

that are used against American troops and our allies and will make it more difficult to transfer these weapons to Russia and other proxies.

American equipment, technology, and other know-how under no circumstance should be transferred to Iran. The Iranian regime is relentlessly evil and seeks to become the superpower in the Middle East, which means eliminating America and its allies at all costs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this bill as it extends the foreign-direct product rule to Iran, which restricts the re-export or transfer of U.S.-originated items from one foreign country to Iran.

Iran and its terrorist proxies continue to sow instability on a global scale. We must take urgent action to restrict Iran's access to technology that it uses to manufacture lethal missiles and drones.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in strong support of H.R. 6603.

This past weekend, Mr. Speaker, Iran launched more than 350 drones and ballistic missiles toward our ally Israel, an attack largely thwarted by the Israeli Defense Forces, alongside American, British, French, Jordanian, and other partner militaries. Nevertheless, the attack demonstrated Iran's airborne capacity and domestic drone and missile capabilities. Iran has not only launched its drones at Israel, but they have provided them to Russia for use in Putin's illegal war in Ukraine.

The administration has implemented numerous export controls to prevent American materials from being sent to Iran for use in their drone program. It has been an interagency priority to help ensure our technologies do not wind up in the hands of the enemy.

To that end, the Bureau of Industry and Security has imposed a foreign-direct product rule, BIS' most powerful tool, to prevent the production and proliferation of Iranian drones and missiles.

□ 1500

The legislation before us now, the No Technology for Terror Act introduced by my colleagues, Mr. MORAN and Mr. MCCAUL, makes permanent certain U.S. export control restrictions on American-made drones technology, and would be the first instance ever of codifying a foreign-direct product rule.

During markup of this bill, the bill was improved to include exceptions to ensure it does not unintentionally prevent the sale of humanitarian goods such as food and medicine. The bill also contains a national interest waiver to provide the executive branch greater flexibility in minimizing the export control's humanitarian impact and maximizing our leverage against Iran. A waiver also provides Iran an incentive to stop its malignant conduct,

cease its nuclear ambitions, and end its funding for terrorism.

While it is a big deal to codify a foreign-direct product rule, Iran's conduct and the flexibility built into the legislation warrant my support and the support of all the Members of this House.

So, Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives MORAN and Chairman MCCAUL for their good-faith efforts to make this bill a bipartisan bill, and I encourage my colleagues to join with me in supporting this measure.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, Iran's weaponized drone program is a threat to our allies, Israel and Ukraine, and to United States national security. This legislation codifies the Biden administration's export control restrictions to prohibit United States-made technology and software from being transferred to Iran, preventing that technology from being used in the manufacturing of Iranian drones.

I thank Representative MORAN and Chairman MCCAUL for introducing this legislation and for working in the good-faith, bipartisan manner that we often do on this committee so that we can make this legislation as effective and flexible as it needs to be.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 6603, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, first, I thank the ranking member for his support and his work on this bill as well.

Mr. Speaker, we must continue to work together to do all that we can to address Iran's ongoing proliferation of lethal drones and missiles. From Israel to Ukraine, we see the devastating impacts of failing to do so.

In order to safeguard our national security and innocent civilians around the world, we need to make sure that U.S.-origin goods are not helping Iran manufacture deadly weapons. That is what this bill, the No Technology for Terror Act, does.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, H.R. 6603, the No Technology for Terror Act, to stop supplying goods to Iran that are used against us.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MORAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6603, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

NO PAYDAYS FOR HOSTAGE-TAKERS ACT

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5826) to require a report on sanctions under the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5826

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "No Paydays for Hostage-Takers Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Islamic Republic of Iran has a long history of hostage-taking and wrongful detention of United States nationals, including its illegal detention of 52 American diplomats from 1979 to 1981.

(2) The Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741 et seq.), named in honor of Robert Levinson, the longest-held hostage in United States history who is presumed to have been killed by the regime while in Iranian custody, authorizes sanctions with respect to foreign persons who are responsible for or complicit in hostage-taking or unlawful or wrongful detention of United States nationals abroad.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It shall be the policy of the United States to undertake additional actions and impose strict penalties to deter the Government of Iran and other hostile governments and non-state actors from hostage-taking or wrongfully detaining United States nationals.

SEC. 4. REPORT AND CERTIFICATION ON RESTRICTED IRANIAN FUNDS RELEASED TO QATAR.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter for 6 years, the President shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate the following:

(1) A report on the \$6,000,000,000 in funds transferred from restricted Iranian accounts in the Republic of South Korea to restricted accounts in Qatar on or after August 9, 2023.

(2) A certification as to whether credible evidence or intelligence exists that any of the funds transferred have been used for any purpose other than humanitarian purposes.

(3) A certification as to whether credible evidence or intelligence exists that the funds transferred have enabled the Government of Iran to increase spending on defense, intelligence, or malign foreign activities.

(b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required by subsection (a)(1) shall include the following:

(1) An itemized list of all transactions involving the use of funds transferred, including the value of such transactions, the parties to such transactions, the financial institutions involved, the goods purchased in each transaction, the destinations and end user of such goods, the date on which the United States was notified of such transaction, and the date the transaction occurred.

(2) The quantity of funds described in subsection (a)(1) in restricted accounts in Qatar at the beginning and end of each reporting period.

(3) A thorough description of the process the United States Government utilized during the reporting period to review transactions involving the use of funds transferred in order to verify that such transactions were humanitarian in nature.

SEC. 5. REVIEW AND DETERMINATION AND REPORTS ON SANCTIONS UNDER THE ROBERT LEVINSON HOSTAGE RECOVERY AND HOSTAGE-TAKING ACCOUNTABILITY ACT.

(a) REVIEW AND DETERMINATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and on an annual basis thereafter for 6 years, the President shall—

(1) review all cases of the hostage-taking of a United States national in Iran or at the direction of the Government of Iran and all cases of the unlawful or wrongful detention of a United States national in Iran or at the direction of the Government of Iran that have occurred during the preceding 10-year period; and

(2) make a determination as to whether any foreign person, based on credible evidence—

(A) is responsible for or complicit in, or responsible for ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing, the hostage-taking of the United States national or the unlawful or wrongful detention of the United States national; or

(B) knowingly provides financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services in support of, an activity described in subparagraph (A).

(b) REPORTS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and on an annual basis thereafter for 6 years, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that—

(1) identifies all foreign persons with respect to which the President has made a determination under subsection (a)(2); and

(2) with respect to each such foreign person—

(A) states whether sanctions have been imposed under section 306 of the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741d) or will be imposed within 30 days of the date of the submission of the report; and

(B) for whom sanctions have not been imposed or will not be imposed under section 306 of such Act, provides a description of the specific authority under which otherwise applicable sanctions are being waived, have otherwise been determined not to apply, or are not being imposed and a complete justification of the decision to waive or otherwise not apply the sanctions authorized by such sanctions programs and authorities.

SEC. 6. REQUIREMENT TO LIMIT TRAVEL OF IRANIAN DIPLOMATS AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) United States visa restrictions on sanctioned individuals often contain exceptions for activities in order to permit the United States to comply with the Agreement regarding the headquarters of the United Nations signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States.

(2) Section 6 of Public Law 80-357 (commonly known as the “United Nations Headquarters Agreement Act”) provides “Nothing in the agreement shall be construed as in any way diminishing, abridging, or weakening the right of the United States to safeguard its own security.”

(3) Congress has directed the President to use the President’s authority, including the authorities contained in section 6 of Public Law 80-357, to deny any individual’s admission to the United States as a representative

to the United Nations if the President determines that such individual has been found to have been engaged in espionage activities or a terrorist activity directed against the United States or its allies and may pose a threat to United States national security interests.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that Iran’s longstanding hostage-taking and wrongful detention of United States nationals, assassination plots against United States nationals outside and within the United States, and intelligence activities are a security or terrorist threat to the United States and United States interests and shall be a primary consideration in limiting travel of Iranian diplomats seeking admission to the United States for United Nations activities and their family members.

(c) DENIAL OF VISAS.—Section 407(a)(1) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1990 and 1991 (8 U.S.C. 1102 note) is amended—

(1) by striking “(1)” and inserting “(1)(A)”;
(2) by striking “and” at the end and inserting “or”; and

(3) by adding further at the end the following:

“(B) has been sanctioned pursuant to Executive Order 13224 (66 Fed. Reg. 49079; relating to blocking property and prohibiting transactions with persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism) or Executive Order 13382 (70 Fed. Reg. 38567; relating to blocking property of weapons of mass destruction proliferators and their supporters) as of the date of the enactment of the No Paydays for Hostage-Takers Act; and”.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 3 years, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on whether the President has taken action to restrict the travel of Iranian diplomats seeking admission to the United States for United Nations activities and their family members and identifying each such instance in which visas were denied or travel was restricted.

SEC. 7. REPORT ON BLOCKED IRANIAN ASSETS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 3 years, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes the following:

(1) An itemized list of any identifiable assets with a valuation of more than \$100,000 belonging to Iranian individuals and entities that are or have been blocked or otherwise frozen pursuant to any sanctions program under any jurisdiction globally, in the prior 2 years.

(2) Any changes to the status of such assets, including unblocking, unfreezing, or transferring such assets, in the prior 2 years.

(3) With respect to any changes identified in paragraph (2), whether the United States Government took any action, including waiving of sanctions, that related to such unblocking or unfreezing, and a justification for any such United States actions.

SEC. 8. REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO FREEZE AND SEIZE IRANIAN ASSETS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Attorney General should, to the extent practicable—

(1) carry out a coordinated international effort to find, restrain, freeze, and where appropriate and legally authorized, seize, confiscate or forfeit the assets of those individuals and entities that have been sanctioned in connection with Iran’s malign activities, including hostage-taking, wrongful detention, and human rights violations; and

(2) work with foreign governments—

(A) to share intelligence of financial investigations, as appropriate;

(B) to oversee the assets identified pursuant to paragraph (1); and

(C) to provide technical assistance to help governments establish the necessary legal framework to carry out asset forfeitures.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 3 years, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on actions described in subsection (a).

SEC. 9. DETERMINATION AND REPORT ON INVALIDATING UNITED STATES PASSPORTS FOR TRAVEL TO IRAN.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Secretary of State maintains authority to restrict the use of United States passports for travel to or use in a country or area which the Secretary has determined is a country or area in which there is imminent danger to the public health or physical safety of United States travelers, in accordance with section 51.63 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations.

(2) In 2017, the Secretary of State declared United States passports invalid for travel to, in, or through North Korea, unless specially validated for such travel, after United States citizen Otto Warmbier suffered grievous injuries in North Korean custody, which led to his death.

(3) The ban on use of United States passports for travel to North Korea was renewed in 2023.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of State should declare United States passports invalid for travel to, in, or through Iran due to the imminent danger to the public health and physical safety of United States travelers stemming from the threat of wrongful detention or being taken hostage by the Iranian regime.

(c) DETERMINATION AND REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act and annually thereafter for 3 years, the Secretary of State shall determine and report to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate—

(1) whether the travel of United States persons to Iran presents an imminent danger to the public health or physical safety of United States travelers; and

(2) whether the Secretary is exercising his authority to declare United States passports invalid for travel to, in, or through Iran.

SEC. 10. STRATEGY TO DETER HOSTAGE-TAKING.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall develop and submit to Congress a strategy to deter and prevent wrongful detention and hostage-taking by United States adversaries, including identifying penalties for wrongful detention and hostage-taking, identifying clear United States Government policies barring the payment of ransom or transactions that could be viewed as ransom by the United States Government, and detailing plans to coordinate with United States allies and partners on such strategy.

SEC. 11. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate.

(2) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign person”—

(A) means an individual or entity that is not a United States person; and

(B) includes a foreign state (as such term is defined in section 1603 of title 28, United States Code).

(3) UNITED STATES NATIONAL.—The term “United States national” has the meaning given that term in section 307(2) of the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741e(2)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FULCHER). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the No Paydays for Hostage-Takers Act.

For 45 years, the outrageous regime in Tehran has kidnapped American hostages. It is a cruel, yet consistent, part of this bloodthirsty regime's character. Iran utilizes hostage-taking as a negotiating tactic and a funding mechanism. In doing so, Iran repeatedly victimizes innocent Americans and their families who endure years of false accusations, wretched conditions, and separation. No one deserves this treatment. Iranian Americans are very successful and appreciated in America, and all Americans equally appreciate the oppressed people of Iran.

Unfortunately, both the Obama and Biden administrations have made the catastrophic mistake of cutting financial deals with Iran in order to free hostages. Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, Iran sees dollar signs whenever it sees American passports. It knows it can take innocent Americans, hold them in prison for years, and see a windfall at the end. This is the same tactic of war criminal Putin, kidnapping Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich.

In 2016, the Obama administration ignorantly capitulated a \$1.7 billion ransom to Iran, including a \$400 million payment in pallets of cash at the same time that Iran released four U.S. hostages.

At the time, many warned that if the United States Government would pay for hostages, then Iran would keep taking them and demand a higher and higher price.

Sure enough, in the next 7 years, Iran continued to hold and collect more American hostages. These people suffered away from their families and were deprived of their liberty for years

until last summer, the Biden administration cut a deal to secure their freedom by granting loan access to \$6 billion in sanctioned funds used to murder Iranians and to murder Americans, such as the three Army Reservists from Georgia killed on January 28 of this year.

Some might claim that these funds are only for humanitarian goods. First, this naively puts too much trust in a regime skilled at sanctions evasion and other forms of illicit finance. Second, money is fungible, and this deal freed up \$6 billion in funds for the regime to finance its military program, terrorist proxies, nuclear activities, and repression.

Right now, Iran is incentivized to keep taking hostages. They keep benefiting.

That is why today we are considering my bipartisan bill to ensure that Iran never again profits from taking American hostages. This bill imposes sanctions on Iranian officials identified as being responsible for or complicit in taking American citizens hostage. It also greatly limits the travel of Iranian diplomats at the U.N. They should not be allowed to come here and gallivant around the New York metropolitan area while innocent Americans languish in Iranian prisons.

It also requires a detailed report to give Congress full visibility on how Iran is using the \$6 billion so that the American people's elected Representatives can conduct thorough oversight of these funds.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this important bill to protect Americans from Iran's brutal hostage-taking, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, March 20, 2024.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: I write regarding H.R. 5826, the No Paydays for Hostage-Takers Act. Provisions of this bill fall within the Judiciary Committee's Rule X jurisdiction, and I appreciate that you consulted with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee agrees that it shall be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

The Committee takes this action with the understanding that forgoing further consideration of this measure does not in any way alter the Committee's jurisdiction or waive any future jurisdictional claim over these provisions or their subject matter. We also reserve the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees in the event of a conference with the Senate involving this measure or similar legislation.

I ask that you please include this letter in your committee's report to accompany this legislation or insert this letter in the *Congressional Record* during consideration of H.R. 5826 on the House floor. I appreciate the cooperative manner in which our committees have worked on this matter, and I look forward to working collaboratively in the fu-

ture on matters of shared jurisdiction. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Sincerely,

JIM JORDAN,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 3, 2024.

Hon. JIM JORDAN,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN JORDAN: Thank you for consulting with the Foreign Affairs Committee and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5826, the No Paydays for Hostage-Takers Act, so that the measure may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on this bill into the *Congressional Record* during floor consideration. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,
MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5826, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I appreciate the intent of this measure brought to the floor by my friend and colleague from South Carolina, Representative WILSON, which is to help better prevent hostile governments such as Iran from taking Americans hostage or wrongfully detaining them overseas.

I believe Democrats and Republicans must work together and ensure the State Department has all the resources and authorities from Congress that it needs to bring Americans home who have been unjustly held abroad and to offer them the support they need when they return home.

I understand and agree with my colleague's intent to disincentivize bad behavior by hostile actors, and to make clear to anyone who would wrongfully detain any of our citizens that it will not be tolerated.

However, I am concerned that some of the messages sent in this bill risk undermining our key partners in the battle to protect American citizens. I want to make sure the State Department's Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs is given the latitude to negotiate and get the job done.

I would like to offer my appreciation to the SPEHA team for the hard and difficult work it continues to undertake on behalf of the American people. We need to empower that office and the families of wrongful detainees that rely on its vital assistance and advocacy, not inadvertently burden it with extensive reporting or overly restrictive policy prescriptions.

I also want to be certain we do not restrict the freedom of movement of

Americans, something that is fundamental to our liberty and, specifically, the impact such a move would have on hundreds of thousands of Iranian Americans who expect our government, unlike the regime in Tehran, to respect their fundamental rights.

That is why I am glad the language on the issue has been made nonbinding, and I really appreciate Representative WILSON working with us on this bill and the effort to make sure that the United States Government's approach on hostages and wrongful detention is smart and effective. We have worked together to achieve this.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I encourage my colleagues to join in supporting this measure. Again, we must do everything we can to prevent Americans from being illegally detained abroad.

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank Mr. WILSON from South Carolina for introducing this bill. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5826, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I am grateful for the leadership of MICHAEL MCCAUL, the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and the ranking member, GREG MEEKS. Those of us in South Carolina are always happy to point out his South Carolina heritage as he now ably represents Queens, but we remember his heritage of Rock Hill, and we appreciate his success.

This legislation is so important to strike back against Iran's decades-long strategy of taking innocent Americans hostage to the House floor today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5826, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1515

SOLIDIFY IRAN SANCTIONS ACT OF 2023

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3033) to repeal the sunset provision of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3033

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Solidify Iran Sanctions Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) requires the imposition of sanctions with respect to Iran's illicit weapons programs, conventional weapons and ballistic missile development, and support for terrorism, including Iran's Revolutionary Guards Corps.

(2) The Government of Iran has acquired destabilizing conventional weapons systems from the Russian Federation and other malign actors, and is funneling weapons and financial support to its terrorist proxies throughout the Middle East, threatening allies and partners of the United States, such as Israel.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States to fully implement and enforce the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note).

SEC. 4. REPEAL OF SUNSET.

Section 13 of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking "SUNSET";

(2) by striking "(a) EFFECTIVE DATE.—"; and

(3) by striking subsection (b).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, for 27 years, this law, the Iran Sanctions Act, enacted in 1996, has been the foundation of our pressure campaign to compel Iran to abandon its ballistic missile development and support for terrorism.

In the intervening years, these sanctions have been expanded as the threat posed by the Iranian nuclear program and other malign activities become increasingly obvious and pressing. What we saw this weekend is that these sanctions are more necessary than ever.

Iran, for the first time ever, has launched a direct attack on Israel, firing over 300 missiles and drones directly at Israel. Thankfully, 99 percent of these weapons were intercepted by Israel, the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and Jordan.

Iran has the largest ballistic missile arsenal in the Middle East. It is not

amassing these weapons for show. It is amassing these weapons to use them, just as they gruesomely did this weekend.

At the same time, Iran is pressing forward with its provocative nuclear program, expanding its stockpile of near-weapons-grade enriched uranium and refusing to cooperate in the dispute with the IAEA.

Iranian terrorist puppets are showing the world the destructive capabilities they have gained from years of Iranian support. Hamas launched its October 7 massacre that murdered over 1,200 innocent people in Israel, Hezbollah in Lebanon launched nearly daily attacks on Israel's northern border, and the Houthis in Yemen are lobbing missiles and UAVs at ships in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. Additionally, Iran is selling these dangerous weapons to war criminal Putin to fuel his murderous war against the people of Ukraine.

The threat Iran poses to the United States and our allies is growing more and more entrenched. We need a policy response that is durable and shows that we are committed day in and day out to choking off any financial support to the Iranian malign activities.

Today, that is why the House is considering the Solidify Iran Sanctions Act, which would eliminate the upcoming 2026 sunset from the Iran Sanctions Act. We need to send Iran a clear and simple message: You cannot just wait out the sanctions. The sanctions will not expire on some arbitrary date. The only way to make the U.S. sanctions go away is to stop sanctionable conduct and not be a threat to the United States and our allies, period.

The fact that we are considering this bill under suspension of the rules is hugely important. It shows that eliminating this sunset is not controversial. Republicans and Democrats agree that we need durable, long-term pressure on Iran.

This bill passed out of the Foreign Affairs Committee unanimously, and I am grateful that it is being considered on the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, July 17, 2023.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: I write regarding H.R. 3033, the Solidify Iran Sanctions Act of 2023. Provisions of this bill fall within the Judiciary Committee's Rule X jurisdiction, and I appreciate that you consulted with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee agrees that it shall be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

The Committee takes this action with the understanding that forgoing further consideration of this measure does not in any way alter the Committee's jurisdiction or waive any future jurisdictional claim over these provisions or their subject matter. We also reserve the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees in the event