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(Original Signature of Member)

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R.

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To provide for the appointment of a high-level United States representative or special envoy for Iran for the purpose of easing tensions and normalizing relations between the United States and Iran.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. LEE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# A BILL

To provide for the appointment of a high-level United States representative or special envoy for Iran for the purpose of easing tensions and normalizing relations between the United States and 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 Diplomatic Ac-  
5 countability Act of 2008”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) On December 3, 2007, the National Intel-  
2           ligence Estimate, representing the consensus view of  
3           16 intelligence agencies, concluded that Iran had  
4           once had a covert nuclear weapons program.

5           (2) The National Intelligence Estimate also  
6           found that Iran had halted its covert nuclear weap-  
7           ons program in 2003 and that this program remains  
8           frozen.

9           (3) The National Intelligence Estimate con-  
10          cluded that Iran's leadership was quite sensitive to  
11          international views and wanted to avoid inter-  
12          national confrontation and made a "cost-benefit" de-  
13          cision regarding whether or not to have such a pro-  
14          gram.

15          (4) Serious concerns still remain about the Gov-  
16          ernment of Iran's intentions and behavior with re-  
17          spect to the development of nuclear weapons, espe-  
18          cially regarding its fuel enrichment program and the  
19          speed with which it might reconstitute its suspended  
20          nuclear weapons program.

21          (5) Hostile official rhetoric exacerbates tensions  
22          and reinforces misunderstandings and animus be-  
23          tween the people of the United States and Iran.

24          (6) The United States should enlist the support  
25          of all interested parties to the region, including the

1 International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), to es-  
2 tablish a program to ensure that Iran's nuclear  
3 weapons program is terminated permanently, that  
4 its nuclear energy program is brought fully under  
5 IAEA inspection and control, and that all diplomatic  
6 tools are used to achieve these objectives.

7 (7) A diplomatic solution that includes direct,  
8 unconditional, bilateral, and comprehensive talks  
9 with the Government of Iran is the only way to re-  
10 solve long-standing tensions between the United  
11 States and Iran.

12 **SEC. 3. APPOINTMENT OF HIGH-LEVEL U.S. REPRESENTA-**  
13 **TIVE OR SPECIAL ENVOY.**

14 (a) APPOINTMENT.—At the earliest possible date, the  
15 President shall appoint a high-level United States rep-  
16 resentative or special envoy for Iran.

17 (b) CRITERIA FOR APPOINTMENT.—The President  
18 shall appoint an individual under subsection (a) on the  
19 basis of the individual's knowledge and understanding of  
20 the issues regarding Iran's nuclear program, experience  
21 in conducting international negotiations, and ability to  
22 conduct negotiations under subsection (c) with the respect  
23 and trust of the parties involved in the negotiations.

24 (c) DUTIES.—The high-level United States represent-  
25 ative or special envoy for Iran shall—

1           (1) seek to conduct direct, unconditional, bilat-  
2           eral negotiations with Iran for the purpose of easing  
3           tensions and normalizing relations between the  
4           United States and Iran;

5           (2) consult with other countries and inter-  
6           national organizations, including countries in the re-  
7           gion, where appropriate and when necessary to  
8           achieve the purpose set forth in paragraph (1);

9           (3) act as liaison with United States and inter-  
10          national intelligence agencies where appropriate and  
11          when necessary to achieve the purpose set for in  
12          paragraph (1); and

13          (4) ensure that the bilateral negotiations under  
14          paragraph (1) complement the ongoing international  
15          negotiations with Iran.

16 **SEC. 4. OFFICE OF HIGH-LEVEL U.S. REPRESENTATIVE OR**  
17 **SPECIAL ENVOY.**

18          Not later than 30 days after the appointment of a  
19          high-level United States representative or special envoy  
20          under section 3(a), the Secretary of State shall establish  
21          in the Department of State an office for the purpose of  
22          supporting the work of the representative or special envoy.

23 **SEC. 5. REPORTING TO CONGRESS.**

24          (a) **REPORTS.**—Not later than 60 days after the  
25          high-level United States representative or special envoy for

1 Iran is appointed under section 3, and every 180 days  
2 thereafter, the United States representative or special  
3 envoy shall report to the committees set forth in sub-  
4 section (b) on the status and progress of negotiations con-  
5 ducted under section 3(c). Each such report may, when  
6 necessary or appropriate, be submitted in classified and  
7 unclassified form.

8 (b) COMMITTEES.—The committees referred to in  
9 subsection (a) are—

10 (1) the Committee on Appropriations, the Com-  
11 mittee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Armed  
12 Services, and the Permanent Select Committee on  
13 Intelligence of the House of Representatives; and

14 (2) the Committee on Appropriations, the Com-  
15 mittee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on  
16 Armed Services, and the Select Committee on Intel-  
17 ligence of the Senate.

18 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

19 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
20 this Act such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal  
21 years 2008 and 2009.