

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1699

To provide for congressional review of actions to terminate or waive sanctions imposed with respect to Iran.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 9, 2021

Mr. McCAUL (for himself, Mr. BURCHETT, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. SALAZAR, Ms. TENNEY, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. KINZINGER, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. ISSA, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. BARR, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. MELJER, and Mr. MAST) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, the Judiciary, Oversight and Reform, Ways and Means, and Rules, 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 provide for congressional review of actions to terminate or waive sanctions imposed with respect to 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 Relief  
5 Review Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF CERTAIN ACTIONS RE-**  
2 **LATING TO SANCTIONS IMPOSED WITH RE-**  
3 **SPECT TO IRAN.**

4 (a) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS OF PROPOSED AC-  
5 TION.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other  
7 provision of law, before taking any action described  
8 in paragraph (2), the President shall submit to the  
9 appropriate congressional committees and leadership  
10 a report that describes the proposed action and the  
11 reasons for that action.

12 (2) ACTIONS DESCRIBED.—

13 (A) IN GENERAL.—An action described in  
14 this paragraph is—

15 (i) an action to terminate the applica-  
16 tion of any sanctions described in subpara-  
17 graph (B);

18 (ii) with respect to sanctions described  
19 in subparagraph (B) imposed by the Presi-  
20 dent with respect to a person, an action to  
21 waive the application of those sanctions  
22 with respect to that person; or

23 (iii) a licensing action that signifi-  
24 cantly alters United States foreign policy  
25 with respect to Iran.

1 (B) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanc-  
2 tions described in this subparagraph are sanc-  
3 tions with respect to Iran provided for under—

4 (i) the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996  
5 (Public Law 104–172; 50 U.S.C. 1701  
6 note);

7 (ii) the Comprehensive Iran Sanc-  
8 tions, Accountability, and Divestment Act  
9 of 2010 (22 U.S.C. 8501 et seq.);

10 (iii) section 1245 of the National De-  
11 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year  
12 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8513a);

13 (iv) the Iran Threat Reduction and  
14 Syria Human Rights Act of 2012 (22  
15 U.S.C. 8701 et seq.);

16 (v) the Iran Freedom and Counter-  
17 Proliferation Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8801  
18 et seq.);

19 (vi) the International Emergency Eco-  
20 nomic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 note);  
21 or

22 (vii) any other statute or Executive  
23 order that requires or authorizes the im-  
24 position of sanctions with respect to Iran.

1           (3) DESCRIPTION OF TYPE OF ACTION.—Each  
2       report submitted under paragraph (1) with respect  
3       to an action described in paragraph (2) shall include  
4       a description of whether the action—

5           (A) is not intended to significantly alter  
6       United States foreign policy with respect to  
7       Iran; or

8           (B) is intended to significantly alter  
9       United States foreign policy with respect to  
10      Iran.

11       (4) INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL MATTER.—

12           (A) IN GENERAL.—Each report submitted  
13      under paragraph (1) that relates to an action  
14      that is intended to significantly alter United  
15      States foreign policy with respect to Iran shall  
16      include a description of—

17           (i) the significant alteration to United  
18      States foreign policy with respect to Iran;

19           (ii) the anticipated effect of the action  
20      on the national security interests of the  
21      United States; and

22           (iii) the policy objectives for which the  
23      sanctions affected by the action were ini-  
24      tially imposed.

1                   (B) REQUESTS FROM BANKING AND FI-  
2                   NANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEES.—The Com-  
3                   mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
4                   of the Senate or the Committee on Financial  
5                   Services of the House of Representatives may  
6                   request the submission to the Committee of the  
7                   matter described in clauses (ii) and (iii) of sub-  
8                   paragraph (A) with respect to a report sub-  
9                   mitted under paragraph (1) that relates to an  
10                  action that is not intended to significantly alter  
11                  United States foreign policy with respect to  
12                  Iran.

13               (5) CONFIDENTIALITY OF PROPRIETARY INFOR-  
14               MATION.—Proprietary information that can be asso-  
15               ciated with a particular person with respect to an  
16               action described in paragraph (2) may be included  
17               in a report submitted under paragraph (1) only if  
18               the appropriate congressional committees and lead-  
19               ership provide assurances of confidentiality, unless  
20               that person otherwise consents in writing to such  
21               disclosure.

22               (6) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Paragraph  
23               (2)(A)(iii) shall not be construed to require the sub-  
24               mission of a report under paragraph (1) with respect  
25               to the routine issuance of a license that does not sig-

1 significantly alter United States foreign policy with re-  
2 spect to Iran.

3 (b) PERIOD FOR REVIEW BY CONGRESS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—During the period of 30 cal-  
5 endar days beginning on the date on which the  
6 President submits a report under subsection  
7 (a)(1)—

8 (A) in the case of a report that relates to  
9 an action that is not intended to significantly  
10 alter United States foreign policy with respect  
11 to Iran, the Committee on Banking, Housing,  
12 and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Com-  
13 mittee on Financial Services of the House of  
14 Representatives should, as appropriate, hold  
15 hearings and briefings and otherwise obtain in-  
16 formation in order to fully review the report;  
17 and

18 (B) in the case of a report that relates to  
19 an action that is intended to significantly alter  
20 United States foreign policy with respect to  
21 Iran, the Committee on Foreign Relations of  
22 the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Af-  
23 fairs of the House of Representatives should, as  
24 appropriate, hold hearings and briefings and

1 otherwise obtain information in order to fully  
2 review the report.

3 (2) EXCEPTION.—The period for congressional  
4 review under paragraph (1) of a report required to  
5 be submitted under subsection (a)(1) shall be 60 cal-  
6 endar days if the report is submitted on or after  
7 July 10 and on or before September 7 in any cal-  
8 endar year.

9 (3) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING INITIAL  
10 CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW PERIOD.—Notwithstanding  
11 any other provision of law, during the period for  
12 congressional review provided for under paragraph  
13 (1) of a report submitted under subsection (a)(1)  
14 proposing an action described in subsection (a)(2),  
15 including any additional period for such review as  
16 applicable under the exception provided in paragraph  
17 (2), the President may not take that action unless  
18 a joint resolution of approval with respect to that ac-  
19 tion is enacted in accordance with subsection (c).

20 (4) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING PRESI-  
21 DENTIAL CONSIDERATION OF A JOINT RESOLUTION  
22 OF DISAPPROVAL.—Notwithstanding any other pro-  
23 vision of law, if a joint resolution of disapproval re-  
24 lating to a report submitted under subsection (a)(1)  
25 proposing an action described in subsection (a)(2)

1 passes both Houses of Congress in accordance with  
2 subsection (c), the President may not take that ac-  
3 tion for a period of 12 calendar days after the date  
4 of passage of the joint resolution of disapproval.

5 (5) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING CONGRES-  
6 SIONAL RECONSIDERATION OF A JOINT RESOLUTION  
7 OF DISAPPROVAL.—Notwithstanding any other pro-  
8 vision of law, if a joint resolution of disapproval re-  
9 lating to a report submitted under subsection (a)(1)  
10 proposing an action described in subsection (a)(2)  
11 passes both Houses of Congress in accordance with  
12 subsection (c), and the President vetoes the joint  
13 resolution, the President may not take that action  
14 for a period of 10 calendar days after the date of  
15 the President's veto.

16 (6) EFFECT OF ENACTMENT OF A JOINT RESO-  
17 LUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—Notwithstanding any  
18 other provision of law, if a joint resolution of dis-  
19 approval relating to a report submitted under sub-  
20 section (a)(1) proposing an action described in sub-  
21 section (a)(2) is enacted in accordance with sub-  
22 section (c), the President may not take that action.

23 (c) JOINT RESOLUTIONS OF DISAPPROVAL OR AP-  
24 PROVAL.—

25 (1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:



1 (A) JOINT RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL.—

2 The term “joint resolution of approval” means  
3 only a joint resolution of either House of Con-  
4 gress—

5 (i) the title of which is as follows: “A  
6 joint resolution approving the President’s  
7 proposal to take an action relating to the  
8 application of certain sanctions with re-  
9 spect to Iran.”; and

10 (ii) the sole matter after the resolving  
11 clause of which is the following: “Congress  
12 approves of the action relating to the appli-  
13 cation of sanctions imposed with respect to  
14 Iran proposed by the President in the re-  
15 port submitted to Congress under section  
16 2(a)(1) of the Iran Sanctions Relief Review  
17 Act of 2021 on \_\_\_\_\_ relating  
18 to \_\_\_\_\_.”, with the first  
19 blank space being filled with the appro-  
20 priate date and the second blank space  
21 being filled with a short description of the  
22 proposed action.

23 (B) JOINT RESOLUTION OF DIS-  
24 APPROVAL.—The term “joint resolution of dis-

1 approval” means only a joint resolution of ei-  
2 ther House of Congress—

3 (i) the title of which is as follows: “A  
4 joint resolution disapproving the Presi-  
5 dent’s proposal to take an action relating  
6 to the application of certain sanctions with  
7 respect to Iran.”; and

8 (ii) the sole matter after the resolving  
9 clause of which is the following: “Congress  
10 disapproves of the action relating to the  
11 application of sanctions imposed with re-  
12 spect to Iran proposed by the President in  
13 the report submitted to Congress under  
14 section 2(a)(1) of the Iran Sanctions Relief  
15 Review Act of 2021 on \_\_\_\_\_  
16 relating to \_\_\_\_\_.”, with the  
17 first blank space being filled with the ap-  
18 propriate date and the second blank space  
19 being filled with a short description of the  
20 proposed action.

21 (2) INTRODUCTION.—During the period of 30  
22 calendar days provided for under subsection (b)(1),  
23 including any additional period as applicable under  
24 the exception provided in subsection (b)(2), a joint

1 resolution of approval or joint resolution of dis-  
 2 approval may be introduced—

3 (A) in the House of Representatives, by  
 4 the majority leader or the minority leader; and

5 (B) in the Senate, by the majority leader  
 6 (or the majority leader's designee) or the mi-  
 7 nority leader (or the minority leader's des-  
 8 ignee).

9 (3) FLOOR CONSIDERATION IN HOUSE OF REP-  
 10 REPRESENTATIVES.—If a committee of the House of  
 11 Representatives to which a joint resolution of ap-  
 12 proval or joint resolution of disapproval has been re-  
 13 ferred has not reported the joint resolution within  
 14 10 calendar days after the date of referral, that  
 15 committee shall be discharged from further consider-  
 16 ation of the joint resolution.

17 (4) CONSIDERATION IN THE SENATE.—

18 (A) COMMITTEE REFERRAL.—A joint reso-  
 19 lution of approval or joint resolution of dis-  
 20 approval introduced in the Senate shall be—

21 (i) referred to the Committee on  
 22 Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs if  
 23 the joint resolution relates to a report  
 24 under subsection (a)(3)(A) that relates to  
 25 an action that is not intended to signifi-

1           cantly alter United States foreign policy  
2           with respect to Iran; and

3           (ii) referred to the Committee on For-  
4           eign Relations if the joint resolution relates  
5           to a report under subsection (a)(3)(B) that  
6           relates to an action that is intended to sig-  
7           nificantly alter United States foreign policy  
8           with respect to Iran.

9           (B) REPORTING AND DISCHARGE.—If the  
10          committee to which a joint resolution of ap-  
11          proval or joint resolution of disapproval was re-  
12          ferred has not reported the joint resolution  
13          within 10 calendar days after the date of refer-  
14          ral of the joint resolution, that committee shall  
15          be discharged from further consideration of the  
16          joint resolution and the joint resolution shall be  
17          placed on the appropriate calendar.

18          (C) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—  
19          Notwithstanding Rule XXII of the Standing  
20          Rules of the Senate, it is in order at any time  
21          after the Committee on Banking, Housing, and  
22          Urban Affairs or the Committee on Foreign Re-  
23          lations, as the case may be, reports a joint reso-  
24          lution of approval or joint resolution of dis-  
25          approval to the Senate or has been discharged

1 from consideration of such a joint resolution  
2 (even though a previous motion to the same ef-  
3 fect has been disagreed to) to move to proceed  
4 to the consideration of the joint resolution, and  
5 all points of order against the joint resolution  
6 (and against consideration of the joint resolu-  
7 tion) are waived. The motion to proceed is not  
8 debatable. The motion is not subject to a mo-  
9 tion to postpone. A motion to reconsider the  
10 vote by which the motion is agreed to or dis-  
11 agreed to shall not be in order.

12 (D) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON PROCE-  
13 DURE.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair  
14 relating to the application of the rules of the  
15 Senate, as the case may be, to the procedure re-  
16 lating to a joint resolution of approval or joint  
17 resolution of disapproval shall be decided with-  
18 out debate.

19 (E) CONSIDERATION OF VETO MES-  
20 SAGES.—Debate in the Senate of any veto mes-  
21 sage with respect to a joint resolution of ap-  
22 proval or joint resolution of disapproval, includ-  
23 ing all debatable motions and appeals in con-  
24 nection with the joint resolution, shall be lim-  
25 ited to 10 hours, to be equally divided between,

1 and controlled by, the majority leader and the  
2 minority leader or their designees.

3 (5) RULES RELATING TO SENATE AND HOUSE  
4 OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

5 (A) TREATMENT OF SENATE JOINT RESO-  
6 LUTION IN HOUSE.—In the House of Rep-  
7 resentatives, the following procedures shall  
8 apply to a joint resolution of approval or a joint  
9 resolution of disapproval received from the Sen-  
10 ate (unless the House has already passed a  
11 joint resolution relating to the same proposed  
12 action):

13 (i) The joint resolution shall be re-  
14 ferred to the appropriate committees.

15 (ii) If a committee to which a joint  
16 resolution has been referred has not re-  
17 ported the joint resolution within 2 cal-  
18 endar days after the date of referral, that  
19 committee shall be discharged from further  
20 consideration of the joint resolution.

21 (iii) Beginning on the third legislative  
22 day after each committee to which a joint  
23 resolution has been referred reports the  
24 joint resolution to the House or has been  
25 discharged from further consideration

1           thereof, it shall be in order to move to pro-  
2           ceed to consider the joint resolution in the  
3           House. All points of order against the mo-  
4           tion are waived. Such a motion shall not be  
5           in order after the House has disposed of a  
6           motion to proceed on the joint resolution.  
7           The previous question shall be considered  
8           as ordered on the motion to its adoption  
9           without intervening motion. The motion  
10          shall not be debatable. A motion to recon-  
11          sider the vote by which the motion is dis-  
12          posed of shall not be in order.

13                 (iv) The joint resolution shall be con-  
14                 sidered as read. All points of order against  
15                 the joint resolution and against its consid-  
16                 eration are waived. The previous question  
17                 shall be considered as ordered on the joint  
18                 resolution to final passage without inter-  
19                 vening motion except 2 hours of debate  
20                 equally divided and controlled by the spon-  
21                 sor of the joint resolution (or a designee)  
22                 and an opponent. A motion to reconsider  
23                 the vote on passage of the joint resolution  
24                 shall not be in order.

(B) TREATMENT OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION IN SENATE.—

(i) RECEIPT BEFORE PASSAGE.—If, before the passage by the Senate of a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval, the Senate receives an identical joint resolution from the House of Representatives, the following procedures shall apply:

(I) That joint resolution shall not be referred to a committee.

(II) With respect to that joint resolution—

(aa) the procedure in the Senate shall be the same as if no joint resolution had been received from the House of Representatives; but

(bb) the vote on passage shall be on the joint resolution from the House of Representatives.

(ii) RECEIPT AFTER PASSAGE.—If, following passage of a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval



1 in the Senate, the Senate receives an iden-  
2 tical joint resolution from the House of  
3 Representatives, that joint resolution shall  
4 be placed on the appropriate Senate cal-  
5 endar.

6 (iii) NO COMPANION MEASURE.—If a  
7 joint resolution of approval or a joint reso-  
8 lution of disapproval is received from the  
9 House, and no companion joint resolution  
10 has been introduced in the Senate, the  
11 Senate procedures under this subsection  
12 shall apply to the House joint resolution.

13 (C) APPLICATION TO REVENUE MEAS-  
14 URES.—The provisions of this paragraph shall  
15 not apply in the House of Representatives to a  
16 joint resolution of approval or joint resolution  
17 of disapproval that is a revenue measure.

18 (6) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
19 AND SENATE.—This subsection is enacted by Con-  
20 gress—

21 (A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power  
22 of the Senate and the House of Representa-  
23 tives, respectively, and as such is deemed a part  
24 of the rules of each House, respectively, and su-

1           persedes other rules only to the extent that it  
2           is inconsistent with such rules; and

3           (B) with full recognition of the constitu-  
4           tional right of either House to change the rules  
5           (so far as relating to the procedure of that  
6           House) at any time, in the same manner, and  
7           to the same extent as in the case of any other  
8           rule of that House.

9           (d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES  
10       AND LEADERSHIP DEFINED.—In this section, the term  
11       “appropriate congressional committees and leadership”  
12       means—

13           (1) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and  
14       Urban Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations,  
15       and the majority and minority leaders of the Senate;  
16       and

17           (2) the Committee on Financial Services, the  
18       Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Speaker, the  
19       majority leader, and the minority leader of the  
20       House of Representatives.

○