

Calendar No. _____

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION**S. 2578**

To support United States investment opportunities, to strengthen bilateral collaboration in addressing criminal elements operating in the Brazilian Amazon, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 31, 2025

Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mr. CURTIS, and Mr. MERKLEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

JUNE ____ (legislative day, _____), 2026

Reported by Mr. KAINE, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To support United States investment opportunities, to strengthen bilateral collaboration in addressing criminal elements operating in the Brazilian Amazon, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Strengthening the Rule
3 of Law in the Brazilian Amazon Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) **CRIMES.**—The term “crimes” means—

7 (A) any crime related or contributing to
8 the illegal fishing and wildlife trade, illicit min-
9 ing, or illegal logging and land-clearing in the
10 Brazilian Amazon; and

11 (B) associated corruption, financial crimes,
12 and violent crimes.

13 (2) **INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITU-**
14 **TIONS.**—The term “international financial institu-

15 tions” means—

16 (A) the World Bank Group;

17 (B) the Inter-American Development Bank
18 Group; and

19 (C) the International Monetary Fund.

20 (3) **RELEVANT FEDERAL AGENCIES.**—The term
21 “relevant Federal agencies” means—

22 (A) the Department of State;

23 (B) the United States Agency for Inter-
24 national Development;

25 (C) the Department of Justice;

26 (D) the Department of the Treasury;

1 ~~(E)~~ the Department of Homeland Security;
2 ~~(F)~~ the Department of Agriculture;
3 ~~(G)~~ the National Aeronautics and Space
4 Administration;
5 ~~(H)~~ the Department of the Interior; and
6 ~~(I)~~ any other Federal agency that the
7 President determines is a relevant Federal
8 agency for purposes of this Act.

9 **SEC. 3. IDENTIFYING INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE**
10 **BRAZILIAN AMAZON.**

11 ~~(a)~~ BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT.—The Chief Executive
12 Officer of the United States International Development
13 Finance Corporation should consider placing a staff mem-
14 ber in Brazil with duties that include—

15 ~~(1)~~ identifying and implementing more sustain-
16 able and viable economic opportunities in the Bra-
17 zilian Amazon; and

18 ~~(2)~~ identifying possible investment risks and
19 mitigation measures related to operations and actors
20 that contribute to criminal activity in the Brazilian
21 Amazon.

22 ~~(b)~~ REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
23 of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Executive Officer
24 of the United States International Development Finance

1 Corporation shall submit a report to Congress that de-
2 scribes—

3 (1) the opportunities identified pursuant to sub-
4 section (a)(1); and

5 (2) the most significant barriers to greater in-
6 vestment in sustainable and viable economic oppor-
7 tunities in the Brazilian Amazon.

8 **SEC. 4. COMBATING CRIMINAL ELEMENTS OPERATING IN**
9 **THE BRAZILIAN AMAZON.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State should di-
11 rect the Assistant Secretary of State for International
12 Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, in coordination
13 with relevant Federal agencies and the United States mis-
14 sion in Brazil, to promote supporting Brazil's efforts to
15 identify and disrupt the complex and transnational crimi-
16 nal networks contributing to the destruction of commu-
17 nities and deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon by pro-
18 viding capacity building and technical assistance, includ-
19 ing—

20 (1) information sharing, training, and capacity-
21 building for Brazilian agencies, including through
22 United States Government agencies;

23 (2) collaborating on tracing funds generated
24 from crimes;

1 ~~(3) supporting investigations of crimes that are~~
2 ~~associated with deforestation, environmental deg-~~
3 ~~radation, money laundering, asset laundering, or~~
4 ~~corruption offenses;~~

5 ~~(4) assisting with the identification of the pro-~~
6 ~~ceeds of such crimes to help facilitate asset recovery;~~
7 ~~and~~

8 ~~(5) providing appropriate United States assist-~~
9 ~~ance to funding mechanisms consistent with the~~
10 ~~goals of this Act.~~

11 ~~(b) COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator of~~
12 ~~the United States Agency for International Development,~~
13 ~~in consultation with relevant Federal agencies, should pro-~~
14 ~~vide financial and technical assistance to help prevent~~
15 ~~crimes by promoting—~~

16 ~~(1) sustainable, lawful livelihoods in the Bra-~~
17 ~~zilian Amazon;~~

18 ~~(2) the protection of rights for Indigenous Peo-~~
19 ~~ples and local communities;~~

20 ~~(3) economic activities and natural resource~~
21 ~~management, including mining, sustainable agri-~~
22 ~~culture, and sustainable forest-based activities; and~~

23 ~~(4) the management of protected areas, includ-~~
24 ~~ing indigenous territories, buffer zones, water re-~~
25 ~~sources, terrestrial and aquatic habitats of species~~

1 deemed to be threatened by extinction, and other
2 spaces vulnerable to conversion and deforestation.

3 (c) ~~ANNUAL REPORT.~~—Not later than 180 days after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act and annually there-
5 after for the following 5 years, the Secretary of State, in
6 coordination with relevant Federal agencies and non-
7 governmental organizations, shall submit a report to Con-
8 gress that describes the progress made in carrying out
9 subsections (a) and (b).

10 (d) ~~AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.~~—There is
11 authorized to be appropriated to the Department of State
12 up to \$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2025
13 through 2028, which should be used to help Brazilian au-
14 thorities combat crimes in accordance with subsections (a)
15 and (b).

16 **SEC. 5. REPORT ON CERTAIN DRIVERS OF DEFORESTATION**
17 **AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION IN THE**
18 **BRAZILIAN AMAZON.**

19 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
20 ment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination
21 with relevant Federal agencies, shall submit a report to
22 Congress regarding certain drivers of deforestation and
23 environmental degradation in the Brazilian Amazon that
24 includes—

1 (1) a description of the agricultural commod-
2 ities, illegal timber, minerals, and wildlife entering
3 the United States market that are contributing to
4 deforestation and environmental degradation of the
5 Brazilian Amazon;

6 (2) a description of the role of the People's Re-
7 public of China's in facilitating illicit resource ex-
8 traction and environmental degradation, including
9 deforestation, in the Brazilian Amazon;

10 (3) the funding levels and efficacy of United
11 States foreign assistance programs in identifying
12 and disrupting the criminal elements operating in
13 the Brazilian Amazon; and

14 (4) an assessment of the Government of Bra-
15 zil's contributions to countering criminal elements
16 operating in the Brazilian Amazon.

17 **SEC. 6. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.**

18 Notwithstanding any other provision of law (includ-
19 ing any Executive order), the Secretary of the Treasury
20 should direct the United States executive director to each
21 international financial institution, in consultation with rel-
22 evant Federal agencies, to use the voice, vote, and influ-
23 ence of the United States—

1 (1) to prioritize promoting sustainable and
2 broad-based development in the Brazilian Amazon;
3 and

4 (2) to oppose any loans or programs at any
5 such institution that would facilitate or exacerbate
6 deforestation and environmental degradation in the
7 Brazilian Amazon.

8 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

9 *This Act may be cited as the “Strengthening the Rule*
10 *of Law in the Brazilian Amazon Act”.*

11 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

12 *In this Act:*

13 (1) *CRIMES.*—*The term “crimes” means—*

14 (A) *any crime related or contributing to the*
15 *illegal fishing and wildlife trade, illicit mining,*
16 *or illegal logging and land-clearing in the Bra-*
17 *zilian Amazon; and*

18 (B) *associated corruption, financial crimes,*
19 *and violent crimes.*

20 (2) *ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION.*—*The term*
21 *“environmental degradation” means physical damage*
22 *to land, water, or wildlife resources that results from*
23 *crimes described in paragraph (1).*

1 (3) *INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.*—

2 *The term “international financial institutions”*
3 *means—*

4 (A) *the World Bank Group;*

5 (B) *the Inter-American Development Bank*
6 *Group; and*

7 (C) *the International Monetary Fund.*

8 (4) *RELEVANT FEDERAL AGENCIES.*—*The term*
9 *“relevant Federal agencies” means—*

10 (A) *the Department of State; and*

11 (B) *other Federal departments and agencies*
12 *the President has designated as having signifi-*
13 *cant domestic or foreign affairs equities in iden-*
14 *tifying investment opportunities in the Brazilian*
15 *Amazon and combating criminal elements in the*
16 *Brazilian Amazon.*

17 **SEC. 3. IDENTIFYING INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE**
18 **BRAZILIAN AMAZON.**

19 (a) *BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT.*—*The Chief Executive*
20 *Officer of the United States International Development Fi-*
21 *nance Corporation should consider placing a staff member*
22 *in Brazil with duties that include—*

23 (1) *identifying and implementing more viable*
24 *economic opportunities in the Brazilian Amazon; and*

1 (2) *identifying possible investment risks and*
2 *mitigation measures related to operations and actors*
3 *that contribute to criminal activity in the Brazilian*
4 *Amazon.*

5 (b) *REPORT.*—*Not later than 180 days after the date*
6 *of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Executive Officer of*
7 *the United States International Development Finance Cor-*
8 *poration shall submit a report to Congress that describes—*

9 (1) *the opportunities identified pursuant to sub-*
10 *section (a)(1); and*

11 (2) *the most significant barriers to greater in-*
12 *vestment in sustainable and viable economic opportu-*
13 *nities in the Brazilian Amazon.*

14 **SEC. 4. COMBATING CRIMINAL ELEMENTS OPERATING IN**
15 **THE BRAZILIAN AMAZON.**

16 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary of State may direct*
17 *the Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics*
18 *and Law Enforcement Affairs, in coordination with rel-*
19 *evant Federal agencies and the United States mission in*
20 *Brazil, to support Brazil's efforts to identify and disrupt*
21 *the complex and transnational criminal networks contrib-*
22 *uting to the destruction of communities and deforestation*
23 *in the Brazilian Amazon by providing capacity building*
24 *and technical assistance, including—*

1 (1) *information sharing, training, and capacity-*
2 *building for Brazilian agencies, including through*
3 *United States Government agencies;*

4 (2) *collaborating on tracing funds generated*
5 *from crimes;*

6 (3) *supporting investigations of crimes that are*
7 *associated with deforestation, environmental degrada-*
8 *tion, money laundering, asset laundering, or corrup-*
9 *tion offenses;*

10 (4) *assisting with the identification of the pro-*
11 *ceeds of such crimes to help facilitate asset recovery;*
12 *and*

13 (5) *providing appropriate United States assist-*
14 *ance to funding mechanisms consistent with the goals*
15 *of this Act.*

16 (b) *COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of State,*
17 *in consultation with relevant Federal agencies, should pro-*
18 *vide financial and technical assistance to help prevent*
19 *crimes by promoting—*

20 (1) *lawful livelihoods in the Brazilian Amazon;*

21 (2) *the economic, social, and political advance-*
22 *ment of local communities, including internationally*
23 *recognized human rights in Afro-descendent and in-*
24 *igenous communities;*

1 (3) *economic activities and natural resource*
2 *management, including mining, agriculture, and for-*
3 *est-based activities; and*

4 (4) *the management of protected areas, including*
5 *indigenous territories, buffer zones, water resources,*
6 *terrestrial and aquatic habitats of species deemed to*
7 *be threatened by extinction, and other spaces vulner-*
8 *able to conversion and deforestation.*

9 (c) *ANNUAL REPORT.*—*Not later than 180 days after*
10 *the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter*
11 *for the following 5 years, the Secretary of State, in coordi-*
12 *nation with relevant Federal agencies and nongovernmental*
13 *organizations, shall submit a report to Congress that de-*
14 *scribes the progress made in carrying out subsections (a)*
15 *and (b).*

16 **SEC. 5. REPORT ON CERTAIN DRIVERS OF DEFORESTATION**
17 **AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION IN THE**
18 **BRAZILIAN AMAZON.**

19 *Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment*
20 *of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with rel-*
21 *evant Federal agencies, shall submit a report to Congress*
22 *regarding certain drivers of deforestation and environ-*
23 *mental degradation in the Brazilian Amazon that in-*
24 *cludes—*

1 (1) *a description of the agricultural commodities,*
2 *illegal timber, minerals, and wildlife entering the*
3 *United States market that are contributing to defor-*
4 *estation and environmental degradation of the Bra-*
5 *zilian Amazon;*

6 (2) *a description of the role of the People's Re-*
7 *public of China's in facilitating illicit resource ex-*
8 *traction and environmental degradation, including*
9 *deforestation, in the Brazilian Amazon;*

10 (3) *the funding levels and efficacy of United*
11 *States foreign assistance programs in identifying and*
12 *disrupting the criminal elements operating in the*
13 *Brazilian Amazon; and*

14 (4) *an assessment of the Government of Brazil's*
15 *contributions to countering criminal elements oper-*
16 *ating in the Brazilian Amazon.*

17 **SEC. 6. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.**

18 *The Secretary of the Treasury should direct the United*
19 *States executive director to each international financial in-*
20 *stitution, in consultation with relevant Federal agencies, to*
21 *use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States—*

22 (1) *to prioritize promoting broad-based develop-*
23 *ment in the Brazilian Amazon; and*

24 (2) *to oppose any loans or programs at any such*
25 *institution that would facilitate or exacerbate defor-*

- 1 *estation and environmental degradation in the Bra-*
- 2 *zilian Amazon.*