

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3611

To restrict the diplomatic travel of officials and representatives of state sponsors of terrorism, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 22, 2009

Mr. BROUN of Georgia (for himself, Mr. BOREN, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. LINDER, and Mr. TAYLOR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To restrict the diplomatic travel of officials and representatives of state sponsors of terrorism, 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 “Limiting the Intrusive  
5 Miles of International Terrorist Sponsors Act of 2009”  
6 or the “LIMITS Act of 2009”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Countries designated as state sponsors of  
2 terrorism represent a threat to the national security  
3 of the United States.

4           (2) The United States is obligated to permit of-  
5 ficials and other representatives of countries des-  
6 igned as state sponsors of terrorism to travel to  
7 New York City to attend meetings and conduct offi-  
8 cial business at the United Nations.

9           (3) Individuals from countries not otherwise le-  
10 gally permitted to travel to the United States are  
11 given visas for delegates and representatives to the  
12 United Nations and other related diplomatic pur-  
13 poses.

14           (4) These delegates and representatives are in  
15 addition to the number of domestically assigned na-  
16 tionals living in the United States.

17           (5) Between January 1, 2004, and March 31,  
18 2009, the Department of State issued, with full dip-  
19 lomatic immunity, 2,386 visas to delegates and rep-  
20 resentatives from Cuba, 2,585 visas to delegates and  
21 representatives from Iran, 2,053 visas to delegates  
22 and representatives from Sudan, 732 visas to dele-  
23 gates and representatives from Syria, and 869 to  
24 delegates and representatives from other state spon-  
25 sors of terrorism.

1           (6) The delegates and representatives from Iran  
2           and Cuba, which are state sponsors of terrorism, are  
3           currently permitted to travel up to 25 miles from  
4           Columbus Circle in New York City for United Na-  
5           tions activities, far beyond the necessary working vi-  
6           cinity of the United Nations, giving them access not  
7           only to Manhattan, but to surrounding cities and  
8           States.

9           (7) The delegates and representatives from  
10          Syria and Sudan, both state sponsors of terrorism,  
11          are currently permitted to travel throughout the  
12          United States without any mileage restrictions.

13          (8) In June 2002, November 2003, and June  
14          2004, Iranian diplomatic personnel from the Iranian  
15          Mission to the United Nations were caught  
16          photographing and videotaping the New York City  
17          subway and other popular landmarks.

18          (9) The Department of State expelled these in-  
19          dividuals for being engaged in activities not con-  
20          sistent with their duties.

21          (10) Issuing approximately 8,625 visas over the  
22          past 5 years to personnel from countries designated  
23          as state sponsors of terrorism, without proper  
24          boundaries, creates a major security vulnerability  
25          within the United States.



1 (c) EXCEPTIONS.—

2 (1) INGRESS AND EGRESS.—For purposes of  
3 this section, the restriction on travel referred to in  
4 subsection (a) shall not include travel to and from  
5 John F. Kennedy International Airport or  
6 LaGuardia Airport to the designated area in connec-  
7 tion with official business at the United Nations  
8 headquarters complex. Travel between the des-  
9 ignated area and such airports shall be direct and  
10 without any intervening stops.

11 (2) ACCOMMODATIONS.—For purposes of this  
12 section, the restriction on travel referred to in sub-  
13 section (a) shall not include travel to and from any  
14 lodgings or other hotel accommodations in which an  
15 official or representative is staying if such lodging or  
16 other hotel accommodation is within the designated  
17 area. Such permissible travel within the designated  
18 area may be made only by land.

19 (3) MEDICAL EMERGENCIES.—For purposes of  
20 this section, the restriction on travel referred to in  
21 subsection (a) shall not include travel to and from  
22 New York University medical center or Bellevue  
23 Hospital Center for emergency medical care.

24 (d) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

1           (1) ON TRAVEL.—Nothing in this Act shall be  
2           construed to prohibit the placement of additional re-  
3           strictions by the City of New York, the State of New  
4           York, or the law enforcement agencies of such City  
5           or State on the travel within the designated area of  
6           officials and representatives of countries that are  
7           designated as state sponsors of terrorism.

8           (2) OTHER RESTRICTIONS.—Nothing in this  
9           Act shall be construed to prohibit the placement by  
10          the President of additional restrictions on officials  
11          and representatives of countries that are designated  
12          as state sponsors or terrorism.

13          (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act shall take effect on  
14          the date that is 60 days after the date of the enactment  
15          of this Act.

16          (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

17               (1) DESIGNATED AREA.—The term “designated  
18               area” means an area not greater than one-half of  
19               one mile (0.5 miles) in any direction on the island  
20               of Manhattan from the United Nations headquarters  
21               complex, but does not include any waterway.

22               (2) STATE SPONSOR OF TERRORISM.—The term  
23               “state sponsor of terrorism” means a country the  
24               government of which has been determined by the  
25               Secretary of State, for purposes of section 6(j) of

1 the Export Administration Act of 1979, section  
2 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, section  
3 40 of the Arms Export Control Act, or other provi-  
4 sion of law, is a government that has repeatedly pro-  
5 vided support for acts of international terrorism.

6 (3) UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS COM-  
7 PLEX.—The term “United Nations headquarters  
8 complex” means the complex of United Nations  
9 buildings located in the City of New York, on First  
10 Avenue between 42nd Street and 48th Street, with  
11 the street address of 760 United Nations Plaza.

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