

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4483

To halt Syrian support for terrorism, end its occupation of Lebanon, stop its development of weapons of mass destruction, cease its illegal importation of Iraqi oil, and by so doing hold Syria accountable for the serious international security problems it has caused in the Middle East, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 18, 2002

Mr. ARMEY (for himself and Mr. ENGEL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To halt Syrian support for terrorism, end its occupation of Lebanon, stop its development of weapons of mass destruction, cease its illegal importation of Iraqi oil, and by so doing hold Syria accountable for the serious international security problems it has caused in the Middle East, and for other purposes.

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 “Syria Accountability
5 Act of 2002”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) On September 20, 2001, President George
4 Bush stated at a joint session of Congress that
5 “[e]very nation, in every region, now has a decision
6 to make . . . [e]ither you are with us, or you are
7 with the terrorists . . . [f]rom this day forward, any
8 nation that continues to harbor or support terrorism
9 will be regarded by the United States as a hostile re-
10 gime”.

11 (2) United Nations Security Council Resolution
12 1373 (September 28, 2001) mandates that all states
13 “refrain from providing any form of support, active
14 or passive, to entities or persons involved in terrorist
15 acts”, take “the necessary steps to prevent the com-
16 mission of terrorist acts”, and “deny safe haven to
17 those who finance, plan, support, or commit terrorist
18 acts”.

19 (3) The Government of Syria is currently pro-
20 hibited by United States law from receiving United
21 States assistance because it is listed as state sponsor
22 of terrorism.

23 (4) Although the Department of State lists
24 Syria as a state sponsor of terrorism and reports
25 that Syria provides “safe haven and support to sev-
26 eral terrorist groups”, fewer United States sanctions

1 apply with respect to Syria than with respect to any
2 other country that is listed as a state sponsor of ter-
3 rorism.

4 (5) Terrorist groups, including Hizballah,
5 Hamas, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Pal-
6 estine, and the Popular Front for the Liberation of
7 Palestine—General Command maintain offices,
8 training camps, and other facilities on Syrian terri-
9 tory and operate in areas of Lebanon occupied by
10 the Syrian armed forces and receive supplies from
11 Iran through Syria.

12 (6) United Nations Security Council Resolution
13 520 (September 17, 1982) calls for “strict respect of
14 the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and polit-
15 ical independence of Lebanon under the sole and ex-
16 clusive authority of the Government of Lebanon
17 through the Lebanese Army throughout Lebanon”.

18 (7) More than 20,000 Syrian troops and secu-
19 rity personnel occupy much of the sovereign territory
20 of Lebanon exerting undue influence upon its gov-
21 ernment and undermining its political independence.

22 (8) Since 1990 the Senate and House of Rep-
23 resentatives have passed seven bills and resolutions
24 which call for the withdrawal of Syrian armed forces
25 from Lebanon.

1 (9) Large and increasing numbers of the Leba-
2 nese people from across the political spectrum in
3 Lebanon have mounted peaceful and democratic
4 calls for the withdrawal of the Syrian Army from
5 Lebanese soil.

6 (10) Israel has withdrawn all of its armed
7 forces from Lebanon in accordance with United Na-
8 tions Security Council Resolution 425 (March 19,
9 1978), as certified by the United Nations Secretary
10 General.

11 (11) Even in the face of this United Nations
12 certification that acknowledged Israel's full compli-
13 ance with Resolution 425, Syria permits attacks by
14 Hizballah and other militant organizations on Israeli
15 outposts at Shebaa Farms, under the false guise
16 that it remains Lebanese land, and is also permit-
17 ting attacks on civilian targets in Israel.

18 (12) Syria will not allow Lebanon—a sovereign
19 country—to fulfill its obligation in accordance with
20 Security Council Resolution 425 to deploy its troops
21 to southern Lebanon.

22 (13) As a result, the Israeli-Lebanese border
23 and much of southern Lebanon is under the control
24 of Hizballah which continues to attack Israeli posi-
25 tions and allows Iranian Revolutionary Guards and

1 other militant groups to operate freely in the area,
2 destabilizing the entire region.

3 (14) The United States provides \$40,000,000
4 in assistance to the Lebanese people through private
5 nongovernmental organizations, \$7,900,000 of which
6 is provided to Lebanese-American educational insti-
7 tutions.

8 (15) In the State of the Union address on Jan-
9 uary 29, 2002, President Bush declared that the
10 United States will “work closely with our coalition to
11 deny terrorists and their state sponsors the mate-
12 rials, technology, and expertise to make and deliver
13 weapons of mass destruction”.

14 (16) The Government of Syria continues to de-
15 velop and deploy short and medium range ballistic
16 missiles.

17 (17) The Government of Syria is pursuing the
18 development and production of biological and chem-
19 ical weapons.

20 (18) United Nations Security Council Resolu-
21 tion 661 (August 6, 1990) and subsequent relevant
22 resolutions restrict the sale of oil and other commod-
23 ities by Iraq, except to the extent authorized by
24 other relevant resolutions.

1 (19) Syria, a non-permanent United Nations
2 Security Council member, is receiving between
3 150,000 and 200,000 barrels of oil from Iraq in vio-
4 lation of Security Council Resolution 661 and subse-
5 quent relevant resolutions.

6 (20) Syrian President Bashar Assad promised
7 Secretary of State Powell in February 2001 to end
8 violations of Security Council Resolution 661 but
9 this pledge has not been fulfilled.

10 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

11 It is the sense of Congress that—

12 (1) the Government of Syria should imme-
13 diately and unconditionally halt support for ter-
14 rorism, permanently and openly declare its total re-
15 nunciation of all forms of terrorism, and close all
16 terrorist offices and facilities in Syria, including the
17 offices of Hamas, Hizballah, the Popular Front for
18 the Liberation of Palestine, and the Popular Front
19 for the Liberation of Palestine—General Command;

20 (2) the Government of Syria should imme-
21 diately declare its commitment to completely with-
22 draw its armed forces, including military, para-
23 military, and security forces, from Lebanon, and set
24 a firm timetable for such withdrawal;

1 (3) the Government of Lebanon should deploy
2 the Lebanese armed forces to all areas of Lebanon,
3 including South Lebanon, in accordance with United
4 Nations Security Council Resolution 520 (September
5 17, 1982), in order to assert the sovereignty of the
6 Lebanese state over all of its territory, and should
7 evict all terrorist and foreign forces from southern
8 Lebanon, including Hizballah and the Iranian Revo-
9 lutionary Guards;

10 (4) the Government of Syria should halt the de-
11 velopment and deployment of short and medium
12 range ballistic missiles and cease the development
13 and production of biological and chemical weapons;

14 (5) the Government of Syria should halt illegal
15 imports and transshipments of Iraqi oil and come
16 into full compliance with United Nations Security
17 Council Resolution 661 and subsequent relevant res-
18 olutions;

19 (6) the Governments of Lebanon and Syria
20 should enter into serious unconditional bilateral ne-
21 gotiations with the Government of Israel in order to
22 realize a full and permanent peace; and

23 (7) the United States should continue to pro-
24 vide humanitarian and educational assistance to the
25 people of Lebanon only through appropriate private,

1 nongovernmental organizations and appropriate
2 international organizations, until such time as the
3 Government of Lebanon asserts sovereignty and con-
4 trol over all of its territory and borders and achieves
5 full political independence, as called for in United
6 Nations Security Council Resolution 520.

7 **SEC. 4. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

8 It should be the policy of the United States that—

9 (1) the United States will continue its campaign
10 against international terror to all places where ter-
11 rorism exists;

12 (2) Syria will be held responsible for all attacks
13 committed by Hizballah and other terrorist groups
14 with offices or other facilities in Syria, or bases in
15 areas of Lebanon occupied by Syria;

16 (3) the United States will work to deny Syria
17 the ability to support acts of international terrorism
18 and efforts to develop or acquire weapons of mass
19 destruction;

20 (4) the Secretary of State will continue to list
21 Syria as a state sponsor of terrorism until Syria
22 ends its support for terrorism, including its support
23 of Hizballah and other terrorist groups in Lebanon
24 and its hosting of terrorist groups in Damascus, and
25 comes into full compliance with United States law

1 relating to terrorism and United Nations Security
2 Council Resolution 1373 (September 28, 2001);

3 (5) the full restoration of Lebanon's sov-
4 ereignty, political independence, and territorial in-
5 tegrity is in the national security interest of the
6 United States;

7 (6) Syria is in violation of United Nations Se-
8 curity Council Resolution 520 (September 17, 1982)
9 through its continued occupation of Lebanese terri-
10 tory and its encroachment upon its political inde-
11 pendence;

12 (7) Syria's obligation to withdraw from Leb-
13 anon is not conditioned upon progress in the Israeli-
14 Syrian or Israeli-Lebanese peace process but derives
15 from Syria's obligation under Security Council Reso-
16 lution 520;

17 (8) Syria's acquisition of weapons of mass de-
18 struction and ballistic missile programs threaten the
19 security of the Middle East and the national security
20 interests of the United States;

21 (9) Syria is in violation of United Nations Se-
22 curity Council Resolution 661 (August 6, 1990) and
23 subsequent relevant resolutions through its contin-
24 ued purchase of oil from Iraq; and

1 (10) the United States will not provide any as-
2 sistance to Syria and will oppose multilateral assist-
3 ance for Syria until Syria withdraws its armed
4 forces from Lebanon, halts the development and de-
5 ployment of weapons of mass destruction and bal-
6 listic missiles, and complies with Security Council
7 Resolution 661 and subsequent relevant resolutions.

8 **SEC. 5. PENALTIES AND AUTHORIZATION.**

9 (a) PENALTIES.—Until the President makes the de-
10 termination that Syria meets the requirements described
11 in paragraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (c) and cer-
12 tifies such determination to Congress in accordance with
13 such subsection—

14 (1) the President shall prohibit the export to
15 Syria of any item, including the issuance of a license
16 for the export of any item, on the United States Mu-
17 nitions List or Commerce Control List of dual-use
18 items in the Export Administration Regulations (15
19 C.F.R. part 730 et seq.);

20 (2) the President shall prohibit United States
21 Government assistance, including loans, credits, or
22 other financial assistance, to United States busi-
23 nesses with respect to investment or other activities
24 in Syria;

1 (3) the President shall prohibit the conduct of
2 programs of the Overseas Private Investment Cor-
3 poration and the Trade and Development Agency in
4 or with respect to Syria; and

5 (4) the President shall impose two or more of
6 the following sanctions:

7 (A) Prohibit the export of products of the
8 United States (other than food and medicine)
9 to Syria.

10 (B) Prohibit United States businesses from
11 investing or operating in Syria.

12 (C) Restrict Syrian diplomats in Wash-
13 ington, D.C., and at the United Nations in New
14 York City, to travel only within a 25-mile ra-
15 dius of Washington, D.C., or the United Na-
16 tions headquarters building, respectively.

17 (D) Prohibit aircraft of any air carrier
18 owned or controlled by Syria to take off from,
19 land in, or overfly the United States.

20 (E) Reduce United States diplomatic con-
21 tacts with Syria (other than those contacts re-
22 quired to protect United States interests or
23 carry out the purposes of this Act).

24 (F) Block transactions in any property in
25 which the Government of Syria has any inter-

1 est, by any person, or with respect to any prop-
2 erty, subject to the jurisdiction of the United
3 States.

4 (b) WAIVER.—The President may waive the applica-
5 tion of either paragraph (2) or (3) (or both) of subsection
6 (a) if the President determines that it is in the national
7 security interest of the United States to do so.

8 (c) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO SYRIA
9 AND LEBANON.—If the President—

10 (1) makes the determination that Syria meets
11 the requirements described in paragraphs (1)
12 through (4) of subsection (d) and certifies such de-
13 termination to Congress in accordance with such
14 subsection;

15 (2) determines that substantial progress has
16 been made both in negotiations aimed at achieving
17 a peace agreement between Israel and Syria and in
18 negotiations aimed at achieving a peace agreement
19 between Israel and Lebanon; and

20 (3) determines that the Government of Syria is
21 strictly respecting the sovereignty, territorial integ-
22 rity, unity, and political independence of Lebanon
23 under the sole and exclusive authority of the Govern-
24 ment of Lebanon through the Lebanese army
25 throughout Lebanon, as required under paragraph

1 (4) of United Nations Security Council Resolution
2 520 (1982), then the President is authorized not-
3 withstanding any other provision of law to provide
4 assistance to Syria and Lebanon under chapter 1 of
5 Part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (relat-
6 ing to development assistance).

7 (d) CERTIFICATION.—A certification under this sub-
8 section is a certification transmitted to the appropriate
9 congressional committees of a determination made by the
10 President that—

11 (1) the Government of Syria does not provide
12 support for international terrorist groups and does
13 not allow terrorist groups, such as Hamas,
14 Hizballah, the Popular Front for the Liberation of
15 Palestine, and the Popular Front for the Liberation
16 of Palestine—General Command to maintain facili-
17 ties in Syria;

18 (2) the Government of Syria has withdrawn all
19 Syrian military, intelligence, and other security per-
20 sonnel from Lebanon;

21 (3) the Government of Syria has ceased the de-
22 velopment and deployment of ballistic missiles and
23 has ceased the development and production of bio-
24 logical and chemical weapons; and

1 (4) the Government of Syria is no longer in vio-
2 lation of United Nations Security Council Resolution
3 661 and subsequent relevant resolutions.

4 **SEC. 6. REPORT.**

5 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the date
6 of the enactment of this Act, and every 12 months there-
7 after until the conditions described in paragraphs (1)
8 through (4) of section 5(c) are satisfied, the Secretary of
9 State shall submit to the appropriate congressional com-
10 mittees a report on—

11 (1) Syria’s progress toward meeting the condi-
12 tions described in paragraphs (1) through (4) of sec-
13 tion 5(c); and

14 (2) connections, if any, between individual ter-
15 rorists and terrorist groups which maintain offices,
16 training camps, or other facilities on Syrian terri-
17 tory, or operate in areas of Lebanon occupied by the
18 Syrian armed forces, and the attacks against the
19 United States that occurred on September 11, 2001,
20 and other terrorist attacks on the United States or
21 its citizens, installations, or allies.

22 (b) FORM.—The report submitted under subsection
23 (a) shall be in unclassified form but may include a classi-
24 fied annex.

1 **SEC. 7. DEFINITION OF APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL**
2 **COMMITTEES.**

3 In this Act, the term “appropriate congressional com-
4 mittees” means the Committee on International Relations
5 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on
6 Foreign Relations of the Senate.

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