

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To provide for United States contributions to international debt relief initiatives, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

A BILL

To provide for United States contributions to international debt relief initiatives, 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. DEBT TREATMENT FOR COUNTRIES THAT ARE**
4 **ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE**
5 **INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIA-**
6 **TION OR ARE UNITED NATIONS LEAST-DE-**
7 **VELOPED COUNTRIES.**

8 (a) **POLICY STATEMENT.**—It is the policy of the
9 United States to coordinate with the international commu-

1 nity to provide bilateral debt treatment for debt that is
2 held by countries that are eligible for assistance from the
3 International Development Association or are United Na-
4 tions Least-Developed Countries that request treatment to
5 respond to the COVID–19 pandemic, including through
6 the Common Framework for Debt Treatments beyond the
7 Debt Service Suspension Initiative (in this section referred
8 to as the “Common Framework”) and through the Debt
9 Service Suspension Initiative (in this section referred to
10 as the “DSSI”).

11 (b) DEBT TREATMENT.—The Secretary of the Treas-
12 ury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall—

13 (1) engage with international financial institu-
14 tions and other bilateral official creditors to advance
15 policy discussions on restructuring, rescheduling, or
16 canceling the sovereign debt of countries that are eli-
17 gible for assistance from the International Develop-
18 ment Association or are United Nations Least-De-
19 veloped Countries through the Common Framework
20 or the DSSI; and

21 (2) instruct the United States Executive Direc-
22 tor at the International Monetary Fund and the
23 United States Executive Director at the World Bank
24 to use the voice and vote of the United States to ad-
25 vance the efforts described in paragraph (1).

1 (c) TRANSFER AUTHORITY.—Of the funds appro-
2 priated in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public
3 Law 117–2), and in prior Acts making appropriations for
4 the Department of State, foreign operations, and related
5 programs, an amount not to exceed \$52,000,000 may be
6 transferred to the “Department of the Treasury, Debt Re-
7 structuring” account, to remain available until expended,
8 for the costs, as defined in section 502 of the Federal
9 Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661a(5)), of modi-
10 fying loans and loan guarantees for, or credits extended
11 to, such countries as the President may determine, includ-
12 ing the costs of selling, reducing, or cancelling amounts
13 owed to the United States, pursuant to the Common
14 Framework, and for reducing interest rates paid by any
15 country eligible for the DSSI: *Provided*, That such
16 amounts may be used notwithstanding the provisions of
17 section 504(e) of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990
18 (2 U.S.C. 661c(e)) or any other provision of law.

19 (d) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 120
20 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annu-
21 ally thereafter until the end of the COVID–19 pandemic,
22 as determined by the World Health Organization, the Sec-
23 retary of the Treasury, in coordination with the Secretary
24 of State, shall submit to the committees specified in sub-
25 section (e) a report that describes—

1 (1) actions that have been taken to advance
2 debt treatment for countries that are eligible for as-
3 sistance from the International Development Asso-
4 ciation or are United Nations Least-Developed
5 Countries that request treatment under the Common
6 Framework or the DSSI to respond to the COVID-
7 19 pandemic in coordination with international fi-
8 nancial institutions, the Group of 7 (G7), the Group
9 of 20 (G20), Paris Club members, and the Institute
10 of International Finance;

11 (2) mechanisms that have been utilized and
12 mechanisms that are under consideration to provide
13 the debt treatment described in paragraph (1);

14 (3) any United States policy concerns regarding
15 debt relief to specific countries;

16 (4) the transparency measures established or
17 proposed to ensure that funds saved through the
18 debt treatment under the Common Framework or
19 the DSSI described in paragraph (1) will be used for
20 activities—

21 (A) that respond to the health, economic,
22 and social consequences of the COVID-19 pan-
23 demic; and

24 (B) that are consistent with the interests
25 and values of the United States; and

1 (5) policy options available to the United States
2 Government to support and advance debt relief from
3 the official creditors of Sudan.

4 (e) COMMITTEES SPECIFIED.—The committees speci-
5 fied in this subsection are—

6 (1) the Committee on Appropriations, the Com-
7 mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs,
8 and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Sen-
9 ate; and

10 (2) the Committee on Appropriations, the Com-
11 mittee on Financial Services, and the Committee on
12 Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.