

HR 2297

Hizballah International Financing Prevention Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: May 13, 2015

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 114-102.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 114-102. (Dec 18, 2015)

Law: 114-102 (Enacted Dec 18, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/2297>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Royce, Edward R. [R-CA-39]

Party: Republican • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Deutch, Theodore E. [D-FL-21]	D · FL		May 13, 2015
Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16]	D · NY		May 13, 2015
Rep. Meadows, Mark [R-NC-11]	R · NC		May 13, 2015
Rep. Zeldin, Lee M. [R-NY-1]	R · NY		May 13, 2015
Rep. Cook, Paul [R-CA-8]	R · CA		May 14, 2015
Rep. Dold, Robert J. [R-IL-10]	R · IL		May 14, 2015
Rep. Jolly, David W. [R-FL-13]	R · FL		May 14, 2015
Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]	D · NY		May 14, 2015
Rep. Price, Tom [R-GA-6]	R · GA		May 14, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Nov 17, 2015
Financial Services Committee	House	Referred To	May 13, 2015
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	May 13, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 1617	Related bill	Jun 18, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

(This measure has not been amended since it was passed by the Senate on December 16, 2015. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Hizballah International Financing Prevention Act of 2015

(Sec. 2) This bill states that it shall be U.S. policy to: (1) prevent Hizballah's global logistics and financial network from operating in order to curtail funding of its domestic and international activities; and (2) utilize diplomatic, legislative, and executive avenues to combat Hizballah's criminal activities in order to block that organization's ability to fund its global terrorist activities.

TITLE I--PREVENTION OF ACCESS BY HIZBALLAH TO INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS

(Sec. 101) The President shall report to Congress on: (1) satellite, broadcast, Internet, or other providers that have knowingly entered into a contractual relationship with al-Manar TV and its affiliates; and (2) the identity of those providers that have or have not been sanctioned pursuant to Executive Order 13224 (relating to blocking property and prohibiting transactions with persons who commit or support terrorism).

(Sec. 102) The President shall prohibit or impose strict conditions on the opening or maintaining in the United States of a correspondent account or a payable-through account by a foreign financial institution that knowingly:

- facilitates a transaction or transactions for Hizballah;
- facilitates a significant transaction or transactions of a person on specified lists of specially designated nationals and blocked persons, property, and property interests for acting on behalf of or at the direction of, or being owned or controlled by, Hizballah;
- engages in money laundering to carry out such an activity; or
- facilitates a significant transaction or provides significant financial services to carry out such an activity.

Specified penalties under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act shall apply to violations of this Act.

Procedures for judicial review of classified information are set forth.

The President may waive the application of a prohibition for up to 180 days (renewable for additional 180-day periods) if in U.S. national security interests, and with congressional notification.

The President shall not be required to apply sanctions to a foreign financial institution if the President certifies to Congress that:

- such institution is no longer, or is taking significant steps towards no longer, engaging in the prohibited activity; and
- the President has received reliable assurances from the government with primary jurisdiction over the institution that the institution will not engage in such activity.

Treasury shall identify to Congress every 180 days each foreign central bank that carries out a prohibited activity, together with a detailed description of each such activity.

TITLE II--REPORTS AND BRIEFINGS ON NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING AND SIGNIFICANT TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES OF HIZBALLAH

(Sec. 201) The President shall report to Congress on Hizballah's narcotics trafficking worldwide.

The President shall, within 30 days of submitting such report, brief Congress on: (1) the report, (2) procedures for designating Hizballah as a significant foreign narcotics trafficker, and (3) government-wide efforts to combat Hizballah's narcotics trafficking.

(Sec. 202) The President shall report to Congress on Hizballah's transnational criminal activities, including human trafficking.

The President shall, within 30 days of submitting such report, brief Congress on: (1) the report, (2) procedures for designating Hizballah as a significant transnational criminal organization, and (3) government-wide efforts to combat Hizballah's criminal activities.

(Sec. 203) The Department of State shall report, and provide an annual briefing, to Congress regarding actions taken through the Department's rewards program to obtain information on Hizballah's fundraising, financing, and money laundering activities.

(Sec. 204) The President shall report to Congress regarding:

- countries that support Hizballah, countries in which Hizballah maintains important portions of its global logistics networks, or in which Hizballah conducts significant fundraising, financing, or money laundering activities;
- an assessment of whether a country's government is taking adequate measures to disrupt Hizballah's networks and activities within that country, and if not, the reasons it is not taking such measures and a description of U.S. measures to encourage the improvement of such measures; and
- methods that Hizballah, or any of its agents or affiliates, utilizes to raise or transfer funds, including trade-based money laundering, the use of foreign exchange houses, and free-trade zones.

The State Department, Treasury, and other applicable federal departments and agencies shall brief Congress every 180 days on the disposition of Hizballah's assets and activities related to fundraising, financing, and money laundering.

TITLE III--MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

(Sec. 301) Nothing in this Act shall apply to authorized U.S. intelligence activities.

(Sec. 302) The President shall promulgate implementing regulations.

(Sec. 303) This Act shall cease to be in effect 30 days after the President certifies to Congress that Hizballah:

- is no longer designated as a foreign terrorist organization; and
- is no longer listed in the Annex to Executive Order 13224.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 18, 2015:** Presented to President.
- **Dec 18, 2015:** Signed by President.
- **Dec 18, 2015:** Became Public Law No: 114-102.
- **Dec 16, 2015:** Mr. Royce moved that the House suspend the rules and agree to the Senate amendments. (consideration: CR H9341-9346)
- **Dec 16, 2015:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the Senate amendments to H.R. 2297.
- **Dec 16, 2015:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Dec 16, 2015:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H9356)
- **Dec 16, 2015:** Resolving differences -- House actions: On motion that the House suspend the rules and agree to the Senate amendments Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 425 - 0 (Roll no. 698). (text as House agreed to Senate amendment: CR H9341-9343)
- **Dec 16, 2015:** On motion that the House suspend the rules and agree to the Senate amendments Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 425 - 0 (Roll no. 698). (text as House agreed to Senate amendment: CR H9341-9343)
- **Dec 16, 2015:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Nov 18, 2015:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Nov 17, 2015:** Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs discharged by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S8027)
- **Nov 17, 2015:** Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs discharged by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S8027)
- **Nov 17, 2015:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S8027)
- **Nov 17, 2015:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment and an amendment to the Title by Unanimous Consent.
- **Nov 17, 2015:** Passed Senate with an amendment and an amendment to the Title by Unanimous Consent.
- **May 18, 2015:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.
- **May 14, 2015:** Mr. Royce moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **May 14, 2015:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H2983-2989)
- **May 14, 2015:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 2297.
- **May 14, 2015:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **May 14, 2015:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H2998-2999)
- **May 14, 2015:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 423 - 0 (Roll no. 227). (text: CR H2983-2985)
- **May 14, 2015:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 423 - 0 (Roll no. 227). (text: CR H2983-2985)
- **May 14, 2015:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **May 13, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **May 13, 2015:** Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, 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.