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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

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

To authorize contributions to the United Nations Population Fund, and  
for other purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. HOULAHAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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

To authorize contributions to the United Nations Population  
Fund, 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 “Support UNFPA  
5 Funding Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) The United Nations Population Fund  
2           (UNFPA), is the United Nations Reproductive  
3           Health Agency.

4           (2) UNFPA was founded with the leadership of  
5           the United States 50 years ago and works in more  
6           than 150 countries to end preventable maternal  
7           deaths, the unmet need for contraception, and gen-  
8           der-based violence and other harmful practices, in-  
9           cluding female genital mutilation and child mar-  
10          riage.

11          (3) UNFPA also ensures access to health care  
12          and essential supplies for women and families im-  
13          pacted by emergencies.

14          (4) All UNFPA programming is guided by  
15          principles adopted by 179 governments, including  
16          the United States, at the 1994 International Con-  
17          ference for Population and Development. The prin-  
18          ciples include that “reproductive health care pro-  
19          grams should provide the widest range of services  
20          without any form of coercion. All couples and indi-  
21          viduals have the basic right to decide freely and re-  
22          sponsibly the number and spacing of their children  
23          and to have the information, education and means to  
24          do so.”

1           (5) UNFPA is currently working to address the  
2 needs of:

3           (A) The 810 women and adolescent girls  
4 who die each day from preventable causes re-  
5 lated to pregnancy and childbirth, 99 per cent  
6 of which deaths occur in developing countries  
7 and more than half of which occur in fragile  
8 and humanitarian settings.

9           (B) More than 214,000,000 women of re-  
10 productive age in developing regions who want  
11 to avoid pregnancy and are not using a modern  
12 contraceptive method.

13           (C) The estimated 1 in 3 women who expe-  
14 rience gender-based violence.

15           (D) The estimated 200,000,000 women  
16 who have survived some form of female genital  
17 mutilation.

18           (E) The estimated 15,000,000 girls who  
19 are forcibly married before the age of 18 each  
20 year.

21           (6) Prior to withholding contributions in 2017,  
22 the United States was the third-largest overall donor  
23 to UNFPA, and its second largest donor for human-  
24 itarian response.

1           (7) UNFPA, which works in three times as  
2 many countries as the United States Agency for  
3 International Development, extends the impact of  
4 United States foreign assistance by reaching people  
5 in politically unstable regions. UNFPA also plays a  
6 pivotal role in meeting protection and healthcare  
7 needs in countries experiencing humanitarian emer-  
8 gencies like Syria, Yemen, and Iraq.

9           (8) Voluntary family planning is central to gen-  
10 der equality and women’s empowerment, and it is a  
11 key factor in reducing poverty.

12           (9) The United States has conflated UNFPA’s  
13 presence in China with supporting China’s coercive  
14 birth limitation policies. However, in June 2015, the  
15 U.S. State Department visited UNFPA’s China  
16 Country Program to design and approve it as a  
17 member of UNFPA’s Executive Board, noting that  
18 “[d]uring its recent visit, the U.S. delegation ob-  
19 served the positive impact of UNFPA’s rights-based  
20 programming in China. We commend the Fund’s ad-  
21 herence to demonstrating the advantages of a vol-  
22 untary approach to family planning.” The Program  
23 in China has not changed since it was approved by  
24 the United States in 2015.

1           (10) On July 8, 2019, the Department of State  
2           made a determination to eliminate all contributions  
3           to UNFPA for the third consecutive year based on  
4           its interpretation of the Kemp-Kasten Amendment  
5           (first enacted in Public Law 99–88; 99 Stat. 323).

6 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

7           It is the policy of the United States as follows:

8           (1) Improving the status of women around the  
9           world is a critical component of the United States  
10          foreign policy and development strategies.

11          (2) The right of every person to determine free-  
12          ly whether, when, and with whom to have children,  
13          and to attain the highest standard of sexual and re-  
14          productive health, is a basic human right.

15          (3) Access to voluntary contraception and re-  
16          productive health care is necessary to improving the  
17          status of women and ensuring this basic human  
18          right.

19          (4) UNFPA is a key partner in improving the  
20          status of women and expanding access to voluntary  
21          family planning and reproductive health care serv-  
22          ices throughout the world.

23          (5) UNFPA helps ensure that family planning  
24          and reproductive health programs are voluntary and  
25          centered on protecting human rights.

1           (6) Financial support for UNFPA is a crucial  
2 part of the United States commitment to global  
3 health, development, and human rights, and the  
4 Government of the United States is committed to  
5 providing core and humanitarian funding to  
6 UNFPA.

7 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8           There is authorized to be appropriated an annual  
9 contribution for each of the five fiscal years beginning  
10 after the date of the enactment of this Act to support the  
11 core functions and programs of the United Nations Popu-  
12 lation Fund (UNFPA), which may include the following:

13           (1) Ending preventable maternal deaths.

14           (2) Ending the unmet need for contraceptives  
15 and promoting a human-rights-based approach to  
16 family planning.

17           (3) Ending gender-based violence.

18           (4) Ending other harmful practices, such as  
19 child marriage and female genital mutilation.

20           (5) Supporting United States national security  
21 and humanitarian efforts by operating in areas  
22 where medical infrastructure or services have been  
23 destroyed or limited by natural disasters, armed con-  
24 flict, or other humanitarian emergencies.