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H. R. 7175

To protect individuals who face reprisals for defending human rights and democracy by enhancing the capacity of the United States Government to prevent, mitigate, and respond in such cases, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 31, 2024

Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself, Mr. RASKIN, Mrs. TORRES of California, Ms. OMAR, and Mr. CROW) 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 protect individuals who face reprisals for defending human rights and democracy by enhancing the capacity of the United States Government to prevent, mitigate, and respond in such cases, 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 “Human Rights Defend-
5 ers Protection Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Around the world, human rights defenders
4 form the backbone of democratic societies and move-
5 ments, advocating for human rights and political
6 freedoms, protecting the environment, fighting cor-
7 ruption, and supporting good governance, inde-
8 pendent media, and labor rights.

9 (2) Reprisals against human rights defenders
10 are on the rise as autocratic and illiberal regimes in-
11 creasingly target human rights defenders with fab-
12 ricated legal charges, threats and violence for exer-
13 cising civil, political, economic, social, and cultural
14 rights, often collaborating with transnational crimi-
15 nal organizations, paramilitary groups, private sector
16 actors, and others to carry out such reprisals.

17 (3) According to the United Nations High Com-
18 missioner for Human Rights, every year hundreds of
19 human rights defenders are murdered and thousands
20 more are subjected to torture, enforced disappear-
21 ance, sexual violence, hate crimes, unlawful or arbi-
22 trary detention, judicial harassment, unlawful or ar-
23 bitrary digital surveillance, and forced exile.

24 (4) The lack of accountability for attacks on
25 human rights defenders engenders further violence

1 and leaves human rights defenders hesitant or un-
2 able to continue their work out of fear of retaliation.

3 (5) Foreign governments are no longer oppress-
4 ing only individuals within the borders of their coun-
5 tries and are increasingly resorting to transnational
6 repression tactics, both digital and physical, to tar-
7 get human rights defenders outside of their coun-
8 tries of origin, often where such human rights de-
9 fenders are seeking asylum or temporary refuge.

10 (6) Human rights defenders facing the highest
11 levels of violence include individuals advocating for
12 land rights and environmental issues, Indigenous
13 communities, the freedoms of expression, assembly,
14 and association, minority communities, and
15 LGBTQI+, women's, youth, and religious rights.

16 (7) Environmental human rights defenders are
17 vulnerable to reprisals because such human rights
18 defenders pose challenges to financial interests and
19 often live in remote areas where government over-
20 sight is weak and powerful actors can use corrupt
21 practices and brute force to seize resources with im-
22 punity.

23 (8) Women human rights defenders often face
24 additional grave risks, including gender-based vio-
25 lence, reprisals against their children, use of digital

1 disinformation campaigns against them, and stig-
2 matization from their families, workplaces, and com-
3 munities.

4 (9) Many human rights defenders who have
5 been forced into exile desire to continue their advoca-
6 cacy from abroad, yet such human rights defenders
7 lack the legal protections and support they need to
8 continue such advocacy.

9 (10) The United States has a strong legacy of
10 supporting human rights defenders. Given the rising
11 number of human rights defenders at risk, the
12 United States should elevate and enhance such sup-
13 port, especially at embassies, consulates, and foreign
14 missions of the United States.

15 (11) The training and guidance for individuals
16 and organizations working with the United States
17 Government, including members of the Foreign
18 Service, on recognizing and responding to reprisals
19 against human rights defenders is insufficient, lead-
20 ing to ad hoc and inconsistent responses, while
21 human rights defenders who are at risk are fre-
22 quently unaware of how to safely work with United
23 States officials abroad and the resources that are
24 available to human rights defenders.

1 (12) The United States has neither a coherent
2 strategy to strengthen protections for human rights
3 defenders, nor adequate measures to prevent and re-
4 spond to cases in which members of foreign security
5 forces, law enforcement, judicial institutions, crimi-
6 nal groups, or private companies contribute to at-
7 tacks on human rights defenders. The United States
8 also lacks adequate consular resources and authori-
9 ties to facilitate temporary evacuation of human
10 rights defenders facing immediate lethal danger.

11 (13) While the United States possesses multiple
12 tools to hold perpetrators of reprisals accountable,
13 including sanctions, export controls, visa restrictions,
14 and diplomatic pressure, the United States deploys
15 such tools unevenly and without clear connections to
16 a broader strategic framework to strengthen protec-
17 tions for human rights defenders.

18 (14) Given the dramatic increase in attacks on
19 human rights defenders globally, the current ap-
20 proach by the United States Government to address
21 such attacks is insufficient to adequately respond to
22 the threats human rights defenders face, weakening
23 the ability of the United States to advance human
24 rights and democratic principles, respond to the cli-

1 mate crisis, counter corruption, and combat
2 transnational crime.

3 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act—

5 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
6 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
7 mittees” means the Committee on Foreign Relations
8 of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs
9 of the House of Representatives.

10 (2) DEMOCRACY ADVOCATE AT RISK.—The
11 term “democracy advocate at risk” means a human
12 rights defender or other individual engaging in
13 peaceful democratic advocacy or political protest who
14 participates in the Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fel-
15 lows Program.

16 (3) HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “human
18 rights defender” means an individual, working
19 alone or in a group, who uses nonviolent means
20 to promote or protect human rights and funda-
21 mental freedoms, in a manner consistent with
22 the principles described in the United Nations
23 Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.

24 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “human
25 rights defender” may include members of civil

1 society organizations, journalists, activists, law-
2 yers, community leaders, land and environ-
3 mental defenders, labor leaders and activists,
4 anti-corruption activists, whistleblowers, polit-
5 ical prisoners, members of opposition political
6 parties, and any other individual engaging in
7 peaceful advocacy, actions, or political protest.

8 (4) REPRISAL.—The term “reprisal” means an
9 act or omission that—

10 (A) violates, intends to violate, or encour-
11 ages a violation of the rights of a human rights
12 defender; or

13 (B) otherwise prevents a human rights de-
14 fender from carrying out his or her work.

15 (5) UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON HUMAN
16 RIGHTS DEFENDERS.—The term “United Nations
17 Declaration on Human Rights Defenders” means
18 the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of
19 Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Pro-
20 mote and Protect Universally Recognized Human
21 Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (United Nations
22 General Assembly Resolution 53/144 (1998)), adopt-
23 ed by the United Nations General Assembly on De-
24 cember 9, 1998.

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

2 It shall be the policy of the United States—

3 (1) to reaffirm the commitment of the United
4 States to—

5 (A) the Universal Declaration of Human
6 Rights, adopted by the United Nations on De-
7 cember 10, 1948;

8 (B) the United Nations Declaration on
9 Human Rights Defenders; and

10 (C) human rights defenders, who, often at
11 great risk to themselves, work nonviolently to
12 protect and advance human rights and demo-
13 cratic principles;

14 (2) to integrate support for human rights de-
15 fenders and democracy advocates and their protec-
16 tion from reprisals as part of bilateral and multilat-
17 eral diplomatic, development, defense, economic, law
18 enforcement, security assistance, export control, cli-
19 mate, and anti-corruption activities of the United
20 States;

21 (3) to engage with the private sector to respect,
22 support, and, when possible, protect human rights
23 defenders and prevent human rights violations
24 throughout business operations, investments, and
25 supply chains in accordance with the Guiding Prin-
26 ciples on Business and Human Rights published by

1 the United Nations High Commissioner for Human
2 Rights and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational
3 Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct;

4 (4) to work in solidarity with front-line human
5 rights defenders and democracy advocates to inte-
6 grate prevention, mitigation, and response measures
7 into development and foreign assistance activities to
8 strengthen physical and digital safety, well-being,
9 protection measures, and the resiliency of local orga-
10 nizations in the country of concern;

11 (5) to assist human rights defenders and their
12 immediate family members living in exile so they can
13 safely continue their work, free from threats or acts
14 of transnational repression;

15 (6) to end impunity for reprisals against human
16 rights defenders by strengthening accountability for
17 perpetrators, including through appropriate inves-
18 tigation and prosecutions, exercise of sanctions au-
19 thorities such as the Global Magnitsky Human
20 Rights Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.),
21 and support for other mechanisms and measures;

22 (7) to strengthen access to justice and provide
23 legal representation for human rights defenders;

1 (8) to affirm that support for human rights de-
2 fenders and their protection from reprisals is central
3 to the policy interests of the United States; and

4 (9) to coordinate assistance strategies and di-
5 rect assistance for human rights defenders with bi-
6 lateral partners, non-governmental foundations and
7 charities, and other advocates and service providers.

8 **SEC. 5. GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS DEFEND-**
9 **ERS.**

10 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the
11 date of the enactment of this Act, and once every 3 years
12 thereafter, the President, in consultation with the heads
13 of relevant Federal agencies, shall develop and submit to
14 the appropriate congressional committees a comprehensive
15 interagency strategy to support and protect human rights
16 defenders abroad to be known as the Global Human
17 Rights Defenders Strategy (referred to in this section as
18 the “Strategy”).

19 (b) **ELEMENTS OF THE STRATEGY.**—The Strategy
20 shall include detailed information on the following ele-
21 ments:

22 (1) An assessment of tools and resources avail-
23 able at United States embassies and missions to
24 support human rights defenders, including—

1 (A) measures to monitor and respond to
2 reprisals against human rights defenders, in-
3 cluding human rights defenders located outside
4 of their country, and their immediate family
5 members; and

6 (B) information on implementation of the
7 training required by subparagraph (E) of sec-
8 tion 708(a)(1) of the Foreign Service Act of
9 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4028(a)(1)), as added by sec-
10 tion 8.

11 (2) Bolstering the ability of United States em-
12 bassies and missions to prioritize the protection of
13 human rights defenders, including—

14 (A) ensuring the policy objectives described
15 in section 4 are addressed in each country-spe-
16 cific Integrated Country Strategy of the De-
17 partment of State;

18 (B) developing guidance for United States
19 embassies and missions on assessing when and
20 how to prevent and respond to reprisals against
21 human rights defenders, including in countries
22 that host human rights defenders in exile;

23 (C) identifying a designated point of con-
24 tact at each United States embassy or mission
25 who—

- 1 (i) reports directly to the chief of mis-
2 sion; and
- 3 (ii) shall be responsible for—
- 4 (I) conducting regular consulta-
5 tions with human rights defenders, in-
6 cluding individuals based outside of
7 major urban areas, individuals who
8 are not members of registered civil so-
9 ciety organizations, and individuals in
10 exile, consistent with measures to en-
11 sure the protection of such individ-
12 uals;
- 13 (II) tracking patterns of reprisals
14 and managing responses to reprisals,
15 including by assessing the impact of
16 such responses; and
- 17 (III) immediately notifying the
18 chief of mission, the head of the rel-
19 evant regional bureau of the Depart-
20 ment of State and the United States
21 Agency for International Develop-
22 ment, the Director of the Bureau of
23 Democracy, Human Rights, and
24 Labor, and the Assistant to the Ad-
25 ministrator for the Bureau of Democ-

1 racy, Human Rights, and Governance
2 in the event of any imminent threat to
3 the life or grave threat to the personal
4 safety of a human rights defender;

5 (D) publishing guidelines in local lan-
6 guages on the website of each United States
7 embassy and mission on how to reach relevant
8 embassy points of contact;

9 (E) integrating consideration of reprisals
10 against human rights defenders into engage-
11 ments by United States embassies and missions
12 with the private sector, and foreign govern-
13 ments;

14 (F) including requests for any additional
15 resources needed to engage with and support
16 human rights defenders in annual Mission Re-
17 source Requests;

18 (G) acknowledging and rewarding efforts
19 by United States diplomatic personnel, includ-
20 ing Foreign Service officers from the United
21 States Agency for International Development
22 and the Department of State, to protect human
23 rights defenders as part of annual performance
24 reviews;

1 (H) strengthening the efforts of host coun-
2 tries to bolster human rights, protect human
3 rights defenders, and prevent human rights
4 abuses and violations; and

5 (I) identifying additional authorities or ca-
6 pabilities that need to be developed to address
7 the growing threats facing human rights de-
8 fenders.

9 (3) Seeking to reduce impunity for reprisals
10 against human rights defenders by strengthening ac-
11 countability for perpetrators, including—

12 (A) using diplomatic engagement to en-
13 courage foreign governments to investigate and
14 prosecute persons who order, plan, and carry
15 out reprisals;

16 (B) using diplomatic engagement to re-
17 spond to patterns of non-lethal reprisals that
18 have an adverse impact on civic space, including
19 the criminalization of nonviolent advocacy,
20 smear campaigns, and illegal surveillance; and

21 (C) increasing support for multilateral ini-
22 tiatives that seek to curb the misuse of tech-
23 nologies by foreign governments to monitor,
24 harass, or threaten human rights defenders and
25 their families.

1 (4) How the United States intends to imple-
2 ment the policy objectives under section 4, includ-
3 ing—

4 (A) specific and measurable goals;

5 (B) metrics to measure progress against
6 such goals; and

7 (C) a timeline for implementation.

8 (c) IMPLEMENTATION.—In implementing the Strat-
9 egy, the President shall—

10 (1) designate an employee of the National Secu-
11 rity Council to be responsible for the coordination of
12 the interagency process for implementing the Strat-
13 egy;

14 (2) require each relevant Federal agency to pro-
15 vide a specific implementation plan for the Strategy;
16 and

17 (3) regularly consult with relevant human
18 rights defenders and civil society organizations both
19 in the United States and abroad on the design and
20 implementation of the Strategy.

21 (d) FORM AND AVAILABILITY.—

22 (1) FORM.—The Strategy shall be submitted in
23 unclassified form, but may include a classified
24 annex, if necessary.

1 (2) BRIEFING.—Not later than 30 days prior to
 2 publication of the Strategy in accordance with para-
 3 graph (3), the Under Secretary for Civilian Security,
 4 Democracy, and Human Rights, in consultation with
 5 the Assistant to the Administrator for Democracy,
 6 Human Rights, and Governance, shall brief the ap-
 7 propriate congressional committees on the Strategy.

8 (3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The unclassified
 9 portion of the Strategy shall be made available to
 10 the public, including through publication in the Fed-
 11 eral Register.

12 **SEC. 6. NONIMMIGRANT VISAS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS DE-**
 13 **FENDERS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 101(a) of the Immigra-
 15 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)) is amended—

16 (1) in paragraph (15)—

17 (A) in subparagraph (U)(iii), by striking “;
 18 or” and inserting a semicolon;

19 (B) in subparagraph (V)(ii)(II), by striking
 20 the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

21 (C) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(W)(i) subject to section 214(t), an alien
 23 who—

24 “(I) demonstrates a credible fear of
 25 an urgent threat to his or her physical

1 safety by a state or nonstate actor in the
2 alien’s country of nationality or last habit-
3 ual residence based on the nature of the
4 alien’s work as a human rights defender,
5 including formal and informal employment
6 and volunteer activities; and

7 “(II) has not advocated violence or
8 terrorism; and

9 “(ii) the children and spouse or part-
10 ner of the alien described in clause (i) if
11 accompanying, or following to join, such
12 alien.”; and

13 (2) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(53) The term ‘urgent threat’, with respect to
15 an individual described in paragraph (15)(W)(i)(I),
16 means any action, communication, or threat made
17 against the individual that causes or has the intent
18 to cause physical, legal, financial, psychological, or
19 reputational harm.”.

20 (b) APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION.—Section 214 of
21 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184) is
22 amended by adding at the end the following:

23 “(t)(1) In the case of a nonimmigrant described in
24 section 101(a)(15)(W)—

1 “(A) the Secretary of State shall issue a visa
2 that is valid for 1 or more admissions to the United
3 States during a 3-year period; and

4 “(B) the Secretary of Homeland Security shall
5 authorize the alien to engage in employment in the
6 United States during the period of authorized ad-
7 mission and shall provide the alien with an ‘employ-
8 ment authorized’ endorsement or other appropriate
9 document signifying authorizing employment.

10 “(2) In determining whether an alien is eligible
11 to be admitted to the United States as a non-
12 immigrant under section 101(a)(15)(W)(i)—

13 “(A) a foreign service officer, outside of
14 consular services, including political and eco-
15 nomic officers and officers of the United States
16 Agency for International Development, located
17 at the United States Embassy in the country
18 concerned, an official in the Bureau for Democ-
19 racy, Human Rights and Labor, or an official
20 of Bureau for Democracy, Human Rights, and
21 Governance, may submit a visa referral for the
22 alien to the United States consulate in the
23 country concerned;

1 “(B) a consular officer, located at the
2 United States Embassy or consulate in the
3 country concerned—

4 “(i) shall conduct an interview of the
5 alien not later than 72 hours after the
6 alien submits an application for admission
7 as a nonimmigrant under that section;

8 “(ii) shall make a determination with
9 respect to whether the alien’s fear of an
10 urgent threat is credible within the context
11 of such country; and

12 “(iii) shall consult with and seek ref-
13 erences from relevant national or inter-
14 national human rights organizations or the
15 United Nations with respect to the alien,
16 including references suggested by the alien
17 and the referring human rights officer; and

18 “(C) the Bureau of Consular Affairs shall
19 carry out all security screening through the ap-
20 propriate databases.

21 “(3) An unmarried alien who seeks to accom-
22 pany or follow to join a parent granted status under
23 section 101(a)(15)(W)(i), and who was under 21
24 years of age on the date on which such parent ap-
25 plied for such status, shall continue to be classified

1 as a child for purposes of section 101(a)(15)(W)(ii),
2 if the alien attains 21 years of age after such par-
3 ent's application was filed, but while it was pending.

4 “(4)(A) The number of aliens who may be
5 issued visas or otherwise provided status as non-
6 immigrants under section 101(a) (15)(W) in any fis-
7 cal year shall not exceed 500.

8 “(B) The numerical limitation in subparagraph
9 (A) shall only apply to principal aliens described in
10 section 101(a)(15)(W)(i) and not to the children or
11 spouses or partners of such aliens.”.

12 **SEC. 7. HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICERS.**

13 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
14 gress that the Secretary of State should—

15 (1) increase the number of Foreign Service offi-
16 cer positions dedicated to democracy and human
17 rights graded at mid-level rank levels and posted to
18 missions in countries facing complex democracy and
19 human rights crises, including countries facing high
20 levels of violence against human rights defenders;
21 and

22 (2) increase the number of democracy, human
23 rights, and labor positions graded at mid-level rank
24 levels at overseas posts, incorporating recommenda-
25 tions from the Director of the Bureau of Democracy,

1 Human Rights, and Labor regarding scope of work
2 and the location of posts.

3 (b) RECLASSIFICATION TO MID-LEVEL.—

4 (1) RECOMMENDATION.—Not later than 90
5 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
6 Secretary of State shall submit a recommendation to
7 the appropriate congressional committees to reclass-
8 sify not less than 10 human rights officers to the
9 FS-3, -2, or -1 level.

10 (2) RECLASSIFICATION.—Not later than 270
11 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, not
12 less than 10 human rights officers shall be reclassi-
13 fied in accordance with this section.

14 (c) INCREASED HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICERS AT
15 POSTS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year
17 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
18 retary shall increase the number of personnel who
19 are responsible for democracy and human rights
20 issues, with the goal of having at least one officer
21 dedicated to democracy and human rights at every
22 mission.

23 (2) RESPONSIBILITY.—The Bureau of Democ-
24 racy, Human Rights, and Labor shall lead selection

1 and placement of such officers at diplomatic mis-
2 sions, consulting with regional bureaus.

3 (d) DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE TRAINING.—De-
4 mocracy, human rights, and governance should be a core
5 competency course for foreign service officers at each level
6 of required training, including those at the entry (A–100),
7 mid, and Senior Foreign Service levels.

8 **SEC. 8. PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AT MUL-**
9 **TILATERAL AND REGIONAL BODIES.**

10 The Secretary of State and the United States Perma-
11 nent Representative to the United Nations shall use the
12 voice, vote, and influence of the United States at the
13 United Nations, international financial institutions, re-
14 gional bodies, and other multilateral bodies—

15 (1) to promote full participation and oppose ef-
16 forts that prevent the full participation of human
17 rights defenders or block the accreditation of bona
18 fide human rights organizations seeking consultative
19 status at such institutions and bodies;

20 (2) to ensure that such institutions and bodies
21 bolster the protection and safe participation of
22 human rights defenders who are subject to
23 transnational repression, state harassment, and re-
24 prisals;

1 (3) to increase monitoring and reporting to
2 identify and track reprisals against human rights de-
3 fenders, including human rights defenders who en-
4 gage with such institutions and bodies;

5 (4) to urge member states to engage with the
6 United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation
7 of human rights defenders (referred to in this sec-
8 tion as the “Special Rapporteur”), to cooperate with
9 the Special Rapporteur, and to take steps to imple-
10 ment the recommendations of the Special
11 Rapporteur; and

12 (5) to support the use of targeted sanctions,
13 censure of member states, and all diplomatic tools
14 available to hold responsible persons that engage in
15 reprisals against human rights defenders.

16 **SEC. 9. SUPPORT FOR DEMOCRACY ADVOCATES AT-RISK.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Congress—

18 (1) recognizes the importance of democracy ad-
19 vocates at risk who support democracy, human
20 rights, transparency and the rule of law; and

21 (2) remains gravely concerned about concerted
22 efforts by state and non-state actors to constrain the
23 activities of democracy advocates at risk through re-
24 prisals that are intended to frustrate or halt legiti-
25 mate activities.

1 (b) FELLOWSHIPS FOR DEMOCRACY ADVOCATES AT
2 RISK.—The National Endowment for Democracy is au-
3 thorized to expand the Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows
4 Program to provide additional fellowships, including in
5 partnership with other institutions and organizations, to
6 support democracy advocates at risk.

7 **SEC. 10. ANNUAL COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS**
8 **PRACTICES.**

9 Section 116(f)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of
10 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151n(f)(1)) is amended—

11 (1) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as sub-
12 paragraph (E); and

13 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the fol-
14 lowing:

15 “(C) A description of the treatment of
16 human rights defenders (as defined in section 3
17 of the Human Rights Defenders Protection Act
18 of 2024) in each foreign country, including pat-
19 terns of reprisals (as defined in such section)
20 against human rights defenders residing in-
21 country, including information on the under-
22 lying types of activities targeted and the types
23 of tactics being used and descriptions of specific
24 cases in which the relevant human rights de-

1 fender or family member of such human rights
2 defender has provided prior consent.

3 “(D) When feasible, details on the total
4 number of investigations opened into reprisals
5 against human rights defenders, including, for
6 such reprisals, the number of prosecutions, the
7 details of the individuals sentenced, and the
8 percentage of individuals acquitted.”.

9 **SEC. 11. TRAINING.**

10 Section 708(a)(1) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980
11 (22 U.S.C. 4028(a)(1)) is amended—

12 (1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “and” at
13 the end;

14 (2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period
15 at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

16 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
17 paragraph:

18 “(E) for Foreign Service Officers and
19 Presidential appointees, including chiefs of mis-
20 sion, in missions abroad who work on political,
21 economic, public diplomacy, security, or devel-
22 opment issues, a dedicated module of instruc-
23 tion on support for human rights defenders, in-
24 cluding human rights defenders who are infor-

1 mally organized outside of registered civil soci-
2 ety organizations; and”.

3 **SEC. 12. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4 (a) STRATEGY AND TRAINING.—There is authorized
5 to be appropriated \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years
6 2024 through 2028 to carry out—

7 (1) the Strategy described in section 5;

8 (2) reporting requirements described in sub-
9 sections (C) and (D) of section 116(f)(1) of the For-
10 eign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.
11 2151n(f)(1)), as added by section 14; and

12 (3) the training required by section
13 708(a)(1)(E) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22
14 U.S.C. 4028(a)(1)), as added by section 14.

15 (b) HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICERS.—There is authorized
16 to be appropriated \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years
17 2024 to 2028 to carry out section 7.

18 (c) SUPPORT OF DEMOCRACY ADVOCATES AT-
19 RISK.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Na-
20 tional Endowment for Democracy \$5,000,000 for each of
21 fiscal years 2024 through 2028 for the Reagan-Fascell
22 Democracy Fellows Program for additional fellowships for
23 democracy advocates at risk.

○