

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2934

To limit the availability of civil actions affected by United States sanctions.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 29, 2025

Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. PADILLA) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To limit the availability of civil actions affected by United
States sanctions.

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 “Protecting Americans
5 from Russian Litigation Act of 2025”.

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

7 It is the policy of the United States—

8 (1) to ensure that United States persons are
9 not disadvantaged for actions or omissions under-
10 taken to comply with United States sanctions or ex-
11 port controls; and

1 (2) to ensure that foreign persons, or persons
 2 acting on their behalf, cannot obtain compensation
 3 for any action related to United States persons at-
 4 tempting in good faith to comply with their obliga-
 5 tions under United States sanctions or export con-
 6 trols.

7 **SEC. 3. LIMITATION ON CIVIL ACTIONS AFFECTED BY**
 8 **UNITED STATES SANCTIONS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 111 of title 28, United
 10 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 11 lowing:

12 **“§ 1660. Limitation on civil actions affected by United**
 13 **States sanctions**

14 “(a) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding any provision of
 15 law, no person (other than the United States or a person
 16 acting on behalf of the United States) may bring a civil
 17 action in Federal or State court to enforce any foreign
 18 judgment or foreign arbitral award arising from a claim
 19 where—

20 “(1) the underlying conduct or circumstances
 21 giving rise to the claim resulted from actions to com-
 22 ply with United States sanctions impeding the per-
 23 formance of a contract; or

24 “(2) the court or tribunal issuing the judgment
 25 or arbitral award asserted jurisdiction based, in

1 whole or in part, on the imposition of United States
2 sanctions or export controls (or any foreign law en-
3 acted in response to the imposition of United States
4 sanctions or export controls).

5 “(b) REMOVAL AND DISMISSAL.—An action to recog-
6 nize or enforce a foreign judgment or foreign arbitral
7 award described in subsection (a) may be removed by any
8 defendant to the appropriate United States district court,
9 which shall dismiss the action.

10 “(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
11 tion may be construed to limit—

12 “(1) the authority of the President, any dele-
13 gate of the President (including the Office of For-
14 eign Assets Control of the Department of the Treas-
15 ury), or any other officer or official of the United
16 States to bring any action or exercise any responsi-
17 bility under any applicable State or Federal law;

18 “(2) any right, remedy, or cause of action avail-
19 able to a victim of international terrorism, torture,
20 extrajudicial killing, aircraft sabotage, or hostage
21 taking, who is, or was at the time of the victim’s in-
22 jury, a national of the United States, a member of
23 the United States Armed Forces, an employee of the
24 United States Government, or an individual per-
25 forming a contract awarded by the United States

1 Government acting within the scope of the individ-
2 ual's employment, or a family member of any such
3 victim, under any applicable State or Federal law,
4 including—

5 “(A) chapter 97 of this title;

6 “(B) chapter 113B of title 18; and

7 “(C) the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria
8 Human Rights Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8701 et
9 seq.) and any other laws providing for the ap-
10 plication of sanctions with respect to Iran or
11 Syria;

12 “(3) any right, remedy, or cause of action avail-
13 able to any party arising under or relating to the
14 party's contractual rights (other than an action to
15 enforce a foreign judgment or foreign arbitral award
16 described in subsection (a)) where the parties agreed
17 to resolve all disputes by litigation in a State or
18 Federal court within the United States or by arbi-
19 tration within the United States; or

20 “(4) any other right, remedy, or cause of action
21 available to any party arising under State or Federal
22 law (other than an action to enforce a foreign judg-
23 ment or foreign arbitral award described in sub-
24 section (a)) where the underlying conduct or cir-
25 cumstances giving rise to the claim resulted from the

1 imposition of United States sanctions or export con-
2 trols.

3 “(d) UNITED STATES SANCTIONS DEFINED.—In this
4 section:

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘United States
6 sanctions’ means any prohibition, restriction, or con-
7 dition on transactions involving any property in
8 which any foreign country or national thereof has
9 any interest that is imposed by the United States to
10 address threats to the national security, foreign pol-
11 icy, or economy of the United States pursuant to—

12 “(A) section 203 of the International
13 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C.
14 1702); or

15 “(B) any other provision of law, including
16 any provision of law relating to export controls.

17 “(2) DUTIES.—The term ‘United States sanc-
18 tions’ does not include the imposition of a duty on
19 the importation of goods.”.

20 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
21 for such chapter is amended by inserting after the item
22 relating to section 1659 the following new item:

“1660. Limitation on civil actions affected by United States sanctions.”.

23 (c) APPLICATION.—Section 1660 of title 28, United
24 States Code, as added by subsection (a), applies with re-

- 1 spect to civil actions pending on or after the date of the
- 2 enactment of this Act.

