

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**H. R.** _____

To establish the Iran Strategy Assessment Panel to review, assess, and make recommendations with respect to the current United States strategy toward the threats posed by the Government of Iran.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. SCHNEIDER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To establish the Iran Strategy Assessment Panel to review, assess, and make recommendations with respect to the current United States strategy toward the threats posed by the Government of Iran.

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 Sanctions Stra-
5 tegic Assessment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The Government of Iran’s nuclear enrich-
2 ment activities, weapons development programs and
3 ongoing support of international terrorism all pose a
4 grave threat to countries in the Middle East, the
5 Caucasus, South Asia, and Europe and to the
6 United States.

7 (2) There remains limited time until the Gov-
8 ernment of Iran effectively achieves the capability of
9 enriching weapons-grade uranium, constructing a
10 nuclear explosive device, and mounting it on ballistic
11 missiles capable of delivering such a device.

12 (3) The sanctions regime pursued thus far by
13 the United States and other governments, while
14 clearly affecting Iran’s economy, has not yet resulted
15 in any substantial change by the Government of Iran
16 in its weapons programs and other threatening ac-
17 tivities.

18 **SEC. 3. PURPOSE.**

19 The purpose of this Act is—

20 (1) to conduct an assessment of—

21 (A) the current United States strategy to-
22 ward the threats posed by the Government of
23 Iran, including an assessment of the net impact
24 of the strategy on Iran’s economy; and

1 (B) the effectiveness of Iran's efforts to
2 avoid or diminish the effects of the sanctions
3 regime pursued thus far by the United States
4 and other governments; and

5 (2) to provide the President and Congress with
6 recommendations for changes to the sanctions re-
7 gime that will increase the likelihood of a peaceful
8 resolution to Iran's nuclear activities.

9 **SEC. 4. IRAN STRATEGY ASSESSMENT PANEL.**

10 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Iran
11 Strategy Assessment Panel (in this Act referred to as the
12 “Panel”).

13 (b) DUTIES.—

14 (1) REVIEW.—The Panel shall review the cur-
15 rent United States strategy toward the threats posed
16 by the Government of Iran and make recommenda-
17 tions to carry out the purpose of this Act. The
18 President shall take such steps as necessary to pro-
19 vide the members of the Panel with access to all in-
20 formation that they request regarding such United
21 States strategy, the diplomatic interaction with the
22 Government of Iran, and the threatening activities
23 by the Government of Iran.

24 (2) ASSESSMENT.—The Panel shall assess—

1 (A) the effectiveness of the current United
2 States strategy described in paragraph (1);

3 (B) the impact of the strategy on the deci-
4 sion-making by the Government of Iran on its
5 threatening activities; and

6 (C) the likelihood that the strategy will
7 achieve a reliable, verifiable, and peaceful reso-
8 lution of Iran's threatening activities.

9 (3) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Based on the results
10 of the assessment under paragraph (2), the Panel
11 shall identify steps needed to increase the effective-
12 ness of the current United States strategy described
13 in paragraph (1) in achieving a reliable, verifiable,
14 and peaceful resolution of the threats posed by Iran.

15 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—

16 (1) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Panel
17 shall be composed of 5 members, appointed by the
18 President by not later than the date that is 30 days
19 after the date of the enactment of this Act, from
20 among individuals who are members of the Presi-
21 dent's Intelligence Advisory Board, the Defense Pol-
22 icy Board Advisory Committee, and the Foreign Af-
23 fairs Policy Board. Each member of the Panel shall
24 have a current security clearance sufficient to be

1 given access to all information relevant to the duties
2 of the Panel described in subsection (b).

3 (2) CONSULTATION.—In appointing members to
4 the Panel under paragraph (1), the President shall
5 consult with the Speaker and minority leader of the
6 House of Representatives and the President pro
7 tempore, majority leader, and minority leader of the
8 Senate.

9 (3) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member of the
10 Panel shall receive travel expenses, including per
11 diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with appli-
12 cable provisions under subchapter I of chapter 57 of
13 title 5, United States Code.

14 (4) QUORUM.—Three members of the Panel
15 shall constitute a quorum but a lesser number may
16 hold hearings.

17 (5) CHAIRPERSON.—The chairperson of the
18 Panel shall be designated by the President at the
19 time of appointment to the Panel.

20 (6) MEETINGS.—The Panel shall meet at the
21 call of the chairperson or a majority of its members.

22 (d) STAFF.—Upon request of the chairperson of the
23 Panel, the head of any Federal department or agency may
24 detail, on a non-reimbursable basis, any of the personnel

1 of that department or agency to the Panel to assist it in
2 carrying out its duties described in subsection (b).

3 (e) REPORT.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days
5 after the date on which all members of the Panel
6 have been appointed, the Panel shall submit to the
7 President and the congressional committees specified
8 in subsection (h) a report that contains—

9 (A) the results of the review required
10 under subsection (b)(1);

11 (B) the assessment required under sub-
12 section (b)(2); and

13 (C) the recommendations required under
14 subsection (b)(3).

15 (2) FORM.—The report may be in classified
16 form, in whole or in part.

17 (f) PRESIDENTIAL REPORT.—Not later than 30 days
18 after the date on which the President receives the report
19 of the Panel under subsection (f), the President shall sub-
20 mit to the congressional committees specified in subsection
21 (h) a report that contains a response to the assessment
22 contained in the report and a determination for each rec-
23 ommendation contained in the report as to whether the
24 President will or will not implement the recommendation,
25 including if necessary a request for legislation to imple-

1 ment the recommendation. For any determination that a
2 recommendation will not be implemented, the President
3 shall provide his reasons for the determination in the re-
4 port required under this subsection.

5 (g) CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFINGS.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Upon the request of any
7 congressional committee specified in subsection (h),
8 one or more members of the Panel shall brief such
9 committee as to the assessment and recommenda-
10 tions contained in the report of the Panel under sub-
11 section (e).

12 (2) OVERSIGHT.—Each congressional com-
13 mittee specified in subsection (h) shall use the as-
14 sessment and recommendations contained in the re-
15 port of the Panel under subsection (e) in its over-
16 sight of the United States strategy toward Iran’s
17 nuclear activities and in developing and acting upon
18 any legislation relating to such subject matter.

19 (h) TERMINATION.—Except for purposes of con-
20 tinuing to provide briefings to the congressional commit-
21 tees specified in subsection (h) in accordance with the re-
22 quirements of subsection (g)(1), the Panel shall terminate
23 30 days after submitting its report pursuant to subsection
24 (e).

1 (i) INAPPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COM-
2 MITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5
3 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Panel.

4 (j) CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES SPECIFIED.—The
5 congressional committees specified in this subsection are
6 the following:

7 (1) The Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
8 House of Representatives.

9 (2) The Committee on Foreign Relations and
10 the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-
11 fairs of the Senate.