

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8001

To impose sanctions on the Houthis for attacks on international shipping,
and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 15, 2024

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee (for himself, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. SALAZAR, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on 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 impose sanctions on the Houthis for attacks on
international shipping, 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 “Combating Houthi
5 Threats and Aggression Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

7 It is the policy of the United States to work with
8 United States allies and partners to safeguard maritime

1 security in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, including
2 by supporting interdiction efforts and by opposing attacks
3 on international shipping that threaten the free flow of
4 commerce, endanger innocent mariners, and violate inter-
5 national law, as such attacks harm the global economy,
6 destabilize the Middle East and Africa region, and under-
7 mine United States national security interests.

8 **SEC. 3. REPORT ON CAPABILITY OF THE HOUTHIS TO**
9 **THREATEN UNITED STATES NATIONAL SECU-**
10 **RITY AND FOREIGN POLICY GOALS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
12 date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter,
13 the President shall submit to the appropriate congress-
14 sional committees a report on the capability of the Houthis
15 (also known as “Ansar Allah”) to threaten United States
16 national security and foreign policy goals.

17 (b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report re-
18 quired by subsection (a) shall include the following:

19 (1) An assessment of senior Houthi leadership’
20 intentions and capacity to conduct and sustain mili-
21 tary operations from Yemen that target the United
22 States, Israel, or global shipping.

23 (2) A description of the funding, materiel,
24 training, and other forms of support the Houthis re-
25 ceive from Iran, Hezbollah, or any other entity act-

1 ing for or on behalf of Iran, including contributions
2 to advance the Houthis' indigenous weapons produc-
3 tion capability and existing weapons arsenal.

4 (3) A description of the Houthis' ballistic mis-
5 sile and unmanned delivery systems, including those
6 that are covered under Category 1 or Category 2 of
7 the Missile Control Technology Regime and the pre-
8 cision and reach of such weapons.

9 (4) A description of the Houthis' maritime ca-
10 pabilities, including sea missiles and drones.

11 (5) An analysis of the Houthi's current indige-
12 nous weapons production capabilities and how their
13 control over the Al-Hudaydah port and Sana'a inter-
14 national airport enables them to sustain weapons
15 production.

16 (6) An assessment of the Houthis' stockpiles
17 and employment of commercial off-the-shelf (COTS)
18 dual-use drone technology, and the countries of ori-
19 gin for these products.

20 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
21 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
22 sional committees” means—

23 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
24 Committee on Armed Services of the House of Rep-
25 resentatives; and

1 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
2 the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.

3 **SEC. 4. REPORT ON HOUTHİ ATTACKS THAT THREATEN**
4 **FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION IN THE RED SEA**
5 **AND GULF OF ADEN.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
7 day of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the
8 President shall submit to the appropriate congressional
9 committees a report on the following:

10 (1) A summary of Houthi (also known as
11 “Ansar Allah”) attacks that threaten freedom of
12 navigation in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

13 (2) An assessment of the impact that Houthi
14 threats to freedom of navigation in the Red Sea and
15 Gulf of Aden have on United States security inter-
16 ests.

17 (3) An assessment of the impact that Houthi
18 threats to freedom of navigation in the Red Sea and
19 Gulf of Aden have on the global economy, including
20 the United States economy.

21 (4) An assessment of Iran’s role in the Houthis’
22 attacks that threaten freedom of navigation in the
23 Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, including Iran’s provi-
24 sion of targeting assistance to the Houthis.

1 (5) A description of China’s presence in the
2 Red Sea and Gulf of Aden during the reporting pe-
3 riod.

4 (6) An assessment of how the Houthis’ attacks
5 in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden impact Russia,
6 China, and Iran’s freedom of navigation in those wa-
7 terways relative to the United States and our part-
8 ners’ freedom of navigation.

9 (b) SCOPE.—The initial report required by subsection
10 (a) shall address the period beginning on October 7, 2023,
11 and ending on the date that is 90 days after date of the
12 enactment of this Act, and each subsequent report shall
13 address the one-year period following the conclusion of the
14 prior report.

15 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
16 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
17 sional committees” means—

18 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
19 Committee on Armed Services of the House of Rep-
20 resentatives; and

21 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
22 the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.

1 **SEC. 5. REPORT ON VIOLATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS**
2 **ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST YEMEN AUTHOR-**
3 **IZED UNDER UNITED NATIONS SECURITY**
4 **COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2216.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
6 date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter,
7 the President shall submit to the appropriate congres-
8 sional committees a report on the following:

9 (1) A description of violations or attempted vio-
10 lations of the United Nations arms embargo against
11 Yemen authorized under United Nations Security
12 Council Resolution 2216 (2015) and successor reso-
13 lutions.

14 (2) A list of incidents in which the United
15 States or other countries interdicted weapons and
16 related components believed to be intended for the
17 Houthis, including—

18 (A) for each interdiction incident, what
19 specific entity conducted the interdiction, the
20 circumstances and location of such interdiction,
21 what weapons or components were seized and
22 the believed origins of such components, and
23 under what authority each such seizure took
24 place;

25 (B) a description of what United States
26 Government resources are currently devoted to

1 identifying, disrupting, interdicting, or other-
2 wise dismantling the flow of illicit weapons in-
3 tended for the Houthis, and identifying under
4 what authorities these activities take place; and

5 (C) United States coordination with inter-
6 national partners on efforts to identify, disrupt,
7 dismantle or interdict illicit weapons flows to
8 the Houthis, including identifying United States
9 security assistance and cooperation programs
10 that contribute to the interdiction efforts of
11 such partners.

12 (b) SCOPE.—The initial report required by subsection
13 (a) shall address the period beginning on January 1, 2022,
14 and ending on the date that is 90 days after date of the
15 enactment of this Act, and each subsequent report shall
16 address the one-year period following the conclusion of the
17 prior report.

18 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
19 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
20 sional committees” means—

21 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
22 Committee on Armed Services of the House of Rep-
23 resentatives; and

24 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
25 the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.

1 **SEC. 6. SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO ANY ATTACKS BY**
2 **THE HOUTHIS ON INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING**
3 **IN THE RED SEA AND GULF OF ADEN AND**
4 **OTHER MILITARY SUPPORT TO THE**
5 **HOUTHIS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose the
7 sanctions described in subsection (b) with respect to any
8 foreign person the President determines, on or after the
9 date of enactment of this Act—

10 (1) to be responsible for or complicit in, or to
11 have directly or indirectly engaged in, any attacks by
12 the Houthis (also known as “Ansar Allah”) that
13 threaten international shipping in the Red Sea or
14 Gulf of Aden;

15 (2) knowingly engages in, or attempts to engage
16 in, activities or transactions that have materially
17 contributed to, or pose a significant risk of materi-
18 ally contributing to the conduct described in para-
19 graph (1); or

20 (3) knowingly engages in any activity that ma-
21 terially contributes to the supply, sale, or transfer
22 directly or indirectly of arms and related materiel of
23 all types, including weapons and ammunition, mili-
24 tary vehicles and equipment, paramilitary equip-
25 ment, and spare parts for the aforementioned, and
26 technical assistance, training, financial or other as-

1 sistance, to any foreign person engaging in the con-
2 duct described in paragraph (1).

3 (b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions de-
4 scribed in this subsection are the following:

5 (1) BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—The President
6 shall exercise all authorities granted under the Inter-
7 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50
8 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block
9 and prohibit all transactions in property and inter-
10 ests in property of the foreign person if such prop-
11 erty and interests in property are in the United
12 States, come within the United States, or come with-
13 in the possession or control of a United States per-
14 son.

15 (2) INELIGIBILITY FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR
16 PAROLE.—

17 (A) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—An
18 alien described in subsection (a) shall be—

19 (i) inadmissible to the United States;

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

22 and

23 (iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted
24 or paroled into the United States or to re-
25 ceive any other benefit under the Immigra-

1 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et
2 seq.).

3 (B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

4 (i) IN GENERAL.—The visa or other
5 entry documentation of any alien described
6 in subsection (a) is subject to revocation
7 regardless of the issue date of the visa or
8 other entry documentation.

9 (ii) IMMEDIATE EFFECT.—A revoca-
10 tion under clause (i) shall, in accordance
11 with section 221(i) of the Immigration and
12 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i))—

13 (I) take effect immediately; and

14 (II) cancel any other valid visa or
15 entry documentation that is in the
16 possession of the alien.

17 (c) PENALTIES.—Any person that violates, or at-
18 tempts to violate, subsection (b) or any regulation, license,
19 or order issued pursuant to that subsection, shall be sub-
20 ject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c)
21 of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic
22 Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a per-
23 son that commits an unlawful act described in subsection
24 (a) of that section.

25 (d) WAIVER.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President may waive,
2 on a case-by-case basis, the application of sanctions
3 under this section for periods not to exceed 180 days
4 with respect to a foreign person only if, not later
5 than 15 days prior to the date on which the waiver
6 is to take effect, the President submits to the appro-
7 priate congressional committees a written determina-
8 tion and justification that the waiver is in the na-
9 tional security interests of the United States.

10 (2) BRIEFING.—Not later than 60 days after
11 the issuance of a waiver under paragraph (1), and
12 every 180 days thereafter while the waiver remains
13 in effect, the President shall brief the appropriate
14 congressional committees on the reasons for the
15 waiver.

16 (e) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exercise
17 all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205 of the
18 International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50
19 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this section.

20 (f) REGULATIONS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall, not
22 later than 120 days after the date of the enactment
23 of this Act, promulgate regulations as necessary for
24 the implementation of this section.

1 (2) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—Not later
2 than 10 days before the promulgation of regulations
3 under this subsection, the President shall notify the
4 appropriate congressional committees of the pro-
5 posed regulations and the provisions of this section
6 that the regulations are implementing.

7 (g) EXCEPTIONS.—

8 (1) EXCEPTION FOR INTELLIGENCE ACTIVI-
9 TIES.—Sanctions under this section shall not apply
10 to any activity subject to the reporting requirements
11 under title V of the National Security Act of 1947
12 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.) or any authorized intel-
13 ligence activities of the United States.

14 (2) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH INTER-
15 NATIONAL OBLIGATIONS AND FOR LAW ENFORCE-
16 MENT ACTIVITIES.—Sanctions under this section
17 shall not apply with respect to an alien if admitting
18 or paroling the alien into the United States is nec-
19 essary—

20 (A) to permit the United States to comply
21 with the Agreement regarding the Head-
22 quarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake
23 Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force
24 November 21, 1947, between the United Na-

1 tions and the United States, or other applicable
2 international obligations; or

3 (B) to carry out or assist authorized law
4 enforcement activity in the United States.

5 **SEC. 7. SUNSET.**

6 This Act shall terminate on the date that is 5 years
7 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

○