

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2293

To require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on efforts to bring to justice the Palestinian terrorists who killed John Branchizio, Mark Parson, and John Marin Linde.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 2007

Mr. ACKERMAN (for himself, Mr. PENCE, and Mr. LANTOS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on efforts to bring to justice the Palestinian terrorists who killed John Branchizio, Mark Parson, and John Marin Linde.

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. REPORT RELATING TO THE MURDERS OF JOHN**  
4                                **BRANCHIZIO, MARK PARSON, AND JOHN**  
5                                **MARIN LINDE.**

6        (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
7        ings:

1           (1) On October 15, 2003, a convoy of clearly  
2 identified United States diplomatic vehicles was at-  
3 tacked by Palestinian terrorists in Gaza resulting in  
4 the deaths of John Branchizio, Mark Parson, and  
5 John Marin Linde, and the injury of a fourth Amer-  
6 ican.

7           (2) John Branchizio, Mark Parson, and John  
8 Marin Linde were contract employees providing se-  
9 curity to United States diplomatic personnel who  
10 were visiting Gaza in order to identify potential Pal-  
11 estinian candidates for scholarships under the Ful-  
12 bright Program.

13           (3) Senior officials of the Palestinian Authority  
14 have stated that they were aware of the identities of  
15 the Palestinian terrorists who killed John  
16 Branchizio, Mark Parson, and John Marin Linde.

17           (4) Following her visit to Israel and the West  
18 Bank on February 7, 2005, Secretary of State  
19 Condoleezza Rice announced that she had been “as-  
20 sured by President Abbas of the Palestinian  
21 Authority’s intention to bring justice to those who  
22 murdered three American personnel in the Gaza in  
23 2003”.

1           (5) Since the bombing on October 15, 2003,  
2           United States Government personnel have been pro-  
3           hibited from all travel in Gaza.

4           (6) The United States Rewards for Justice pro-  
5           gram is offering a reward of up to \$5,000,000 for  
6           information leading to the arrest or conviction of  
7           any persons involved in the murders of John  
8           Branchizio, Mark Parson, and John Marin Linde.

9           (7) The Palestinian terrorists who killed John  
10          Branchizio, Mark Parson, and John Marin Linde  
11          have still not been brought to justice.

12          (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
13          gress that—

14               (1) the continued inability or unwillingness of  
15               the Palestinian Authority to actively and aggres-  
16               sively pursue the Palestinian terrorists who killed  
17               John Branchizio, Mark Parson, and John Marin  
18               Linde and bring them to justice calls into question  
19               the Palestinian Authority’s suitability as a partner  
20               for the United States in diplomatic efforts to resolve  
21               the Palestinian-Israeli conflict;

22               (2) future United States assistance to the Pal-  
23               estinian Authority may be suspended or conditioned,  
24               and the continued operation of the PLO Representa-  
25               tive Office in Washington may be jeopardized, if the

1 Palestinian Authority does not fully and effectively  
2 cooperate in bringing to justice the Palestinian ter-  
3 rorists who killed John Branchizio, Mark Parson,  
4 and John Marin Linde; and

5 (3) it is in the vital national security interest of  
6 the United States to safeguard, to the greatest ex-  
7 tent possible consistent with their mission, United  
8 States diplomats and all embassy and consulate per-  
9 sonnel, and to use the full power of the United  
10 States to bring to justice any individual or entity  
11 that threatens, jeopardizes, or harms them.

12 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the date  
13 of the enactment of this Act, and every 120 days there-  
14 after, the Secretary of State shall submit a report, on a  
15 classified basis if necessary, to the appropriate congres-  
16 sional committees describing—

17 (1) efforts by the United States to bring to jus-  
18 tice the Palestinian terrorists who killed John  
19 Branchizio, Mark Parson, and John Marin Linde;

20 (2) a detailed assessment of efforts by the Pal-  
21 estinian Authority to bring to justice the Palestinian  
22 terrorists who killed John Branchizio, Mark Parson,  
23 and John Marin Linde, including—

1 (A) the number of arrests, interrogations,  
2 and interviews by Palestinian Authority officials  
3 related to the case;

4 (B) the number of Palestinian security  
5 personnel and man-hours assigned to the case;

6 (C) the extent of personal supervision or  
7 involvement by the President and Ministers of  
8 the Palestinian Authority; and

9 (D) the degree of cooperation between the  
10 United States and the Palestinian Authority in  
11 regards to this case;

12 (3) a specific assessment by the Secretary of  
13 whether the Palestinian efforts described in para-  
14 graph (2) constitute the best possible effort by the  
15 Palestinian Authority; and

16 (4) any additional steps or initiatives requested  
17 or recommended by the United States that were not  
18 pursued by the Palestinian Authority.

19 (d) CERTIFICATION.—The requirement to submit a  
20 report under subsection (c) shall no longer apply if the  
21 Secretary of State certifies to the appropriate congres-  
22 sional committees that the Palestinian terrorists who  
23 killed John Branchizio, Mark Parson, and John Marin  
24 Linde have been identified, arrested, and brought to jus-  
25 tice.

1           (e) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “appro-  
2   priate congressional committees” means—

3           (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the  
4   Committee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-  
5   resentatives; and

6           (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and  
7   the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

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