

H.R. 5631 Iran Accountability Act of 2016

This bill will hold Iran accountable for its continued illegal development of its ballistic missile program, its support for international terrorism, and for its ongoing record of human rights abuses against its own population. After the JCPOA went into force, the Administration has systematically failed to hold Iran to account for its illegal, dangerous, and repressive behavior despite assurances to the contrary by numerous Administration officials in testimony before Congress.

The Iran Accountability Act of 2016:

Terrorism Accountability

- **States** that it is U.S. policy to continue to use sanctions to punish the Iranian government for their illicit behavior and to continue to discourage financial institutions and entities from engaging in business and commerce with Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC).
- **Requires** the President to impose terrorism-related and other tough sanctions on the IRGC and foreign individuals and entities that do business with the IRGC.
- **Maintains** an IRGC “watch-list” for entities that do not meet the criteria for sanctions so that businesses will be protected from unwittingly doing business with the IRGC.
- **Imposes** additional sanctions on Mahan Air, already designated by the Treasury Department for providing support to the IRGC.
- **Requires** sanctions on entities doing business with Mahan Air and ensures U.S. air carriers, foreign air carriers, and aircraft exporters certify that they are not doing business with Mahan air.

Ballistic Missile Accountability

- **Imposes** sanctions on Iran for its ballistic missile development and activities, including sanctions on foreign entities selling WMD technology or advanced conventional weapons.
- **Imposes** sanctions on sectors of the Iranian economy that aid Iran’s efforts to develop its ballistic missile program. Sectoral sanctions go far beyond pin-prick efforts to target procurement networks involved with Iran’s ballistic missile program.
- **Ensures** that Iran effectively remains a “Jurisdiction of Primary Money Laundering Concern” which will prohibit direct links to Iran’s financial sector.

Human Rights Accountability

- **Expands** the list of individuals that can be sanctioned for human rights abuses and other acts of violence and intimidation committed on behalf of the Iranian government.
- **Imposes** sanctions on financial institutions engaged in transactions with individuals involved in human rights abuses or those who export sensitive technology to Iran.
- **Authorizes** the State Department to provide assistance to individuals working in Iran to promote the rule of law and civil society.
- **Directs** the President to establish within the Department of State a “Special Coordinator on Human Rights and Democracy in Iran” to press for human rights, democracy, and political and religious freedoms in Iran.
- **Requires** the President to report annually on efforts to free Americans held hostage in Iran.