

## **On The Floor This Week**

### **Support HR 3662**

# **The Iran Terror Finance Transparency Act**

**Background:** Under the Iran nuclear agreement the Obama Administration made a political commitment to provide Iran relief from “nuclear related” sanctions using waivers and regulatory authority. Yet many sanctions related to Iran’s nuclear program are also related to Iran’s other destabilizing activities—including its support for international terrorism, its ballistic missile program, and its conventional weapons programs.

U.S. sanctions are also aimed at preventing the Iranian banks that use money laundering and other illicit financial practices to support terrorism and Iran’s other destabilizing activities from accessing the U.S. and global financial systems. These illicit financial practices are so pervasive in Iran that since November 2011 the entire country has been designated as a “Jurisdiction of Primary Money Laundering Concern” by the U.S. Treasury Department.

In announcing the nuclear agreement, President Obama stated “American sanctions on Iran for its support of terrorism, its human rights abuses, its ballistic missile program, will continue to be fully enforced.” However, there is nothing in U.S. law to prevent the Administration from lifting sanctions on those involved in these destructive activities.

In fact, under the deal, the Obama Administration agreed to lift sanctions on a significant number of specific individuals, companies, and banks, some of which are engaged in Iran’s support for terrorism and its ballistic missile program.

#### **This Bill:**

- Blocks the President from offering sanctions relief to an individual or bank until certifying that such entity has not conducted a significant transaction with a terrorist organization, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps or in support of either Iran’s ballistic missile or its conventional weapons programs.
- Prohibits the Administration from lifting Iran’s designation as a “Jurisdiction of Primary Money Laundering Concern” until it certifies that the Government of Iran is no longer supporting terrorism, pursuing weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, or engaging in illicit financial activities.
- Provides Congress greater insight into how the Treasury Department licenses specific U.S. companies to do business in Iran.
- Applies the Congressional Review Act to provide Congress the ability to disapprove of Iran related changes to the Code of Federal Regulations.
- Clarifies that Iran’s proxies—Hezbollah, Hamas, and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad—are included in the definition terrorist organizations for the purposes of financial sanctions against Iran.