

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4547

To require a report on efforts by Venezuelan state actors and transnational criminal organizations to capture and detain United States citizens as hostages.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 19, 2022

Mr. CRUZ introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To require a report on efforts by Venezuelan state actors and transnational criminal organizations to capture and detain United States citizens as hostages.

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. REPORT ON EFFORTS TO CAPTURE AND DE-**
4 **TAIN UNITED STATES CITIZENS AS HOS-**
5 **TAGES.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the
7 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State
8 shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress

1 a report on efforts by the Government of Venezuela to de-
2 tain United States citizens and permanent residents.

3 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required under sub-
4 section (a) shall include, regarding the seizure and detain-
5 ment of United States citizens or permanent resident
6 aliens—

7 (1) the names and positions of Venezuelan per-
8 sons or those acting on their behalf who have en-
9 gaged in those activities;

10 (2) a description of any roles played by
11 transnational criminal organizations, and an identi-
12 fication of those organizations; and

13 (3) where relevant, an assessment of whether
14 and how United States citizens and permanent resi-
15 dent aliens have been lured to Venezuela.

16 (c) FORM.—The report required under subsection (a)
17 shall be submitted in unclassified form, but shall include
18 a classified annex listing the total number of United
19 States citizens and permanent resident aliens presently in
20 custody of Venezuelan state actors operating in the hemi-
21 sphere.

22 (d) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-
23 FINED.—In this Act, the term “appropriate committees of
24 Congress” means—

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

3 (2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
4 Committee on Armed Services of the House of Rep-
5 resentatives.

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