

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.

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#### 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

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. 3033 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 future 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, July 24, 2023.*

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. 3033, the Solidify Iran Sanctions Act of 2023, 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.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,  
*Washington, DC, April 14, 2024.*

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

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Financial Services regarding H.R. 3033, the Solidify Iran Sanctions Act of 2023. I agree that the Committee 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 mutual understanding that, by foregoing consideration of H.R. 3033 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that the Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved on this or similar legislation as it moves forward. The Committee also reserves the right to see appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any conference with the Senate involving this or similar legislation, and we request your support for any such request.

Finally, as you mentioned in your letter, I ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this bill be included in your Committee's report to accompany the legislation, as well as in the Congressional Record during floor consideration.

Sincerely,

PATRICK MCHENRY,  
*Chairman, Committee on Financial Services.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, DC, April 14, 2024.*

Hon. PATRICK MCHENRY,  
*Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCHENRY: Thank you for consulting with the Foreign Affairs Committee and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3033, the Solidify Iran Sanctions Act of 2023, 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 yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3033. For the past 26 years, Congress and the executive branch have worked together to put pressure on Iran's energy sector to deny Iran funds for implementing its nefarious nuclear program and state-sponsored terror activities.

The Iran Sanctions Act, or ISA, originally passed into law in 1996 and has been the key statutory element undergirding our sanctions infrastructure.

Since 1996, Congress has built upon this legislation multiple times and has expanded the list of transactions that are considered violations of the ISA. These sanctions, combined with sanctions on Iran's financial system and petroleum transactions, and together with aggressive diplomacy, are what drove Iran to the negotiating table to finalize the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

The JCPOA effectively shut off every pathway to an Iranian nuclear weapon before it was unwisely torn down in 2018, leaving us in the dangerous position we are now in.

The ISA is the only major Iran sanctions statute that contains a sunset provision. In general, sunset provisions have value. They force Congress to re-evaluate and reconsider sanctions to adjust to new situations.

Therefore, we must all ask ourselves an important question: Under what circumstances can Congress envision the necessity of abandoning our sanctions infrastructure while this regime is in power? Even in the instance a new Iran deal is reached and successfully implemented, I believe we would want this sanctions infrastructure in place, just as it was under the JCPOA, so that Iran and the international community knows what awaits them if progress is not made.

Furthermore, if Congress loses this sanctions infrastructure, we will be ceding even more of our authority to the executive branch of government, who will solely rely on its executive powers to implement sanctions unbound by the program developed by the United States Congress.

This legislation sends an important message. It protects an important statute, and it serves the interests of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. STEEL), a member of the Committee on Ways and Means and the author of this legislation.

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge passage of my bill, the Solidify Iran Sanctions Act.

The Iranian regime poses one of the greatest threats to peace throughout the Middle East and the world. They are a state sponsor of terrorism. The Houthis, who Iran backs, are terrorizing ships throughout the Red Sea. They are funding Hamas. They are a sworn enemy of America, and their number one goal is to destroy Israel.

Even more troubling, they are doing everything possible to build a nuclear weapon. Iran's deplorable attack on Israel demands consequences.

The Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 is set to expire in 2026. There should be no sunset date to stop funding for Iran-backed terrorism throughout the world. The Solidify Iran Sanctions Act does what it says, solidifies those sanctions, making them permanent.

The people of Israel, American soldiers, and innocent people throughout the Middle East should not live in fear of the Iranian regime and their terror. We must act now.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman MCCAUL and Congresswoman SUSIE LEE for their leadership and partnership on this important issue, and I urge all my colleagues to vote "yes."

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) for yielding me time.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3033 reinforces our existing sanctions infrastructure, eliminating the sunset provision of the original Iran Sanctions Act of 1996.

Although I believe that sunset clauses are important, previous provisions in U.S. sanctions-related legislation compelling Congress to reassess sanctions, the ISA is the only major Iran-related sanctions statute with a sunset clause.

Even if the United States does manage to negotiate a new Iran deal to end Tehran's nuclear weapons program, the ISA is an important deterrent and reminder to Iran what awaits should they rescind the deal.

Additionally, losing the ISA at any point would only further cede more

power to the executive branch of government with its executive powers to implement sanctions.

Therefore, I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3033, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, just 2 days ago, the world was sadly stunned by the Iranian unprecedented attack on the civilian population of Israel. The regime in Tehran is committed to threatening the United States and our ally Israel.

Iran is not going to voluntarily stop sponsoring the puppets that they have of Hezbollah, the Houthis, or Hamas. They are not going to give up their missiles and drones out of the goodness of their hearts. They are most certainly not going to stop their nuclear program. They truly do believe and chant in their parliament, in English: "Death to Israel. Death to America."

The Iran threat is wide-ranging and multifaceted, and the Iran Sanctions Act is a foundation of tools to combat it. We know this threat isn't going away anytime soon, so let's stop fooling ourselves that a sunset makes any sense on these provisions.

Madam Speaker, I am grateful to have the bipartisan support with Ranking Member GREG MEEKS, working with Chairman MIKE MCCAUL, and that we are here today.

I urge my colleagues to join in bringing our statutes in line with the strategic reality on the ground.

Madam Speaker, additionally, Representative MICHELLE STEEL is to be appreciated. Even before the attacks took place, she brought this issue up to address the murderous conduct of the regime in Tehran.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. STEEL). 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. 3033.

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. Madam 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.

**URGING THE EUROPEAN UNION TO EXPEDITIOUSLY DESIGNATE THE ISLAMIC REVOLUTIONARY GUARD CORPS AS A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION UNDER COMMON POSITION 931, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the

rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 288) urging the European Union to expeditiously designate the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a terrorist organization under Common Position 931, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 288

Whereas the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and its Basij paramilitary force have been used by Ayatollahs Khomeini and Khamenei to maintain the Iranian regime's power;

Whereas the IRGC Basij have been used to quash numerous protests and democratic uprisings in Iran, including the Green Movement;

Whereas the IRGC Basij continue to perpetrate wide-scale human rights abuses inside Iran, including against women, children, and minorities;

Whereas the IRGC Basij are actively suppressing the ongoing protests sparked by the death of Mahsa Amini and calls for the regime to be toppled;

Whereas the IRGC Basij are responding to these demonstrations with violence, arrests, and murder, including the arrest of journalists covering these protests;

Whereas the IRGC trains, funds, arms, and shares intelligence with dangerous proxy forces throughout the Middle East and abroad, including Hezbollah, Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ), the Houthis, and Kata'ib Hezbollah, which have targeted civilians and both Europeans and Americans;

Whereas the IRGC continues to provide critical support to Bashar al-Assad and his autocratic regime in Syria;

Whereas the IRGC is actively fueling Russian President Vladimir Putin's illegal war of aggression against Ukraine through the provision of hundreds of lethal kamikaze drones and overseeing plans for the construction of a new factory in Russia with the capacity to produce thousands of Iranian-designed drones;

Whereas the Iranian-assisted Russian war of aggression poses a direct threat to European security and sovereignty;

Whereas the IRGC has targeted dissidents around the world, including throughout Europe;

Whereas the IRGC Quds Force is responsible for Iranian extraterritorial operations, and they likely played a key role in Iranian assassinations in the Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, France, Germany, Bulgaria, and Cyprus in recent years;

Whereas the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, France, Denmark, and Albania have all either arrested or expelled Iranian Government officials implicated in terrorist or assassination plots in their respective countries;

Whereas the IRGC engaged in a murder-for-hire plot to target former National Security Advisor John Bolton and former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo for their efforts targeting the IRGC and killing IRGC-Quds Force Commander Qasem Soleimani;

Whereas the IRGC was designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization by the United States in 2019;

Whereas Iran executed British-Iranian national Alireza Akbari and as a result the United Kingdom is considering designating the IRGC as a terrorist organization;

Whereas in response to the European Union's consideration of designating the IRGC a terrorist organization, IRGC Commander Hossein Salami has threatened European countries;

Whereas the European Parliament in January 2023 voted 598 to 9 in favor of designating the IRGC as a terrorist organization as part of its annual foreign and security policy report;

Whereas the European Parliament also in January 2023 voted overwhelmingly in favor of separate Iran-focused resolution that called for designating the IRGC as a terrorist organization;

Whereas thus far the European Union has only sanctioned individual members and leaders of the IRGC as terrorists but have not yet designated the IRGC in its entirety;

Whereas under European Council Common Position of December 27, 2001, on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism (2001/931/CFSP) (in this preamble referred to as "Common Position 931"), the European Union can designate terrorist organizations if "a decision has been taken by a competent authority" that they are a terrorist organization;

Whereas under Council Common Position 931 on combating terrorism, the European Union defines "competent authority" to include "a judicial authority";

Whereas proposals for terrorist organization designations by the European Union can come from third-party countries, including the United States; and

Whereas previous Department of Justice investigations and convictions provide the European Union sufficient proof under Common Position 931: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This resolution may be cited as the "Encouraging the European Union to Determine that the European Union Should Sanction the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps Now As a Terrorist Entity Resolution" or the "Encouraging the EU to DESIGNATE Resolution".

#### SEC. 2. EUROPEAN UNION DESIGNATION OF IRGC AS A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.

The House of Representatives—

(1) urges the European Union to expeditiously designate the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a terrorist organization under Common Position of December 27, 2001, on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism (2001/931/CFSP);

(2) encourages the Biden administration make European Union designation of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a terrorist organization a diplomatic priority in engagements with the European Union; and

(3) welcomes the efforts of the international community to designate the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a terrorist organization.

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. Madam 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. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution calling on the European