

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 669

To provide for consideration of legislation to respond to a violation by Iran of an arrangement relating to its nuclear program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 4, 2015

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. FRANKEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To provide for consideration of legislation to respond to a violation by Iran of an arrangement relating to its 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 Congressional
5 Oversight Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) **JOINT PLAN OF ACTION.**—The term “Joint
9 Plan of Action”—

1 (A) means the Joint Plan of Action, signed
2 at Geneva November 24, 2013, by Iran and the
3 P5-plus-1 countries; and

4 (B) includes all implementing materials
5 and agreements related to the Joint Plan of Ac-
6 tion, including the technical understandings
7 reached on January 12, 2014, the extension
8 agreed to on July 19, 2014, and the extension
9 agreed to on November 24, 2014.

10 (2) P5-PLUS-1 COUNTRIES.—The term “P5-
11 plus-1 countries” means the United States, France,
12 the Russian Federation, the People’s Republic of
13 China, the United Kingdom, and Germany.

14 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

15 Congress makes the following findings:

16 (1) The acquisition of a nuclear weapon by the
17 Islamic Republic of Iran would pose a grave and se-
18 rious threat to international peace and security, in-
19 cluding the national security of the United States
20 and its allies.

21 (2) The United States has led the international
22 community in imposing unprecedented and crippling
23 sanctions with respect to the nuclear program of
24 Iran, which have helped to persuade the leadership
25 of Iran to return to the negotiating table.

1 (3) On November 24, 2013, Iran and the P5-
2 plus-1 countries, made up of the 5 permanent mem-
3 bers of the United Nations Security Council and
4 Germany, entered into the Joint Plan of Action in
5 order to establish verifiable limits on the nuclear ac-
6 tivities of Iran that are of greatest concern with re-
7 spect to proliferation and to facilitate negotiations
8 toward a final comprehensive arrangement that
9 would prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weap-
10 on.

11 (4) On November 24, 2014, the P5-plus-1
12 countries and Iran extended the Joint Plan of Ac-
13 tion to allow negotiations to continue with the goal
14 of achieving a political framework arrangement by
15 the end of March 2015, and full technical details by
16 July 1, 2015.

17 (5) Under the Joint Plan of Action, the Govern-
18 ment of Iran has, among other steps, ceased enrich-
19 ment of uranium to near-20 percent fissile U-235,
20 neutralized its stockpile of 20-percent enriched ura-
21 nium gas, halted major construction on its heavy
22 water reactor at Arak, halted the installation of ad-
23 ditional centrifuges and not operated its more ad-
24 vanced centrifuge machines to accumulate enriched
25 uranium, allowed more frequent and intrusive in-

1 inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agen-
2 cy, and allowed managed access to centrifuge pro-
3 duction-related facilities and uranium mines and
4 mills.

5 (6) The International Atomic Energy Agency
6 has reported, including in a January 20, 2015, re-
7 port, that Iran has complied with its obligations
8 under the Joint Plan of Action.

9 (7) Iran has a history of deceit when it comes
10 to its nuclear program and any final comprehensive
11 arrangement must be airtight and verifiable to en-
12 sure that Iran will live up to its commitments.

13 (8) The United States reserves the option to
14 impose or reimpose certain sanctions in the event
15 that Iran violates the Joint Plan of Action or any
16 successor arrangement agreed to by the P5-plus-1
17 countries and Iran.

18 (9) In his State of the Union address on Janu-
19 ary 20, 2015, President Barack Obama said, “[We
20 have a chance to negotiate a comprehensive agree-
21 ment that prevents a nuclear-armed Iran, secures
22 America and our allies—including Israel, while
23 avoiding yet another Middle East conflict. There are
24 no guarantees that negotiations will succeed, and I

1 keep all options on the table to prevent a nuclear
2 Iran.”.

3 **SEC. 4. ASSESSMENTS OF COMPLIANCE OF IRAN WITH NU-**
4 **CLEAR ARRANGEMENTS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—During the period during which
6 the Joint Plan of Action or a successor arrangement with
7 Iran is in effect, the President shall submit to Congress
8 not less frequently than once every 90 days a report as-
9 sessing the compliance of Iran with the Joint Plan of Ac-
10 tion or the successor arrangement, as the case may be.

11 (b) DETERMINATIONS REQUIRED.—Each report re-
12 quired by subsection (a) with respect to the Joint Plan
13 of Action or a successor arrangement shall include a deter-
14 mination by the President, made in consultation with the
15 Director of National Intelligence, of the following:

16 (1) Whether Iran has failed to fulfill the terms
17 of the Joint Plan of Action or the successor arrange-
18 ment.

19 (2) Whether Iran has attempted to circumvent
20 inspections by the International Atomic Energy
21 Agency or has otherwise attempted to circumvent
22 enforcement of the Joint Plan of Action or the suc-
23 cessor arrangement.

24 (3) Whether the International Atomic Energy
25 Agency or any of the P5-plus-1 countries has ac-

1 cused Iran of violating the Joint Plan of Action or
2 the successor arrangement and, if so, whether the
3 accusation is credible and whether Iran has been ap-
4 prised of the accusation.

5 (c) CERTIFICATION REQUIRED.—The President shall
6 submit, with each report required by subsection (a), an
7 unclassified certification by the President, made in con-
8 sultation with the Director of National Intelligence, of
9 whether Iran has complied with or violated the terms of
10 the Joint Plan of Action or a successor arrangement.

11 (d) FORM OF REPORTS.—Except as provided in sub-
12 section (c), each report required by subsection (a) may be
13 submitted in classified form or containing a classified
14 annex, as appropriate.

15 **SEC. 5. EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION TO**
16 **REINSTATE WAIVED OR SUSPENDED SANC-**
17 **TIONS AFTER A VIOLATION OF A NUCLEAR**
18 **ARRANGEMENT BY IRAN.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—If a report required by section
20 4(a) is accompanied by a certification under section 4(c)
21 by the President that Iran has violated the Joint Plan of
22 Action or any successor arrangement, Congress may ini-
23 tiate expedited consideration of qualifying legislation pur-
24 suant to this section.

1 (b) QUALIFYING LEGISLATION DEFINED.—For the
2 purposes of this section, the term “qualifying legislation”
3 means only a bill of either House of Congress—

4 (1) that is introduced not later than 3 calendar
5 days after the date on which the report described in
6 subsection (a) is received by Congress;

7 (2) the title of which is as follows: “A bill rein-
8 stating sanctions imposed with respect to Iran and
9 prohibiting the release of funds or assets to Iran.”;
10 and

11 (3) the matter after the enacting clause of
12 which is as follows: “All sanctions imposed with re-
13 spect to Iran that were waived or suspended pursu-
14 ant to the Joint Action Plan (as defined in section
15 2 of the Iran Congressional Oversight Act of 2015)
16 or a successor arrangement are reinstated and the
17 release of funds or assets to Iran pursuant to the
18 Joint Action Plan or a successor arrangement is
19 prohibited.”.

20 (c) FAST TRACK CONSIDERATION IN HOUSE OF REP-
21 RESENTATIVES.—

22 (1) RECONVENING.—Upon receipt of a report
23 described in subsection (a), the Speaker of the
24 House of Representatives, if the House would other-
25 wise be adjourned, shall notify the Members of the

1 House that, pursuant to this section, the House
2 shall convene not later than the second calendar day
3 after receipt of the report.

4 (2) REPORTING AND DISCHARGE.—Any com-
5 mittee of the House of Representatives to which
6 qualifying legislation is referred shall report it to the
7 House not later than 5 calendar days after the date
8 of receipt of the report described in subsection (a).
9 If a committee fails to report the qualifying legisla-
10 tion within that period, the committee shall be dis-
11 charged from further consideration of the qualifying
12 legislation and the qualifying legislation shall be re-
13 ferred to the appropriate calendar.

14 (3) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—After
15 each committee authorized to consider qualifying
16 legislation reports it to the House or has been dis-
17 charged from its consideration, it shall be in order,
18 not later than the sixth day after Congress receives
19 the report described in subsection (a), to move to
20 proceed to consider the qualifying legislation in the
21 House. All points of order against the motion are
22 waived. Such a motion shall not be in order after the
23 House has disposed of a motion to proceed on the
24 qualifying legislation. The previous question shall be
25 considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption

1 without intervening motion. The motion shall not be
2 debatable. A motion to reconsider the vote by which
3 the motion is disposed of shall not be in order.

4 (4) CONSIDERATION.—The qualifying legisla-
5 tion shall be considered as read. All points of order
6 against the qualifying legislation and against its con-
7 sideration are waived. The previous question shall be
8 considered as ordered on the qualifying legislation to
9 its passage without intervening motion except 2
10 hours of debate equally divided and controlled by the
11 proponent and an opponent. A motion to reconsider
12 the vote on passage of the qualifying legislation shall
13 not be in order.

14 (d) FAST TRACK CONSIDERATION IN SENATE.—

15 (1) RECONVENING.—Upon receipt of a report
16 described in subsection (a), if the Senate has ad-
17 journed or recessed for more than 2 days, the major-
18 ity leader of the Senate, after consultation with the
19 minority leader of the Senate, shall notify the Mem-
20 bers of the Senate that, pursuant to this section, the
21 Senate shall convene not later than the second cal-
22 endar day after receipt of the report.

23 (2) PLACEMENT ON CALENDAR.—Upon intro-
24 duction in the Senate, the qualifying legislation shall
25 be placed immediately on the calendar.

1 (3) FLOOR CONSIDERATION.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding Rule
3 XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, it is
4 in order at any time during the period begin-
5 ning on the fourth day after the date on which
6 Congress receives a report described in sub-
7 section (a) and ending on the sixth day after
8 the date on which Congress receives that report
9 (even though a previous motion to the same ef-
10 fect has been disagreed to) to move to proceed
11 to the consideration of the qualifying legisla-
12 tion, and all points of order against the quali-
13 fying legislation (and against consideration of
14 the qualifying legislation) are waived. The mo-
15 tion to proceed is not debatable. The motion is
16 not subject to a motion to postpone. A motion
17 to reconsider the vote by which the motion is
18 agreed to or disagreed to shall not be in order.
19 If a motion to proceed to the consideration of
20 the qualifying legislation is agreed to, the quali-
21 fying legislation shall remain the unfinished
22 business until disposed of.

23 (B) DEBATE.—Debate on the qualifying
24 legislation, and on all debatable motions and
25 appeals in connection therewith, shall be limited

1 to not more than 10 hours, which shall be di-
2 vided equally between the majority and minority
3 leaders or their designees. A motion further to
4 limit debate is in order and not debatable. An
5 amendment to, or a motion to postpone, or a
6 motion to proceed to the consideration of other
7 business, or a motion to recommit the quali-
8 fying legislation is not in order.

9 (C) VOTE ON PASSAGE.—The vote on pas-
10 sage shall occur immediately following the con-
11 clusion of the debate on the qualifying legisla-
12 tion, and a single quorum call at the conclusion
13 of the debate if requested in accordance with
14 the rules of the Senate.

15 (D) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON PROCE-
16 DURE.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair
17 relating to the application of the rules of the
18 Senate, as the case may be, to the procedure re-
19 lating to qualifying legislation shall be decided
20 without debate.

21 (e) RULES RELATING TO SENATE AND HOUSE OF
22 REPRESENTATIVES.—

23 (1) COORDINATION WITH ACTION BY OTHER
24 HOUSE.—If, before the passage by one House of
25 qualifying legislation of that House, that House re-

1 ceives qualifying legislation from the other House,
2 then the following procedures shall apply:

3 (A) The qualifying legislation of the other
4 House shall not be referred to a committee.

5 (B) With respect to qualifying legislation
6 of the House receiving the legislation—

7 (i) the procedure in that House shall
8 be the same as if no qualifying legislation
9 had been received from the other House;
10 but

11 (ii) the vote on passage shall be on
12 the qualifying legislation of the other
13 House.

14 (2) TREATMENT OF QUALIFYING LEGISLATION
15 OF OTHER HOUSE.—If one House fails to introduce
16 or consider qualifying legislation under this section,
17 the qualifying legislation of the other House shall be
18 entitled to expedited floor procedures under this sec-
19 tion.

20 (3) TREATMENT OF COMPANION MEASURES.—
21 If, following passage of the qualifying legislation in
22 the Senate, the Senate then receives the companion
23 measure from the House of Representatives, the
24 companion measure shall not be debatable.

1 (4) SUBSEQUENT MEASURES.—If qualifying
2 legislation has been considered under this section in
3 both Houses of Congress pursuant to a report de-
4 scribed in subsection (a), no further qualifying legis-
5 lation shall be in order until Congress receives a new
6 report described in subsection (a).

7 (f) VETOES.—If the President vetoes qualifying legis-
8 lation, debate on a veto message in the Senate under this
9 section shall be 1 hour equally divided between the major-
10 ity and minority leaders or their designees.

11 (g) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND
12 SENATE.—This section and section 6 are enacted by Con-
13 gress—

14 (1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of
15 the Senate and the House of Representatives, re-
16 spectively, and as such are deemed a part of the
17 rules of each House, respectively, but applicable only
18 with respect to the procedure to be followed in that
19 House in the case of legislation described in those
20 sections, and supersede other rules only to the ex-
21 tent that they are inconsistent with such rules; and

22 (2) with full recognition of the constitutional
23 right of either House to change the rules (so far as
24 relating to the procedure of that House) at any time,

1 in the same manner, and to the same extent as in
2 the case of any other rule of that House.

3 **SEC. 6. CONSIDERATION IN THE SENATE OF ADDITIONAL**
4 **LEGISLATION TO FURTHER RESPOND TO A**
5 **VIOLATION BY IRAN OF A NUCLEAR AR-**
6 **RANGEMENT.**

7 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding Rule XXII of
8 the Standing Rules of the Senate, it is in order at any
9 time during the 30-day period beginning on the date on
10 which a report described in section 5(a) is received by Con-
11 gress (even though a previous motion to the same effect
12 has been disagreed to) to move to proceed to the consider-
13 ation of legislation described in subsection (b), and all
14 points of order against the legislation (and against consid-
15 eration of the legislation) are waived. The motion to pro-
16 ceed is not debatable. The motion is not subject to a mo-
17 tion to postpone. A motion to reconsider the vote by which
18 the motion is agreed to or disagreed to shall not be in
19 order. If a motion to proceed to the consideration of the
20 legislation is agreed to, the legislation shall remain the un-
21 finished business until disposed of.

22 (b) **LEGISLATION DESCRIBED.**—Legislation de-
23 scribed in this subsection is such legislation as the major-
24 ity leader of the Senate, after consultation with the minor-
25 ity leader, determines necessary to further respond to a

1 violation by Iran the Joint Plan of Action or any successor
2 arrangement.

3 **SEC. 7. ROLE OF CONGRESS IN LIFTING CONGRESSION-**
4 **ALLY MANDATED SANCTIONS.**

5 If the United States is a party to a comprehensive
6 long-term arrangement with Iran relating to its nuclear
7 program under which the United States commits to lifting
8 sanctions imposed pursuant to any provision of law in-
9 cluded in a duly enacted Act of Congress, that provision
10 of law shall remain in effect until, consistent with section
11 7 of article I of the Constitution of the United States and
12 notwithstanding the arrangement, repealed by an Act of
13 Congress or terminated pursuant to another provision of
14 law.

○