

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 361

To impose terrorism-related sanctions with respect to As-Saib Ahl Al-Haq and Harakat Hizballah Al-Nujaba, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2019

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. SUOZZI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To impose terrorism-related sanctions with respect to As-Saib Ahl Al-Haq and Harakat Hizballah Al-Nujaba, 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 “Iranian Proxies Ter-  
5 rorist Sanctions Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) As-Saib Ahl al-Haq (AAH) is an Iraqi para-  
9 military group founded in 2006. Harakat Hizballah

1 al-Nujaba (Nujaba) is an affiliated faction of AAH  
2 and the United States-designated foreign terrorist  
3 organization Kata'ib Hizballah that was formed in  
4 2013.

5 (2) AAH and Nujaba are provided training,  
6 funding, and arms by the Iranian Islamic Revolu-  
7 tionary Guard Corps (IRGC), IRGC-Quds Force,  
8 and mentored by Lebanese Hizballah. AAH leader,  
9 Qais Khazali, has pledged allegiance to Iran's Su-  
10 preme Leader Ali Khamenei.

11 (3) AAH conducted numerous attacks against  
12 the United States and coalition forces in Iraq be-  
13 tween its inception in 2006 and the United States  
14 withdrawal in December 2011. This includes the  
15 January 20, 2007, attack on the Karbala Provincial  
16 Headquarters that resulted in the killing of CPT  
17 Brian S. Freeman, 1LT Jacob N. Fritz, SPC Jona-  
18 than B. Chism, PFC Shawn P. Falter, and PFC  
19 Jonathon M. Millican—four of whom were abducted  
20 and later executed.

21 (4) AAH and Nujaba deploy forces to Syria to  
22 fight on behalf of the Bashar al-Assad regime, in-  
23 cluding participating in the 2016 siege of Aleppo  
24 where the United Nations High Commissioner for

1 Human Rights alleges pro-government Iraqi militia  
2 groups executed dozens of civilians.

3 (5) In 2015, Human Rights Watch alleged  
4 AAH participated in forced evictions, kidnappings,  
5 and extrajudicial killings of Sunni and Kurdish civil-  
6 ians in areas liberated from the Islamic State.

7 (6) Nujaba is led by Akram al-Kabi, who was  
8 designated by the Department of the Treasury under  
9 Executive Order 13438 for threatening the peace  
10 and stability of Iraq. According to the United States  
11 Government, Kabi participated in multiple mortar  
12 and rocket attacks on the International Zone, or  
13 Green Zone, in Baghdad in early 2008. Kabi and  
14 other Nujaba commanders have claimed they follow  
15 orders from Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei  
16 and declared in March 2016 support for Lebanese  
17 Hizballah.

18 (7) In 2017, a Nujaba spokesman declared that  
19 it had formed a unit tasked to "liberate" the Golan  
20 Heights from Israeli control and reports indicate the  
21 group is playing a key role in securing a land route  
22 between Iran and Lebanon to provide military aid to  
23 Lebanese Hezbollah.

1 **SEC. 3. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date that is 90  
3 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Presi-  
4 dent shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (c)  
5 with respect to As-Saib Ahl al-Haq (AAH), Harakat  
6 Hizballah al-Nujaba (Nujaba), and foreign persons that  
7 are officials, agents, or affiliates of AAH or Nujaba.

8 (b) DETERMINATION WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN  
9 INDIVIDUALS.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall submit  
11 to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House  
12 of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign  
13 Relations of the Senate a determination, including a  
14 detailed justification, on whether any of the individ-  
15 uals described in paragraph (2) meets the criteria  
16 for the application of sanctions described in sub-  
17 section (a).

18 (2) INDIVIDUALS DESCRIBED.—The individuals  
19 described in this paragraph are the following:

20 (A) Qais al-Khazali.

21 (B) Laith al-Khazali.

22 (C) Akram Abbas al-Kaabi.

23 (D) Shibl al-Zaydi.

24 (E) Kazim al-Ta'i.

25 (F) Hamid al-Jazairi.

26 (G) Ali al-Yasiri.

1 (c) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions de-  
2 scribed in this subsection are sanctions applicable with re-  
3 spect to a foreign person pursuant to Executive Order  
4 13224 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property  
5 and prohibiting transactions with persons who commit,  
6 threaten to commit, or support terrorism).

7 **SEC. 4. WATCHLISTS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall an-  
9 nually establish, maintain, and publish a global list of  
10 armed groups, militias, or proxy forces receiving logistical,  
11 military, or financial assistance from the IRGC or over  
12 which the IRGC exerts any form of control or influence.

13 (b) PUBLICATION.—The lists required under sub-  
14 section (a) shall be published as part of the Department  
15 of State’s Annual Country Reports on Terrorism, begin-  
16 ning with the first such Country Reports published after  
17 the date of the enactment of this Act.

18 (c) FORM.—If the Secretary of State determines that  
19 such is appropriate, the Secretary may, not later than 30  
20 days after publication of the annual Country Reports on  
21 Terrorism referred to in subsection (b), submit to the  
22 Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representa-  
23 tives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Sen-  
24 ate a classified annex.

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