House Joint Resolution 204

Sponsored by Representative GILLIAM; Representatives BARRETO, DAVIS, ESQUIVEL, HACK, OLSON, STARK, WHISNANT, WILSON (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution to prohibit State of Oregon or municipal corporation or political subdivision of State of Oregon from using public funds to engage in financial transactions with nations identified by United States Department of State as state sponsors of terrorism.

Refers proposed amendment to people for their approval or rejection at next regular general election.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Whereas the Government of the United States and several of its allies entered into an agreement with the Islamic Republic of Iran on July 14, 2015, that lifts international trade and financial sanctions against Iran in exchange for purported limits on Iran's ability to produce nuclear weapons; and

Whereas the agreement, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action and commonly called the Iran Nuclear Deal, requires the United States and its allies to ease trade and financial sanctions against Iran in exchange for Iran's promises to dismantle Iran's nuclear weapons-grade manufacturing capabilities and deplete its stocks of weapons-grade nuclear fuel by transferring these existing stocks to other nations; and

Whereas the actual steps toward dismantlement and stock depletion that the agreement requires Iran to take are complex and difficult to verify; and

Whereas the verification protocols established in the agreement are insufficient to ensure that Iran complies with the dismantlement and stock depletion requirements; and

Whereas the Iran Nuclear Deal is a temporary agreement, and even under the terms of the agreement Iran will be able to resume construction of nuclear weapons beginning in as little as 15 years; and

Whereas the United States Department of State has maintained a list of state sponsors of terrorism since 1979; and

Whereas, as of January 1, 2016, Iran, Sudan and Syria are the only nations on the state sponsors of terrorism list; and

Whereas the Iran Nuclear Deal establishes a dangerous precedent of the United States Government negotiating with terrorist organizations and, through the easing of sanctions, in effect providing financial support to state sponsors of terrorism; and

Whereas the people of Oregon reject negotiations with state sponsors of terrorism and seek to prohibit the use of the public funds of the State of Oregon, or its municipal corporations or political subdivisions, for financial transactions with state sponsors of terrorism; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

1 2

4

5 6

7 8

10

11

12 13

14 15

16

17 18

19

20 21

22

23

24 25

26

27

28

1	PARAGRAPH 1. The Constitution of the State of Oregon is amended by creating a new section
2	16 to be added to and made a part of Article IX, such section to read:
3	SECTION 16. (1) The State of Oregon, and any municipal corporation or political subdi-
4	vision of the State of Oregon, may not use public funds to engage in any financial transaction
5	with any nation, or a political subdivision of any nation, that is or has been listed by the
6	United States Department of State as a state sponsor of terrorism.
7	(2) The prohibition in subsection (1) of this section does not apply to financial trans-
8	actions conducted 10 or more years after the date a nation ceases to be designated a state
9	sponsor of terrorism by the United States Department of State.
10	
11	PARAGRAPH 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the
12	people for their approval or rejection at the next regular general election held throughout
13	this state.

14