

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3977

To amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to limit assistance to the Palestinian Authority and the Palestine Liberation Organization, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 17, 2021

Mr. BUDD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to limit assistance to the Palestinian Authority and the Palestine Liberation Organization, 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 “Iron Dome Reinforce-
5 ment Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. LIMITATIONS ON ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIAN**
2 **AUTHORITY AND THE PALESTINE LIBERA-**
3 **TION ORGANIZATION.**

4 Chapter 1 of part III of the Foreign Assistance Act
5 of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2351 et seq.) is amended by adding
6 at the end the following new section:

7 **“SEC. 620N. LIMITATIONS ON ASSISTANCE TO THE PALES-**
8 **TINIAN AUTHORITY AND THE PALESTINE LIB-**
9 **ERATION ORGANIZATION.**

10 “(a) LIMITATIONS.—

11 “(1) PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY.—In addition to
12 the limitation on assistance to the Palestinian Au-
13 thority described in sections 620K and 620L, assist-
14 ance may be provided under this Act to the Pales-
15 tinian Authority only during a period for which a
16 certification described in subsection (b) is in effect.

17 “(2) PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION.—
18 Assistance may be provided under this Act to the
19 Palestine Liberation Organization only during a pe-
20 riod for which a certification described in subsection
21 (b) is in effect.

22 “(b) CERTIFICATION.—A certification described in
23 this subsection is a certification submitted by the Sec-
24 retary of State to Congress that contains a determination
25 of the Secretary that the Palestinian Authority, including
26 any ministry, agency, or instrumentality, or any official

1 acting on behalf of any such ministry, agency, or instru-
2 mentality, and the Palestine Liberation Organization, as
3 the case may be, has ceased the payment of any bonuses,
4 financial compensation, or any other benefit not generally
5 or otherwise available to the Palestinian population at
6 large to the families of Palestinians killed in connection
7 with—

8 “(1) conspiring to commit an act of terrorism;
9 or

10 “(2) the commission of an act of terrorism.

11 “(c) RECERTIFICATIONS.—Not later than 90 days
12 after the date on which the Secretary of State submits
13 to Congress an initial certification under subsection (b)
14 and every six months thereafter—

15 “(1) the Secretary shall submit to Congress a
16 recertification that the conditions described in such
17 subsection are continuing to be met; or

18 “(2) if the Secretary is unable to make such a
19 recertification, the Secretary shall submit to Con-
20 gress a report that contains the reasons therefor.

21 “(d) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Assistance
22 made available under this Act to the Palestinian Authority
23 or the Palestine Liberation Organization may not be pro-
24 vided until 15 days after the date on which the Secretary
25 of State has provided notice thereof to the appropriate

1 congressional committees in accordance with the proce-
2 dures applicable to reprogramming notifications under
3 section 634A(a).

4 “(e) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR IRON DOME.—If
5 the Secretary of State is unable to submit to Congress
6 a certification under subsection (b) or a recertification
7 under subsection (c), funds made available under this Act
8 for assistance to the Palestinian Authority and the Pal-
9 estine Liberation Organization that otherwise would have
10 been provided to the Palestinian Authority and the Pal-
11 estine Liberation Organization shall, notwithstanding any
12 other provision of law, be transferred and made available
13 to the Secretary of Defense to provide assistance to the
14 Government of Israel for the procurement of the Iron
15 Dome defense system to counter short-range rocket
16 threats.

17 “(f) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary of State
18 shall annually submit to the appropriate congressional
19 committees a report on the amount of any bonuses, finan-
20 cial compensation, or any other benefit described in sub-
21 section (b) that have been disbursed by the Palestinian
22 Authority, including by any ministry, agency, or instru-
23 mentality or any official acting on behalf of any such min-
24 istry, agency, or instrumentality, and the Palestine Lib-
25 eration Organization in the preceding 12-month period.

1 “(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

2 “(1) ACT OF TERRORISM.—The term ‘act of
3 terrorism’ means an act dangerous to human life
4 that would violate the criminal laws of the United
5 States if committed within the jurisdiction of the
6 United States that appears to be intended to—

7 “(A) intimidate or coerce a civilian popu-
8 lation;

9 “(B) influence the policy of a government
10 by intimidation or coercion;

11 “(C) affect the conduct of a government by
12 mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping;
13 or

14 “(D) impair Israel’s existence as a Jewish,
15 democratic state within its current territorial
16 boundaries.

17 “(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
18 TEES.—The term ‘appropriate congressional com-
19 mittees’ means—

20 “(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs
21 and the Committee on Appropriations of the
22 House of Representatives; and

23 “(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations
24 and the Committee on Appropriations of the
25 Senate.

1 “(3) FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.—

2 The term ‘foreign terrorist organization’ means an
3 organization designated as a foreign terrorist organi-
4 zation by the Secretary of State in accordance with
5 section 219(a) of the Immigration and Nationality
6 Act (8 U.S.C. 1189(a)).

7 “(4) PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY.—The term
8 ‘Palestinian Authority’ means the interim Pales-
9 tinian administrative organization that governs part
10 of the West Bank and all of the Gaza Strip (or any
11 successor Palestinian governing entity), including
12 the Palestinian Legislative Council.”.

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