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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R.

To prohibit funds made available for assistance to the Government of Israel to be used to support certain violations of international law, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. MCCOLLUM introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To prohibit funds made available for assistance to the Government of Israel to be used to support certain violations of international law, 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 “Defending the Human
5 Rights of Palestinian Children and Families Living Under
6 Israeli Military Occupation Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) In the West Bank, Israeli military law is
2 applied to Palestinians while Israeli civilian law is
3 applied to Israeli settlers, resulting in different legal
4 protections, including for minors.

5 (2) Each year, Israeli authorities detain and
6 prosecute hundreds of Palestinian minors within a
7 military court system that does not consistently pro-
8 vide timely access to legal counsel, parental presence
9 during interrogation, or other basic due process
10 guarantees as required under international human
11 rights and humanitarian law, including the Conven-
12 tion on the Rights of the Child, which Israel ratified
13 in 1991.

14 (3) Reports by Israeli, Palestinian, and inter-
15 national human rights organizations have docu-
16 mented the use of nighttime arrests, coercive or pro-
17 longed interrogations, and prolonged administrative
18 detention of Palestinian minors without charge or
19 trial, practices inconsistent with international stand-
20 ards for the treatment of children in detention.

21 (4) Israel's ongoing imposition of a restrictive
22 planning and permitting regime in Area C of the
23 West Bank and East Jerusalem results in the rou-
24 tine demolition or confiscation of Palestinian homes
25 and structures.

1 (5) These demolitions in Area C and East Jeru-
2 salem contribute to the displacement of Palestinian
3 families, heighten tensions on the ground, and im-
4 pede efforts to create conditions conducive to long-
5 term stability and peace for Israelis and Palestinians
6 alike.

7 (6) The expansion of Israeli settlements and
8 any steps toward unilateral annexation of parts of
9 the West Bank contravene international law.

10 (7) Israel receives significant United States se-
11 curity assistance, including Foreign Military Financ-
12 ing and funds designated for “offshore procure-
13 ment”, which constitutes an exception to standard
14 United States arms transfer and assistance prac-
15 tices, under which a portion of United States assist-
16 ance may be used to procure defense articles pro-
17 duced in Israel.

18 (8) Congress has an interest in ensuring that
19 all United States-origin defense articles and funds
20 are used in a manner consistent with United States
21 laws, regulations, and policy objectives.

22 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

23 It is the sense of Congress that—

24 (1) actions by the Government of Israel in the
25 occupied West Bank, including the detention and

1 prosecution of Palestinian children in the Israeli
2 military court system, the seizure, appropriation,
3 and destruction of Palestinian property and forcible
4 transfer of civilians, and further annexation of Pal-
5 estinian land in violation of international law and
6 internationally recognized standards of human
7 rights—

8 (A) are contrary to the values of the Amer-
9 ican people and the efforts of the United States
10 to support self-determination, human rights,
11 and dignity for both Palestinians and Israelis;
12 and

13 (B) undermine efforts by the United
14 States to achieve a just and lasting peace be-
15 tween Israelis and the Palestinians;

16 (2) promoting human rights, human dignity,
17 and democratic rights for all Palestinians and
18 Israelis are foreign policy priorities of the United
19 States; and

20 (3) the United States rejects any undemocratic
21 system or act of aggression in which Israel unilater-
22 ally exercises permanent rule over a Palestinian peo-
23 ple denied self-determination and human rights.

1 **SEC. 4. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

2 It is the policy of the United States not to support
3 actions by the Government of Israel involving—

4 (1) the military detention of Palestinian chil-
5 dren in violation of international law;

6 (2) the seizure, appropriation, and destruction
7 of Palestinian property or the forcible transfer of ci-
8 vilians in the occupied West Bank in violation of
9 international law; or

10 (3) further annexation of Palestinian land and
11 property in violation of international law.

12 **SEC. 5. LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE.**

13 (a) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
14 sion of law, none of the funds authorized to be appro-
15 priated or otherwise made available for assistance to the
16 Government of the State of Israel may be obligated or ex-
17 pended for any of the following:

18 (1) Supporting the military detention, interro-
19 gation, abuse, or ill treatment of Palestinian chil-
20 dren in violation of international humanitarian law
21 or to support the use against Palestinian children of
22 any of the following practices:

23 (A) Torture or cruel, inhumane, or degrad-
24 ing treatment.

25 (B) Physical violence, including restraint
26 in stress positions.

1 (C) Hooding, sensory deprivation, death
2 threats, or other forms of psychological abuse.

3 (D) Incommunicado detention or solitary
4 confinement.

5 (E) Administrative detention, or imprison-
6 ment without charge or trial.

7 (F) Arbitrary detention.

8 (G) Denial of access to parents or legal
9 counsel during interrogations.

10 (H) Confessions obtained by force or coer-
11 cion.

12 (2) Supporting the seizure, appropriation, or
13 destruction of Palestinian property or forcible trans-
14 fer of civilians in the Israeli-controlled and occupied
15 West Bank in violation of international humani-
16 tarian law.

17 (3) Deploying, or supporting the deployment of,
18 personnel, training, services, lethal materials, equip-
19 ment, facilities, logistics, transportation, or any
20 other activity to territory in the occupied West Bank
21 to facilitate or support further unilateral annexation
22 by Israel of such territory in violation of inter-
23 national humanitarian law.

24 (b) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than September 30,
25 2027, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of State shall

1 submit to the Committee on Appropriations and the Com-
2 mittee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives
3 and the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee
4 on Foreign Relations of the Senate, with respect to the
5 fiscal year ending on such date—

6 (1) a certification that none of the funds obli-
7 gated or expended for assistance to the Government
8 of Israel have been used by such Government to sup-
9 port personnel, training, lethal materials, equipment,
10 facilities, logistics, transportation, or any other ac-
11 tivity that supports or is associated with any of the
12 activities described in paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of
13 subsection (a); or

14 (2) a certification that funds obligated or ex-
15 pended have supported or been associated with one
16 or more activities described in paragraphs (1), (2),
17 or (3) of subsection (a), along with a report describ-
18 ing in detail the amount of such funds used by the
19 Government of Israel in violation of such subsection
20 and each activity supported by such funds.

21 **SEC. 6. OVERSIGHT AND ADDITIONAL REPORTING.**

22 Section 116 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961
23 (22 U.S.C. 2151n) is amended by adding at the end the
24 following:

1 “(h) ACTIVITIES BY THE GOVERNMENT OF
2 ISRAEL.—The report required under subsection (d) shall
3 include—

4 “(1) a description of the nature and extent of
5 detention, interrogation, abuse, or ill treatment of
6 Palestinian children by Israeli military forces or po-
7 lice in violation of international humanitarian law;

8 “(2) a description of the nature and extent of
9 the seizure, appropriation, or destruction of Pales-
10 tinian property in the Israeli-controlled and occupied
11 West Bank by Israeli authorities in violation of
12 international humanitarian law; and

13 “(3) a description of the nature and extent of
14 Israeli settlement activities, including an assessment
15 of the compliance of the Government of Israel with
16 United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334
17 (2016).”.

18 **SEC. 7. GAO REPORT ON ISRAEL'S EXPENDITURES FOR**
19 **OFFSHORE PROCUREMENT.**

20 Not later than September 30, 2027, and annually
21 thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States
22 shall submit to Congress a report that—

23 (1) identifies the specific programs and items
24 for which funds for offshore procurement in Israel
25 have been allocated by the United States, including

1 specific branches, units, and contractors of the
2 Armed Forces;

3 (2) assesses executive branch compliance with
4 legislative requirements governing offshore procure-
5 ments in Israel;

6 (3) identifies, in detail, all end-use monitoring
7 the Government of Israel is subject to with respect
8 to United States-origin defense articles; and

9 (4) analyzes the effects of offshore procure-
10 ments on Israel's military budget and domestic econ-
11 omy since 1991, including an assessment of the
12 manner and extent to which funds provided for off-
13 shore procurement have directly or indirectly sup-
14 ported illegal Israeli settlement activity in the occu-
15 pied West Bank.