

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 854

To direct the Secretary of State to designate Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Qods Force as a foreign terrorist organization, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2013

Mr. McCAUL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of State to designate Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Qods Force as a foreign terrorist organization, 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 “Qods Force Terrorist
5 Designation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) On January 19, 1984, the Secretary of
2 State determined that the Islamic Republic of Iran
3 is a state sponsor of terrorism.

4 (2) The Qods Force is the elite external oper-
5 ations branch of the Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary
6 Guard Corps and the Iranian regime’s primary
7 mechanism for cultivating and supporting terrorists
8 abroad.

9 (3) The Qods Force provides aid in the form of
10 weapons, training, and funding to Hamas and other
11 Palestinian terrorist groups, Lebanese Hizballah,
12 Iraq-based militants, and Taliban fighters in Af-
13 ghanistan.

14 (4) The Qods Force is behind some of the dead-
15 liest terrorist attacks of the past three decades, in-
16 cluding the 1983 and 1984 bombings of the United
17 States Embassy and annex in Beirut, the 1983
18 bombing of the Marine barracks in Beirut, the 1992
19 bombing of the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires,
20 1994 attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Cen-
21 ter in Buenos Aires, and the 1996 Khobar Towers
22 bombing in Saudi Arabia.

23 (5) In 2007, President George W. Bush and
24 General David Petraeus, the top U.S. commander in

1 Iraq, accused Iran’s Qods Force of aiding militias in
2 killing American soldiers in Iraq.

3 (6) In 2007, the U.S. Department of the Treas-
4 ury designated the Qods Force for providing mate-
5 rial support to the Taliban and other terrorist orga-
6 nizations.

7 (7) On October 25, 2007, Iran’s Islamic Revo-
8 lutionary Guard Corps Qods Force was sanctioned
9 under Executive Order 13382, for supporting pro-
10 liferation of weapons of mass destruction.

11 (8) Section 1258 of the National Defense Au-
12 thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 expressed the
13 sense of Congress that “the United States should
14 designate Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps
15 as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219
16 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
17 1189) and place the Islamic Revolutionary Guards
18 Corps on the list of Specially Designated Global Ter-
19 rorists, as established under the International Emer-
20 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et
21 seq.) and initiated under Executive Order 13224
22 (September 23, 2001)”.

23 (9) In the period following the June 2009 presi-
24 dential election in Iran, the Qods Force was impli-
25 cated in custodial deaths and the killings of election

1 protesters and committed other acts of politically
2 motivated violence, including torture, beatings, and
3 rape.

4 (10) On April 29, 2011, President Obama
5 issued Executive Order 13572, Blocking Property of
6 Certain Persons With Respect to Human Rights
7 Abuses in Syria, including the Qods Force, for the
8 repression of the people of Syria, manifested most
9 recently by the use of violence and torture against,
10 and arbitrary arrests and detentions of, peaceful
11 protestors by police, security forces, and other enti-
12 ties that have engaged in human rights abuses,
13 which constitute an unusual and extraordinary
14 threat to the national security, foreign policy, and
15 economy of the United States.

16 (11) On October 11, 2011, the U.S. Depart-
17 ment of Justice announced that two members of
18 Iran's Qods Force were charged in an alleged plot
19 to assassinate the Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the
20 Unites States. The criminal complaint against them
21 included charges of conspiracy to murder a foreign
22 official; conspiracy to engage in foreign travel and
23 use of interstate and foreign commerce facilities in
24 the commission of murder-for-hire; conspiracy to use
25 a weapon of mass destruction (explosives); and con-

1 spiracy to commit an act of international terrorism
2 transcending national boundaries.

3 (12) On March 7, 2012, the U.S. Department
4 of the Treasury designated Iran's Qods Force Gen-
5 eral Gholamreza Baghbani as a Specially Designated
6 Narcotics Trafficker for the role that the Qods
7 Force played in its scheme to support terrorism.

8 (13) Iran's Qods Force stations operatives in
9 foreign embassies, charities, and religious and cul-
10 tural institutions to foster relationships, often build-
11 ing on existing socio-economic ties with the well-es-
12 tablished Shia Diaspora, and recent years have wit-
13 nessed an increased presence in Latin America.

14 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF IRAN'S ISLAMIC REVOLUTIONARY**
15 **GUARD CORPS QODS FORCE AS A FOREIGN**
16 **TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.**

17 The Secretary of State shall designate Iran's Islamic
18 Revolutionary Guard Corps Qods Force as a foreign ter-
19 rorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration
20 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

21 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

22 The Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee
23 on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and
24 the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a re-

- 1 report on terrorist activities of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary
- 2 Guard Corps Qods Force.

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