

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.

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## 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

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## 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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