the  
13 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State,  
14 in coordination with the Administrator of the United  
15 States Agency for International Development, and the  
16 heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall submit to  
17 the appropriate congressional committees a 5-year strat-  
18 egy to advance economic prosperity, combat corruption,  
19 strengthen democratic governance, and improve civilian  
20 security in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras and  
21 to curb irregular migration from the region.

22 (b) **CONSIDERATION.**—In developing the strategy re-  
23 quired under this section, the Secretary of State should  
24 consider the following priorities:

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1 (1) Promoting economic prosperity, including  
2 by—

3 (A) supporting market-based solutions to  
4 eliminate constraints to inclusive economic  
5 growth;

6 (B) addressing the underlying causes of  
7 poverty and inequality;

8 (C) responding to immediate humanitarian  
9 needs by improving humanitarian outcomes, in-  
10 cluding through access to sanitation, hygiene,  
11 and shelter, and by enabling the provision of  
12 health resources;

13 (D) supporting conservation and commu-  
14 nity resilience and strengthening community  
15 preparedness for natural disasters;

16 (E) identifying, as appropriate, a role for  
17 relevant United States agencies and the United  
18 States private sector in supporting efforts to in-  
19 crease private sector investment and advance  
20 economic prosperity; and

21 (F) improving domestic resource mobiliza-  
22 tion, including by strengthening tax collection  
23 and enforcement and legal arbitration mecha-  
24 nisms.

25 (2) Combating corruption, including by—

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1 (A) strengthening the capacity of national  
2 justice systems and attorneys generals to iden-  
3 tify and prosecute money laundering and other  
4 financial crimes and breaking up financial hold-  
5 ings of organized criminal syndicates, including  
6 illegally acquired lands and proceeds from ille-  
7 gal activities;

8 (B) strengthening special prosecutorial of-  
9 fices and financial institutions to conduct asset  
10 forfeitures and criminal analysis, and to combat  
11 corruption, money laundering, financial crimes,  
12 extortion, and human rights crimes;

13 (C) implementing transparent, merit-based  
14 selection processes for prosecutors and judges  
15 and the development of professional and merit-  
16 based civil services;

17 (D) establishing or strengthening methods,  
18 procedures for internal and external control  
19 mechanisms for the security and police services  
20 and judiciary; and

21 (E) supporting anticorruption efforts  
22 through bilateral assistance and complementary  
23 support through multilateral anticorruption  
24 mechanisms when necessary.

1           (3) Advancing democratic governance, including  
2           by—

3                   (A) strengthening government institutions  
4                   at the local and national levels to provide serv-  
5                   ices and respond to citizen needs through trans-  
6                   parent, inclusive, and democratic processes;

7                   (B) strengthening access to information  
8                   laws and reforming laws that currently limit ac-  
9                   cess to information;

10                  (C) building the capacity of independent  
11                  media to engage in professional investigative  
12                  journalism;

13                  (D) ensuring that threats and attacks on  
14                  journalists, labor leaders, human rights defend-  
15                  ers, and other members of civil society are fully  
16                  investigated and perpetrators are held account-  
17                  able; and

18                  (E) strengthening electoral institutions and  
19                  processes to ensure free, fair, and transparent  
20                  elections.

21           (4) Improving security conditions, including  
22           by—

23                   (A) implementing the Central America Re-  
24                   gional Security Initiative;

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1 (B) increasing the professionalization of  
2 security services, including the civilian police  
3 and military units;

4 (C) combating the illicit activities of  
5 transnational criminal organizations through  
6 support to fully vetted elements of attorneys  
7 general offices, appropriate government institu-  
8 tions, and security services; and

9 (D) enhancing the capacity of relevant se-  
10 curity services and attorneys general to support  
11 counternarcotics efforts and combat human  
12 trafficking, forcible recruitment of children and  
13 youth by gangs, gender-based violence, and  
14 other illicit activities, including trafficking of  
15 wildlife, and natural resources.

16 (c) CONSULTATION.—In developing the strategy re-  
17 quired under this section, the Secretary of State may con-  
18 sult with civil society and the private sector in the United  
19 States, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

20 (d) BENCHMARKS.—The strategy required under this  
21 section shall include annual benchmarks to track the strat-  
22 egy's progress in curbing irregular migration from the re-  
23 gion to the United States and improving conditions in El  
24 Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras by measuring  
25 progress in key areas, including—

1           (1) reducing poverty and unemployment, in-  
2           creasing private sector investment, responding to im-  
3           mediate humanitarian needs, sustainably reinte-  
4           grating returnees, supporting conservation and com-  
5           munity resilience, and addressing forced displace-  
6           ment in accordance with the priorities outlined in  
7           subsection (b)(1);

8           (2) strengthening national justice systems and  
9           attorneys generals, supporting multilateral  
10          anticorruption mechanisms, identifying and pros-  
11          ecuting money laundering and other financial  
12          crimes, breaking up financial holdings of organized  
13          criminal syndicates, and advancing judicial integrity  
14          and investigative capacity of local authorities in ac-  
15          cordance with the priorities outlined in subsection  
16          (b)(2);

17          (3) strengthening government institutions at  
18          the local and national levels to provide services and  
19          respond to citizen needs through transparent, inclu-  
20          sive, and democratic processes, promoting human  
21          rights, building the capacity of independent media,  
22          developing the capacity of civil society to conduct  
23          oversight, affording legal protections for human  
24          rights defenders and members of civil society, and

1 strengthening electoral institutions in accordance  
2 with priorities outlined in subsection (b)(3); and  
3 (4) implementing the objectives stated under  
4 the Central America Regional Security Initiative and  
5 building the capacity of civilian security services in  
6 accordance with the priorities outlined in subsection  
7 (b)(4).

8 (e) PUBLIC DIPLOMACY.—The strategy required  
9 under this section shall include a public diplomacy strat-  
10 egy for educating citizens of the region about United  
11 States assistance and its benefits to them, and informing  
12 such citizens of the dangers of irregular migration to the  
13 United States.

14 (f) ANNUAL PROGRESS UPDATES.—Not later than 1  
15 year after the submission of the strategy required under  
16 this section and annually thereafter for 4 years, the Sec-  
17 retary of State shall provide the appropriate congressional  
18 committees with a written description of progress made  
19 in meeting the benchmarks established in the strategy.

20 (g) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The strategy required  
21 under this section shall be made publicly available on the  
22 website of the Department of State. If appropriate, a clas-  
23 sified annex may be submitted to the appropriate congres-  
24 sional committees.

1 (h) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “appro-  
2 priate congressional committees” means—

3 (1) the Committee on Foreign Relations and  
4 the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

5 (2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the  
6 Committee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-  
7 resentatives.

8 **SEC. 353. TARGETED SANCTIONS TO FIGHT CORRUPTION**  
9 **IN EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, AND HON-**  
10 **DURAS.**

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

13 (1) corruption in El Salvador, Guatemala, and  
14 Honduras by private citizens and select officials in  
15 local, regional, and Federal governments signifi-  
16 cantly damages the economies of such countries and  
17 deprives citizens of opportunities;

18 (2) corruption in El Salvador, Guatemala, and  
19 Honduras is facilitated and carried out not only by  
20 private citizens and select officials from those coun-  
21 tries but also in many instances by individuals from  
22 third countries; and

23 (3) imposing targeted sanctions on individuals  
24 from throughout the world and particularly in the  
25 Western Hemisphere who are engaged in acts of sig-

1           nificant corruption that impact El Salvador, Guate-  
2           mala, and Honduras or obstruction of investigations  
3           into such acts of corruption will benefit the citizens  
4           and governments of such countries.

5           (b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days  
6           after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not less  
7           frequently than annually thereafter, the President shall  
8           submit to the appropriate congressional committees an un-  
9           classified report with classified annex if necessary that  
10          identifies each foreign person who the President deter-  
11          mines to have knowingly engaged in actions that under-  
12          mine democratic processes or institutions, or in significant  
13          corruption or obstruction of investigations into such acts  
14          of corruption in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras,  
15          including the following:

16               (1) Corruption related to government contracts.

17               (2) Bribery and extortion.

18               (3) The facilitation or transfer of the proceeds  
19          of corruption, including through money laundering.

20               (4) Acts of violence, harassment, or intimidati-  
21          on directed at governmental and nongovernmental  
22          corruption investigators.

23           (c) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—The President shall  
24          impose the sanctions described in subsection (d) with re-

1 spect to each foreign person identified in the report re-  
2 quired under subsection (b).

3 (d) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The sanctions described in  
5 this subsection are the following:

6 (A) INELIGIBILITY FOR VISAS AND ADMIS-  
7 SION TO THE UNITED STATES.—In the case of  
8 a foreign person who is an individual, such for-  
9 eign person is—

10 (i) inadmissible to the United States;

11 (ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other  
12 documentation to enter the United States;

13 and

14 (iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted  
15 or paroled into the United States or to re-  
16 ceive any other benefit under the Immigra-  
17 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et  
18 seq.).

19 (B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

20 (i) IN GENERAL.—The issuing con-  
21 sular officer or the Secretary of State, (or  
22 a designee of the Secretary of State) shall,  
23 in accordance with section 221(i) of the  
24 Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
25 1201(i)), revoke any visa or other entry

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1 documentation issued to a foreign person  
2 regardless of when the visa or other entry  
3 documentation is issued.

4 (ii) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—A rev-  
5 ocation under clause (i) shall—

6 (I) take effect immediately; and

7 (II) automatically cancel any  
8 other valid visa or entry documenta-  
9 tion that is in the foreign person's  
10 possession.

11 (2) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH INTER-  
12 NATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.—Sanctions under subpara-  
13 graph (B) and (C) of paragraph (1) shall not apply  
14 with respect to a foreign person if admitting or pa-  
15 roling such person into the United States is nec-  
16 essary to permit the United States to comply with  
17 the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the  
18 United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26,  
19 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947,  
20 between the United Nations and the United States,  
21 or other applicable international obligations.

22 (e) NATIONAL SECURITY WAIVER.—The President  
23 may waive the application of the sanctions under sub-  
24 section (c) if the President—

1           (1) determines that such a waiver is in the na-  
2           tional security interest of the United States; and

3           (2) submits to the appropriate congressional  
4           committees within 15 days after such determination  
5           a notice of and justification for the waiver.

6           (f) TERMINATION.—The authority to impose sanc-  
7           tions under subsection (b), and any sanctions imposed  
8           pursuant to such authority, shall expire on the date that  
9           is 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

10          (g) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The unclassified portion  
11          of the report required by subsection (b) shall be made  
12          available to the public, including through publication in  
13          the Federal Register. In any case in which the President  
14          concludes that such publication would be harmful to the  
15          national security of the United States, only a statement  
16          that a determination or finding has been made by the  
17          President, including the name and section of the Act  
18          under which it was made, shall be published.

19          (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the term “appro-  
20          priate congressional committees” means—

21                 (1) the Committee on Foreign Relations and  
22                 the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

23                 (2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the  
24                 Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Rep-  
25                 resentatives.