

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4290

To impose certain requirements relating to the renegotiation or reentry into the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action or other agreement relating to Iran’s nuclear program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 24, 2022

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. CRAMER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To impose certain requirements relating to the renegotiation or reentry into the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action or other agreement relating to Iran’s nuclear program, 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 “Iran China Account-
5 ability Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Ac-
2 tion provided Iran with more than
3 \$100,000,000,000 in sanctions relief, circumventing
4 mandatory sanctions imposed pursuant to Acts of
5 Congress.

6 (2) In 2016, the United States delivered
7 \$400,000,000 in cash to Iran.

8 (3) On May 8, 2018, the United States with-
9 drew from the disastrous Joint Comprehensive Plan
10 of Action and implemented a campaign of maximum
11 economic pressure on Iran until the regime—

12 (A) ends its nuclear program, its pursuit
13 of ballistic missiles, and its support of terrorism
14 and regional destabilization; and

15 (B) releases all United States hostages.

16 (4) Iran and the People’s Republic of China
17 signed a 25-year strategic economic cooperation
18 agreement on March 27, 2021. The relationship be-
19 tween the 2 countries is a strategic partnership that
20 aims to advance the People’s Republic of China’s in-
21 fluence in the Middle East.

22 (5) The strategic economic cooperation agree-
23 ment involves a transfer of \$400,000,000,000 from
24 the Chinese Communist Party to the Government of
25 Iran.

1 (6) The Chinese Communist Party is commit-
2 ting an ongoing genocide against Uyghur Muslims in
3 the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and sup-
4 pressing religious freedom throughout the People's
5 Republic of China.

6 (7) The Chinese Communist Party is also sup-
7 pressing religious freedom by arbitrarily imprisoning
8 Christians, raiding house churches, and attempting
9 to shut down houses of worship not endorsed by the
10 Government of the People's Republic of China.

11 (8) The Government of Iran is perpetrating vio-
12 lence against its own people, including through the
13 killing of protesters and the persecution of women
14 and religious minorities. It is also involved in severe
15 violations of human rights throughout the Middle
16 East, including supporting the brutal regime of
17 Bashar al-Assad in Syria.

18 (9) Since 2021, the People's Republic of China
19 has increased illicit oil purchases from Iran. Such oil
20 purchases would be permitted if the United States
21 lifts sanctions with respect to Iran and re-enters the
22 failed Iran nuclear deal. The People's Republic of
23 China remains Iran's largest oil customer.

1 (10) A portion of the oil that the People’s Re-
2 public of China buys from Iran (and from other sup-
3 pliers) might be transshipped to North Korea.

4 (11) The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action
5 required that the United Nations arms embargo on
6 Iran expire in October 2020, which would have per-
7 mitted the People’s Republic of China to sell arms
8 to Iran, and permits Iran to sell arms to China.

9 (12) The United States Government unequivoco-
10 cally condemns the Hamas-incited terrorist attacks
11 originating from Israeli land currently occupied by
12 Hamas.

13 (13) The United States Government recognizes
14 Israel’s right to defend itself from Hamas-incited
15 terrorist attacks.

16 (14) President Joseph R. Biden has sought to
17 rejoin the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action or a
18 similar agreement, including undertaking talks with
19 Iran and the other parties to the Joint Comprehen-
20 sive Plan of Action in Vienna, Austria. Those talks
21 are ongoing as of May 2022.

22 (15) Officials in the administration of President
23 Biden have acknowledged that rejoining a nuclear
24 agreement with Iran would entail an easing of the

1 economic sanctions stipulated by the Joint Com-
2 prehensive Plan of Action.

3 **SEC. 3. LIMITATIONS WITH RESPECT TO ANY IRAN NU-**
4 **CLEAR AGREEMENT.**

5 (a) LIMITATIONS PRIOR TO ENTERING INTO NEGO-
6 TIATIONS.—No Federal funds may be obligated or ex-
7 pended to enter into any negotiation with the Government
8 of Iran with respect to an Iran nuclear agreement until
9 the President certifies to Congress that—

10 (1) the Government of Iran has terminated—

11 (A) all agreements involving the transfer of
12 funds to such Government from the People's
13 Republic of China; and

14 (B) all agreements involving a strategic
15 military or security partnership with the Peo-
16 ple's Republic of China;

17 (2) the Government of the People's Republic of
18 China has ceased to incarcerate Uyghur individuals
19 in concentration camps in the Xinjiang Uyghur Au-
20 tonomous Region;

21 (3) the Government of Iran has terminated all
22 ties and transfer of cash to Iranian proxy forces, in-
23 cluding Hamas; and

1 (4) the Government of Iran has verified the de-
2 struction of any and all chemical weapons, materials,
3 and infrastructure.

4 (b) REQUIREMENT FOR CONTENTS OF AGREE-
5 MENT.—No Federal funds may be obligated or expended
6 for United States entry into any Iran nuclear agreement,
7 and the President may not take any action (including in
8 the form of an agenda, agreement, platform, or plan) to
9 carry out the goals of such an agreement, unless such
10 agreement certifies the destruction of any and all Iranian
11 nuclear and missile capabilities, weapons, infrastructure,
12 chemical weapons, and offensive cyber activity.

13 (c) RATIFICATION REQUIRED.—Notwithstanding any
14 other provision of law, any Iran nuclear agreement shall
15 be deemed a treaty subject to the requirement that the
16 Senate provide its advice and consent pursuant to article
17 II, section 2, clause 2 of the Constitution of the United
18 States. The President may not take any action (including
19 in the form of an agenda, agreement, platform, or plan)
20 to carry out the goals of such an agreement until the Sen-
21 ate has adopted a resolution of advice and consent with
22 respect to that agreement.

23 (d) REPORT REQUIRED.—The Secretary of State
24 shall submit to Congress, prior to the submission of a pro-
25 posed Iran nuclear agreement to the Senate for its advice

1 and consent in accordance with subsection (c), a report
2 setting forth the manner and extent to which the negotia-
3 tion and terms of such proposed Iran nuclear agreement
4 comply with each limitation and requirement under this
5 section.

6 (e) IRAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT DEFINED.—In this
7 section, the term “Iran nuclear agreement” means—

8 (1) the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action,
9 signed at Vienna July 14, 2015, by Iran and by the
10 People’s Republic of China, France, Germany, the
11 Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the
12 United States, with the High Representative of the
13 European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security
14 Policy, and all implementing materials and agree-
15 ments related to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of
16 Action; and

17 (2) any successor or other agreement exchang-
18 ing relief from international sanctions for restric-
19 tions on Iran’s nuclear program.

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