

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2215

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 its role in the Middle East, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 18, 2002

Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mr. SANTORUM) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign 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 its role 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”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

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

9 (2) United Nations Security Council Resolution
10 1373 (September 28, 2001) mandates that all states
11 “refrain from providing any form of support, active
12 or passive, to entities or persons involved in terrorist
13 acts”, take “the necessary steps to prevent the com-
14 mission of terrorist acts”, and “deny safe haven to
15 those who finance, plan, support, or commit terrorist
16 acts”.

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

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

1 other country that is listed as a state sponsor of ter-
2 rorism.

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

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

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

21 (8) Since 1990 the Senate and House of Rep-
22 resentatives have passed seven bills and resolutions
23 which call for the withdrawal of Syrian armed forces
24 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) Syria will be held responsible for all attacks
10 committed by Hizballah and other terrorist groups
11 with offices or other facilities in Syria, or bases in
12 areas of Lebanon occupied by Syria;

13 (2) the United States will work to deny Syria
14 the ability to support acts of international terrorism
15 and efforts to develop or acquire weapons of mass
16 destruction;

17 (3) the Secretary of State will continue to list
18 Syria as a state sponsor of terrorism until Syria
19 ends its support for terrorism, including its support
20 of Hizballah and other terrorist groups in Lebanon
21 and its hosting of terrorist groups in Damascus, and
22 comes into full compliance with United States law
23 relating to terrorism and United Nations Security
24 Council Resolution 1373 (September 28, 2001);

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

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

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

15 (7) Syria's acquisition of weapons of mass de-
16 struction and ballistic missile programs threaten the
17 security of the Middle East and the national inter-
18 ests of the United States;

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

23 (9) the United States will not provide any as-
24 sistance to Syria and will oppose multilateral assist-
25 ance for Syria until Syria withdraws its armed

1 forces from Lebanon, halts the development and de-
2 ployment of weapons of mass destruction and bal-
3 listic missiles, and complies with Security Council
4 Resolution 661 and subsequent relevant resolutions.

5 **SEC. 5. SANCTIONS.**

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

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

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

22 (3) the President shall prohibit the conduct of
23 programs of the Overseas Private Investment Cor-
24 poration and the Trade and Development Agency in
25 or with respect to Syria; and

1 (4) the President shall impose two or more of
2 the following sanctions:

3 (A) Prohibit the export of products of the
4 United States (other than food and medicine)
5 to Syria.

6 (B) Prohibit United States businesses from
7 investing or operating in Syria.

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

13 (D) Reduce United States diplomatic con-
14 tacts with Syria (other than those contacts re-
15 quired to protect United States interests or
16 carry out the purposes of this Act).

17 (E) Block transactions in any property in
18 which the Government of Syria has any inter-
19 est, by any person, or with respect to any prop-
20 erty, subject to the jurisdiction of the United
21 States.

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

1 (c) CERTIFICATION.—A certification under this sub-
2 section is a certification transmitted to the appropriate
3 congressional committees of a determination made by the
4 President that—

5 (1) the Government of Syria does not provide
6 support for international terrorist groups and does
7 not allow terrorist groups, such as Hamas,
8 Hizballah, the Popular Front for the Liberation of
9 Palestine, and the Popular Front for the Liberation
10 of Palestine—General Command to maintain facilities
11 in Syria;

12 (2) the Government of Syria has withdrawn all
13 Syrian military, intelligence, and other security per-
14 sonnel from Lebanon;

15 (3) the Government of Syria has ceased the de-
16 velopment and deployment of ballistic missiles and
17 has ceased the development and production of bio-
18 logical and chemical weapons; and

19 (4) the Government of Syria is no longer in vio-
20 lation of United Nations Security Council Resolution
21 661 and subsequent relevant resolutions.

22 **SEC. 6. REPORT.**

23 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the date
24 of the enactment of this Act, and every 12 months there-
25 after until the conditions described in paragraphs (1)

1 through (4) of section 5(c) are satisfied, the Secretary of
 2 State shall submit to the appropriate congressional com-
 3 mittees a report on—

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

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

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

18 **SEC. 7. DEFINITION OF APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL**
 19 **COMMITTEES.**

20 In this Act, the term “appropriate congressional com-
 21 mittees” means the Committee on International Relations
 22 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on
 23 Foreign Relations of the Senate.

○