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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To designate Russian-based paramilitary organizations and their successor entities as foreign terrorist organizations, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To designate Russian-based paramilitary organizations and their successor entities as foreign terrorist organizations, 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 “Holding Accountable  
5       Russian Mercenaries Act” or the “HARM Act 2.0”.

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

7       (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
8       ings:

1           (1) Following the death of Wagner Group lead-  
2           er Yevgeniy Prigozhin in August 2023, the organiza-  
3           tion’s personnel, operational infrastructure, and ac-  
4           tivities have been absorbed into the Russian Ministry  
5           of Defense and reorganized under various successor  
6           entities, including the Africa Corps, Redut PMC,  
7           and Patriot PMC.

8           (2) These successor entities continue to conduct  
9           operations consistent with the Wagner Group’s his-  
10          torical activities, including mercenary operations,  
11          human rights abuses, resource extraction facilitation,  
12          and support for authoritarian regimes in Africa, the  
13          Middle East, Eastern Europe, and Latin America.

14          (3) The integration of Wagner-derived forces  
15          into Ministry of Defense structures does not dimin-  
16          ish their threat to international peace and security,  
17          human rights, or United States national security in-  
18          terests.

19          (4) The Wagner Group and its successor enti-  
20          ties constitute a “terrorist group” that engages in  
21          “terrorism” (as defined in section 140(d) of the For-  
22          eign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1988  
23          and 1989 (22 U.S.C. 2656f(d))).

24          (5) The Wagner Group and its successor enti-  
25          ties have committed, or are credibly accused of com-

1       mitting, terrorist activity (as defined in section  
2       212(a)(3)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality  
3       Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(B))), and ongoing atroc-  
4       ities and human rights violations conducted by suc-  
5       cessor entities operating under the Africa Corps,  
6       Redut PMC, Patriot PMC, and other Ministry of  
7       Defense-affiliated formations in Africa, the Middle  
8       East, and other regions in 2024 and 2025.

9       (b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the policy  
10      of the United States to designate as a Foreign Terrorist  
11      Organization and Specially Designated Global Terrorists  
12      the successor and associated entities to the Wagner  
13      Group.

14      **SEC. 3. REPORTS REQUIRED AND DETERMINATION.**

15      (a) SECRETARY OF STATE REPORT.—The Secretary  
16      of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional  
17      committees a report on the following:

18              (1) A list of all successor and affiliated entities  
19              of the organization formerly known as the Wagner  
20              Group, including Africa Corps, Redut PMC, Patriot  
21              PMC, and any Ministry of Defense-affiliated para-  
22              military formations that inherit Wagner personnel,  
23              operations, or assets.

1           (2) A list of all individuals that order, control,  
2           or otherwise direct the organizations described in  
3           paragraph (1).

4           (3) Any entity that—

5                 (A) operates under the direction, control,  
6                 or coordination of the Russian Ministry of De-  
7                 fense;

8                 (B) employs personnel previously associ-  
9                 ated with the Wagner Group or its successor  
10                entities; and

11                (C) conducts operations consistent with  
12                Wagner Group activities.

13           (4) A description of any conduct of the organi-  
14           zations or individuals described in paragraphs (1)  
15           through (3) that—

16                (A) may be grounds for designation pursu-  
17                ant to Executive Order 13224 (50 U.S.C. 1701  
18                note; relating to blocking property and prohib-  
19                iting transactions with persons who commit,  
20                threaten to commit, or support terrorism); and

21                (B) may constitute terrorist activity (as  
22                defined in section 212(a)(3)(B) of the Immigra-  
23                tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
24                1182(a)(3)(B))).

1 (b) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT.—Not later  
2 than 60 days after the submission of the report required  
3 by subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the United  
4 States shall submit to the appropriate congressional com-  
5 mittees a report evaluating the accuracy and completeness  
6 of the report required by subsection (a), including an as-  
7 sessment of the methodologies and data sources used in  
8 preparing such report.

9 (c) FORM.—The reports required by subsections (a)  
10 and (b) shall be transmitted in an unclassified form, and  
11 may contain a classified annex.

12 (d) DETERMINATION.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after  
14 date on which the Comptroller General submits the  
15 report required by subsection (b), the Secretary of  
16 State, in coordination with the Secretary of the  
17 Treasury, the Attorney General, and the Office of  
18 the Director of National Intelligence, shall determine  
19 whether any person identified in the report under  
20 paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (a) meets  
21 the criteria for designation under paragraph (4) of  
22 subsection (a).

23 (2) EFFECT OF POSITIVE DETERMINATION.—  
24 The Secretary of State, the Secretary of Treasury,  
25 and the Attorney General (as appropriate) shall

1       apply the measures described in subsection (a)(4) to  
2       each person with respect to which a positive deter-  
3       mination under paragraph (1) has been made.

4               (3) PERIODIC REVIEW AND UPDATES.— The  
5       Secretary of State shall periodically review and up-  
6       date the designations under this section to include  
7       any newly identified successor entities, affiliates, or  
8       rebranded organizations that meet the criteria speci-  
9       fied in subsection (a)(4).

10       (e) ANNUAL REPORT.—

11               (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year  
12       after the date of the enactment of this Act, and an-  
13       nually thereafter for five years, the Secretary of  
14       State, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense,  
15       the Director of National Intelligence, and the Sec-  
16       retary of the Treasury, shall submit to the appro-  
17       priate congressional committees a report on the  
18       international activities of the Russian-based merce-  
19       nary Wagner Group and its successor entities that  
20       includes—

21               (A) a comprehensive assessment of the op-  
22       erations, activities, and force disposition of the  
23       Wagner Group and successor entities in Africa,  
24       Latin America, Eastern Europe, the Middle  
25       East, and any other region;

1 (B) an analysis of the relationship between  
2 the Wagner Group, its successor entities, and  
3 the Russian Ministry of Defense, including  
4 command and control structures, funding mech-  
5 anisms, and operational coordination;

6 (C) a detailed account of human rights  
7 abuses, war crimes, and violations of inter-  
8 national humanitarian law committed by the  
9 Wagner Group and successor entities;

10 (D) an assessment of the financial net-  
11 works, revenue sources, and economic activities  
12 supporting the Wagner Group and successor en-  
13 tities, including resource extraction operations;

14 (E) an evaluation of the effectiveness of  
15 sanctions imposed against the Wagner Group  
16 and successor entities;

17 (F) recommendations for additional legisla-  
18 tive or executive actions to counter the activities  
19 of the Wagner Group and successor entities;

20 (G) an assessment of cooperation with  
21 international partners in addressing threats  
22 posed by the Wagner Group and successor enti-  
23 ties; and

24 (H) specific information regarding the de-  
25 ployment, activities, and objectives of Russian

1 paramilitary forces in Venezuela and through-  
2 out the Western Hemisphere, including any  
3 threats to regional security or United States in-  
4 terests.

5 (2) FORM.—The report required by this sub-  
6 section shall be submitted in unclassified form, but  
7 may include a classified annex.

8 (f) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-  
9 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-  
10 sional committees” means—

11 (1) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the  
12 Senate;

13 (2) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and  
14 Urban Affairs of the Senate;

15 (3) the Committee on Financial Services of the  
16 House of Representatives;

17 (4) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
18 House of Representatives; and

19 (5) the Committee on the Judiciary of the  
20 House of Representatives.