

July 28, 2017

House Overwhelmingly Adopts Iran Sanctions Legislation

On July 25, the House of Representatives overwhelmingly adopted the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (H.R. 3364), bipartisan legislation that strengthens sanctions targeting Iran's ballistic missile program, destabilizing actions in the Middle East, human rights abuses, and illicit conventional weapons trade. The House legislation specifically mandates sanctions on persons that engage in any activity that materially contributes to Iran's ballistic missile program. These sanctions would affect those engaged in any effort to manufacture, acquire, possess, develop, transport, transfer or use ballistic missiles. The bill also imposes terrorism-related sanctions on Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). The U.S. government has already designated the IRGC's Quds Force—the organization's foreign activities branch—as a terrorist group and has sanctioned the IRGC for non-proliferation and human rights abuses. It additionally mandates sanctions on persons violating the arms embargo placed on Iran by United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231. Moreover, it authorizes the president to impose sanctions on Iranians responsible for human rights violations against other Iranians who seek to promote human rights or expose illegal Iranian government activity.

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