

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To prohibit any official action to recognize or normalize relations with any Government of Syria that is led by Bashar al-Assad.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. DURBIN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To prohibit any official action to recognize or normalize relations with any Government of Syria that is led by Bashar al-Assad.

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 “Assad Regime Anti-
5 Normalization Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION OF RECOGNITION OF ASSAD REGIME.**

7 (a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the
8 United States—

9 (1) not to recognize or normalize relations with
10 any Government of Syria that is led by Bashar al-

1 Assad due to the Assad regime’s prior and ongoing
2 crimes against the Syrian people, including failure to
3 meet the criteria outlined in section 7431(a) of the
4 Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act of 2019 (title
5 LXXIV of Public Law 116–92; 22 U.S.C. 8791
6 note);

7 (2) to actively oppose recognition or normaliza-
8 tion of relations by other governments with any Gov-
9 ernment of Syria that is led by Bashar Al-Assad, in-
10 cluding by fully implementing the mandatory pri-
11 mary and secondary sanctions in the Caesar Syria
12 Civilian Protection Act of 2019 and Executive Order
13 13894 (84 Fed. Reg. 55851; relating to blocking
14 property and suspending entry of certain persons
15 contributing to the situation in Syria); and

16 (3) to use the full range of authorities, includ-
17 ing those provided under the Caesar Syria Civilian
18 Protection Act of 2019 and Executive Order 13894,
19 to deter reconstruction activities in areas under the
20 control of Bashar al-Assad.

21 (b) PROHIBITION.—In accordance with subsection
22 (a), no Federal official or employee may take any action,
23 and no Federal funds may be made available, to recognize
24 or otherwise imply, in any manner, United States recogni-

- 1 tion of Bashar al-Assad or any Government in Syria that
- 2 is led by Bashar al-Assad.