



## Talking Points for Global Magnitsky Bill

- This is to be a *global* law and its name should reflect that. It should be called the Global Human Rights Accountability Act." Removing that single word, Magnitsky, would not only affirm its global application but would be a major step toward repairing a major strain in US-Russian relations.
- Changing the name of this well-meaning law will *not change* its substance or intended purpose, namely holding Russian officials responsible for human rights violations. And in fact it will expand the scope and understanding of its coverage.
- This minor change can produce a tangible and valuable immediate benefit of lifting restrictions on American families seeking to adopt Russian orphans.
- Magnitsky was not a whistle blower. He was an accountant – not a lawyer -- working for American-born British businessman Bill Browder, who was convicted by a Russian court for tax evasion.
- When this law was passed in 2012, was believed at the time that Sergei Magnitsky had been arrested for exposing a fraud involving Russian police and tax officials, and that he was killed to cover up the crime. New evidence, however, suggests he was not the whistleblower.