Iran Nuclear Proposal

Congressman Mark DeSaulnier
Serving the 11th District of California
History of the Region

• For thousands of years, tribes were the primary structure of governance in the Middle East.

• France and Great Britain made a strategy in 1920 by which to divide much of the land in the Middle East, which formed the basis for the borders of the modern nation-state.

• Israel was created in 1947 to support a democracy in the Middle East and to right historical wrongdoings.

• Israeli Middle East security expert: it is more important for the U.S. to be respected in the Middle East than to be liked.
Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)

- Framework agreement was signed in April 2015

- Signed the JCPOA in Vienna on July 14, 2015 between the permanent members of the UN Security Council (China, France, Russia, the UK, the US), Germany, the EU, and Iran

- These negotiations began in 2006
Pillars of the Deal

• **Stockpile** – the amount of nuclear material (uranium) currently in Iran’s possession

• **Enrichment** – the process of turning uranium into a weapon

• **Centrifuges** – the machines used to enrich uranium

• **Inspections** – access for international weapons experts to examine locations where nuclear material is used and enriched

• **Sanctions** – political trade restrictions put in place against target countries in order to maintain or restore international peace and security
Pillars Explained

• Stockpile:
  • Iran will be required to reduce its stockpile of enriched uranium by 97% of their current nuclear stockpile
  • Reduces Iran’s nuclear bomb breakout time from about 2-3 months to a year

• Enrichment:
  • Iran will be allowed to enrich uranium to 3.67%
  • Uranium must be enriched to about 90% to be used as a weapon

• Centrifuges:
  • Iran must reduce their number of centrifuges from 20,000 to 6,000
Pillars Explained

• Inspections:
  • UN-approved inspectors will have access to Iran’s uranium and enrichment-related sites and "suspicious sites“

• Sanctions:
  • Relief: Nuclear-related sanctions will be lifted once Iran’s compliance has been verified (earliest it would happen is mid-December)
  • Reinstatement: Any of the signatories of the agreement can report if they believe Iran is “cheating.” UN sanctions will be reinstated unless a majority votes in Iran’s favor — and none of the permanent members, including the US, vetoes.
White House Perspective

IF IRAN TRIES TO BUILD A NUCLEAR BOMB TODAY, HOW LONG WOULD IT TAKE?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WITHOUT A DEAL</th>
<th>WITH A DEAL</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ENRICHED URANIUM STOCKPILE FOR:</strong></td>
<td><strong>ALL 4 PATHWAYS TO A BOMB ARE BLOCKED</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NUMBER OF CENTRIFUGES:</strong></td>
<td><strong>TIME TO PRODUCE ONE BOMB’S WORTH OF MATERIAL:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19,000</td>
<td>6,104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-3 MONTHS</td>
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White House Perspective

Under the framework for an Iran nuclear deal, Iran’s uranium enrichment pathway to a weapon will be shut down.

**Without the deal:**
- Resumed production of highly enriched uranium
- No limits on stockpile of enriched uranium
- Unlimited increase and advancement of centrifuges

**With the deal:**
- No production or stockpile of highly enriched uranium
- Low-enriched uranium stockpile reduced by 98% and capped
- Centrifuges reduced by two-thirds

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Supporters

- President Obama and the Administration
- Other UN Security Council members, including Russia, China, France, the UK, Germany, and the EU
- 29 scientists/experts/Nobel Laureates
- Dozens of retired generals, admirals
- Hans Blix, former head of the International Atomic Energy Agency
- The Vatican, Afghanistan, Egypt, Iraq, Pakistan, Turkey, Syria, Australia, Canada
- Madeleine Albright, former Secretary of State
- More than 60 American “national security leaders”, including a former Assistant Secretary of Defense and former National Security Advisor to President Clinton
- More than 100 former Ambassadors
- J Street
- Many Congressional Democrats
Opponents

- Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu
- AIPAC
- Congressional Republicans
- Handful of Congressional Democrats (Senator Schumer)
- Former military officials
## Presenting the Cases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opponents</th>
<th>Supporters</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No “anytime, anywhere” or surprise inspections</td>
<td>Robust inspections that are more than we have ever had</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timeline of sanctions relief is too short</td>
<td>Cooperation with UN required before sanctions relief</td>
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<td>Weaponization breakout time is not sufficiently long</td>
<td>Weaponization breakout time is blocked for more than a decade and any delay is positive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does not require full dismantlement of centrifuges</td>
<td>Removal of centrifuges is a good start</td>
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<td>If we reject the deal, Iran will come back to the table</td>
<td>If we reject the deal, we risk war and losing the backing of the international community</td>
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<tr>
<td>The deal did not include the release of the 4 Americans being held hostage in Iran</td>
<td>While important, the scope of the deal is limited to the nuclear program</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bottom line: The deal is not robust enough</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bottom line: This deal is better than the status quo/no deal</strong></td>
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</table>
Sustaining a Veto

Democrats needed to vote against the deal in the House, assuming every Republican votes to disapprove it:

44

Democrats: 188

House

435

Republicans: 246

Democrats needed to vote against the deal in the Senate, assuming every Republican votes to disapprove it:

13

Democrats: 46

Senate

100

Republicans: 54
Next Steps

• According to the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act, Congress had 60 days to vote on the proposal.
  • Last day it can be on the floor is September 17\textsuperscript{th}.
• The President has 12 days to issue a veto (which he has indicated he will do if it fails).
• Congress has 10 days to override the veto and will come to the House first.
Meetings Held

- President Obama
- Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu
- Israeli President Reuven Rivlin
- Israeli opposition leader Isaac Herzog
- Former Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Salam Fayyad
- Palestinian Authority Finance Minister Shukri Bishara
- US Ambassador to Israel, Daniel Shapiro
- Secretary of State John Kerry
- Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz