The proposed deal with Iran fails to verifiably eliminate every Iranian pathway to a nuclear weapon. It leaves Iran as a nuclear threshold state, jeopardizes U.S. interests, and poses an existential threat to Israel and other American allies. Congress must oppose the proposed deal because it would:

1. **LEGITIMIZE IRAN AS A NUCLEAR THRESHOLD STATE**
   With this agreement, the international community would withdraw its objections to Iran’s illicit nuclear activity over the past two decades. Given the restrictions that would be lifted after 15 years, Iran would then have the ability to produce enough fuel for a nuclear bomb within days.

2. **RAISE THE PROSPECT OF WAR**
   Agreeing to this flawed plan of action effectively ends any hope of stopping Iran’s nuclear weapons program through diplomacy. Furthermore, once Iran becomes a nuclear threshold state, there would be no peaceful way to stop Tehran in time should it decide to build a nuclear weapon. The world would then either acquiesce to Iran obtaining a nuclear weapon or resort to force to prevent that outcome. A deal that fails to stop Iran’s nuclear weapons quest would leave the Middle East far less stable, potentially leading to devastating conflict.

3. **SPUR A NUCLEAR ARMS RACE**
   Our Arab allies fear that a nuclear-capable Iran would become the dominant regional force. With Iran closing in on nuclear threshold status, more than a dozen Arab states have expressed new interest in “peaceful” nuclear programs. Such a deal would encourage nuclear proliferation in the world’s most unstable region and would mark the death knell of the global non-proliferation regime and its cornerstone, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

4. **INCREASE IRANIAN SUPPORT OF TERRORISM**
   Iran is already the world’s most active state sponsor of terrorism, providing funds, arms and training to terror groups such as Hamas and Hezbollah. The proposed deal provides Iran quick access to an estimated $150 billion locked in Iranian accounts held abroad. If Tehran gains access to these funds – in addition to new foreign investment and oil revenue – Iran would be able to increase exponentially its support for terrorism around the world.

5. **STRENGTHEN THE IRANIAN REGIME**
   Iran’s ruling clerics hope that an Iranian nuclear weapons capability will further their regional ambitions. Iran already actively foments unrest in Lebanon, Iraq, Gaza, Syria, and Yemen. Bolstered by new funding, international legitimacy, additional arms from a phased out arms embargo, and the capacity to build nuclear weapons in 15 years, Iran would be able to extend its regional influence and imperil U.S. interests.

6. **UNDERMINE AND THREATEN REGIONAL ALLIES**
   The proposed deal falls short of Washington’s stated goals, calling into question America’s global leadership and its commitment to allies. For more than 25 years, U.S. policy has been to cut off Iran’s path to a nuclear weapon and to pressure Iran to comply with its international obligations. Under the proposed deal, the United States abandons those objectives, severely damaging our credibility throughout the Middle East.