

S 1025

VERDAD Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Apr 3, 2019

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 101.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 101. (Jun 3, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1025>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]

Party: Democratic • **State:** NJ • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (18 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]	R · WY		Apr 3, 2019
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Apr 3, 2019
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Apr 3, 2019
Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]	R · LA		Apr 3, 2019
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Apr 3, 2019
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Apr 3, 2019
Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]	R · TX		Apr 3, 2019
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Apr 3, 2019
Sen. Graham, Lindsey [R-SC]	R · SC		Apr 3, 2019
Sen. Hawley, Josh [R-MO]	R · MO		Apr 3, 2019
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Apr 3, 2019
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Apr 3, 2019
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Apr 3, 2019
Sen. Young, Todd [R-IN]	R · IN		Apr 3, 2019
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		May 1, 2019
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		May 13, 2019
Sen. Gardner, Cory [R-CO]	R · CO		May 13, 2019
Sen. Kennedy, John [R-LA]	R · LA		Jul 16, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jun 3, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jun 3, 2019)

Venezuela Emergency Relief, Democracy Assistance, and Development Act of 2019 or the VERDAD Act of 2019

This bill directs the President to take various actions to address the political situation in Venezuela. (The United States does not recognize Nicolas Maduro as Venezuela's President due to reports of widespread fraud during his election, recognizing instead National Assembly President Juan Guaido.)

The Department of State shall provide humanitarian aid to Venezuela and to Venezuelans in neighboring countries.

The bill imposes sanctions on foreign persons responsible for or complicit in corruption or activity undermining Venezuela's democratic institutions. Sanctions include barring entry into the United States and various financial restrictions.

The bill also (1) authorizes or imposes various sanctions targeting the Maduro regime's ability to finance debt, trade gold, and use cryptocurrencies; and (2) imposes visa-blocking sanctions on aliens acting on behalf of Russia to support Maduro regime security forces.

The bill directs the State Department to

- work with nongovernmental organizations to strengthen democratic governance and defend human rights in Venezuela,
- work with foreign governments to investigate corruption and recover assets stolen from Venezuela, and
- offer to help other countries establish legislative frameworks to impose sanctions on Maduro regime officials.

The President shall engage with multilateral development banks to assist in rebuilding Venezuela's economy and energy infrastructure.

The bill directs the President to prevent Russia's government-controlled oil company Rosneft from acquiring control of critical U.S. energy infrastructure, including assets belonging to Venezuela's state-owned oil company, Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 3, 2019:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Reported by Senator Risch with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Jun 3, 2019:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 101.
- **May 22, 2019:** Committee on Foreign Relations. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Apr 3, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 3, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.