

SRES 251

A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the congressional review provision of the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015 does not apply to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action announced on July 14, 2015, because the President failed to transmit the entire agreement as required by such Act, and that the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action would only preempt existing Iran sanctions laws as "the supreme Law of the Land" if ratified by the Senate as a treaty with the concurrence of two thirds of the Senators present pursuant to Article II, section 2, clause 2, of the Constitution or if Congress were to enact new implementing legislation that supersedes the mandatory statutory sanctions that the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action announced on July 14, 2015, purports to supersede.

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Sep 10, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (text of measure as introduced: CR S6608-6609)

Latest Action: Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (text of measure as introduced: CR S6608-6609) (Sep 10, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-resolution/251>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Johnson, Ron [R-WI]

Party: Republican • **State:** WI • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT]	R · UT		Sep 10, 2015
Sen. Toomey, Patrick [R-PA]	R · PA		Sep 10, 2015
Sen. Coats, Daniel [R-IN]	R · IN		Sep 24, 2015
Sen. Sessions, Jeff [R-AL]	R · AL		Sep 24, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 10, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Declares the sense of the Senate that:

- the congressional review requirement of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as added by the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015 (Act), does not apply to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) announced on July 14, 2015, because the President failed to comply with the transmission to Congress requirements;
- because the President did not transmit to Congress all related materials and annexes within five days of reaching agreement with Iran the congressional review period did not occur, at least not in the manner envisioned by the members of Congress who voted for the Act;
- in light of the President's failure to submit the entire agreement relating to Iran's nuclear program, including side agreements, to Congress within five days the congressional review requirement by its own terms does not apply to the partial agreement (JCPOA), and so for the substance of the transmission to become "the supreme Law of the Land" it would need either to be treated by the Senate as a treaty or Congress would need to enact new implementing legislation that supersedes the mandatory sanctions the JCPOA purports to supersede;
- the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012, the Iran Freedom and Counter-Proliferation Act of 2012, and the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012 remain "the supreme Law of the Land" until a Senate-ratified treaty or duly enacted statute repeals or otherwise supersedes them; and
- the Senate, which has the power to consent to treaties under Article II of the Constitution, has not and does not consent to the JCPOA, which is therefore not "the supreme Law of the Land," and the President therefore has a constitutional duty to ensure that the Iran sanctions laws continue to be executed faithfully.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 10, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 10, 2015:** Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (text of measure as introduced: CR S6608-6609)