

August, 2015 Action

Call all three of your US legislators, in support of the Iran Agreement

And ask three of your friends to also make those three calls

The six-party agreement over nuclear energy and weapons regulation that was recently struck is perhaps the most important peace agreement in this decade. Congress has the power to reject that agreement with a vote in September. It is up to us to let them know how we feel.

Congressional Switchboard: (202) 224-3121

Suggested Process:

- **If you have any question about the importance of this agreement, (listen to our guest speaker on the August call, and) read the excerpts on the second page of this sheet.**
- **Call the Congressional switchboard three separate times, and ask to be connected to the offices of your two Senators and one House Member.**
- **When you are connected, let them know that you strongly support the Iran Nuclear Agreement, and you'd like your Senator/Congresswo/man to vote in favor of it.**
- **Make a list of at least three people you know who might enjoy this activity.**
- **Call those people, and ask them to do this also.**
 - **Offer to send them this Action Sheet.**
 - **Ask if they would drop you a note to let you know when they've completed this – and tell you how it went.**
 - **Keep track of their responses**
- **If you are on an Action Team, tell your team leader(s) when this is done, so we can track our cumulative impact.**

Basic Information:

- After years of fretful and often hostile negotiations, and sanctions, President Obama reached an accord with Iran in July - along with five other nations - to limit and monitor Iran's nuclear power programs (with inspections to make sure they don't seek to create weapons), in exchange for a gradual lifting of some sanctions.
- Congress passed a law in May (and the President signed it) giving them 60 days from the conclusion of negotiations to either approve, disapprove, or do nothing regarding the deal. A rejection of the deal would maintain US sanctions.
- Congress is in recess during August, so this vote is expected in September.
- If they reject the deal, the President can veto their rejection (he has already said that he would), and then Congress would need a two-thirds majority to override his veto.

Well-Founded Opinions in Support of this Agreement:

- *"This is an historic agreement which stops Iran's nuclear program in its tracks for at least ten years, and probably for many more. It includes all necessary technical measures to ensure that Iran is complying with its commitments, provides sanctions relief only as those commitments are demonstrated, and will make the U.S. and its friends in the region far more secure than they would be in any other scenario."*

Barry Blechman, Co-Founder/Emeritus, Stimson - Founded in 1989, the Stimson Center is a nonprofit, nonpartisan institution devoted to enhancing international peace and security through a unique combination of rigorous analysis and outreach. The Center's approach is pragmatic — geared toward providing policy alternatives, solving problems, and overcoming obstacles to a more peaceful and secure world.

- *"We call on the U.S. Congress to take no action that would impede further progress or undermine the American negotiators' efforts to complete the final comprehensive agreement. The Congress should examine the announced framework, asking itself whether the potential for a comprehensive, verifiable accord is preferable to the current standoff with Iran or other alternatives as a means to ensure that Iran will not acquire a nuclear weapon."* [4/6/15]

Madeleine Albright, Fmr. Secretary of State; Brent Scowcroft, Fmr. National Security Advisor; Fmr. Senator Carl Levin; Fmr. Senator Richard Lugar; Adm. William Fallon (Ret.); and over 50 signatories-(from article: "Experts Support the Emerging Nuclear Deal with Iran," Win Without War, June, 2015)

- *"What would be the consequences of disapproving the agreement? Iran will have a strong incentive to accelerate its nuclear program, in the belief that the United States is more likely to attack than ever before. No centrifuges would be removed, no uranium stockpiles reduced, no enrichment facilities converted, no nuclear sites monitored by outside inspectors.*

At the same time, multilateral sanctions would likely collapse. The United States would keep its own comprehensive sanctions, but they would be much less effective than before. ... Iran would reap not only the economic benefits of resuming trade, but also the political benefits of being seen as "the reasonable party." Iran's reputation and regional clout may be enhanced by the deal, but they are likely to grow even further if the United States is the one to reject it."

Diana Ohlbaum, Senior Associate at the Center for Strategic and International Studies

- *"The agreement will strengthen U.S. security and that of our partners. Rigorous monitoring measures will remain in place not just throughout the long duration of the agreement but even after the core limits of the agreement expire."* [4/6/15]

Ambassador Brooke Anderson; Prof. Matthew Bunn, Harvard University; Ambassador Robert Gallucci; and 27 other nuclear security experts (from article: "Experts Support the Emerging Nuclear Deal with Iran," Win Without War, June, 2015)