

111TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 256

Expressing the sense of Congress that any official within the Government of Iran at the level of deputy minister or higher or officer within the Iranian Revolutionary Guard is presumptively ineligible for a travel visa to the United States.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 22, 2010

Mr. HIMES (for himself and Mr. KLEIN of Florida) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that any official within the Government of Iran at the level of deputy minister or higher or officer within the Iranian Revolutionary Guard is presumptively ineligible for a travel visa to the United States.

Whereas the Government of Iran was designated a state sponsor of terrorism under section 6(j)(1)(A) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. App. 2405(j)(1)(A)), section 620A(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371(a)), and section 40(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780(d));

Whereas, according to the Department of State's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2008, the Government of Iran's "poor human rights record worsened,

and it continued to commit numerous serious abuses . . . the government severely limited citizens' right to change their government peacefully through free and fair elections . . . authorities held political prisoners and intensified a crackdown against women's rights reformers, ethnic minority rights activists, student activists, and religious minorities'';

Whereas the Government of Iran has engaged in a pattern of deception and evasion while the international community has sought to ensure in good faith that Iran does not develop nuclear weapons, and poses a direct security threat to the United States and its allies in the region;

Whereas the Government of Iran and pro-government militias continue to brutally suppress the Iranian people through censorship, imprisonment, and continued acts of violence against citizens seeking the exercise of basic freedoms;

Whereas the Government of Iran has been responsible for the deaths of United States soldiers and civilians in Iraq and Afghanistan, including Iran's provision of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and explosively formed penetrators to insurgent forces in both theaters of war;

Whereas the Government of Iran provides significant and ongoing economic and logistical support to terrorist organizations, including Hezbollah, Hamas, and others;

Whereas officials representing the Government of Iran have made and continue to make belligerent and unprovoked statements regarding the most critical regional ally of the United States, the State of Israel, including denial of the Holocaust and calls for the complete destruction of Israel itself;

Whereas the concerns of the United States regarding Iran are strictly the result of the actions of the Government of Iran, that the people of the United States have feelings of friendship for the people of Iran, and that cultural exchanges and regulated travel between the people of Iran and of the United States is a benefit to both nations;

Whereas the Government of Iran regularly sponsors, displays, and disseminates propaganda calling for the destruction or defeat of the United States, often employing the phrase “Death to America”, and referring to the United States as “the Great Satan”;

Whereas high-ranking members of the Government of Iran are known to have traveled freely to the United States to make use of medical facilities, visit tourist attractions, and in other ways enjoy access to social, economic, and recreational opportunities within the United States;

Whereas, due to a higher probability of satisfying the economic and social criteria required as part of the Department of State’s travel visa process, Iranians with economic and political connections to the Government of Iran are more likely to enjoy the benefits of travel to the United States than the average Iranian citizen; and

Whereas the United States cannot continue to allow the inherent hypocrisy of an anti-American regime whose members benefit disproportionately from the ability to travel freely to, and enjoy the benefits of, opportunities, and resources available within the United States: Now, therefore, be it

- 1        *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
- 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that any offi-

1 cial within the Government of Iran at the level of deputy  
2 minister or higher or officer within the Iranian Revolu-  
3 tionary Guard is presumptively ineligible for a travel visa  
4 to the United States.

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