116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION
S. 1529

To make additional financial assets of the Government of Iran available to pay compensatory damages to the victims of terrorism sponsored by that Government, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 16, 2019

Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. JONES, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. ISAKSON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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A BILL

To make additional financial assets of the Government of Iran available to pay compensatory damages to the victims of terrorism sponsored by that Government, 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 "Supporting Victims

5 of Iranian Terrorism Act of 2019".

**SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF AVAILABILITY OF FINANCIAL AS-
SETS OF IRAN TO VICTIMS OF TERRORISM.**

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

(1) On October 23, 1983, terrorists sponsored
by the Government of Iran bombed the United
States Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon. The ter-
rorists killed 241 servicemen and injured scores
more.

(2) Those servicemen were killed or injured
while on a peacekeeping mission.

(3) Terrorism sponsored by the Government of
Iran threatens the national security of the United
States.

(4) The United States has a vital interest in en-
suring that members of the Armed Forces killed or
injured by such terrorism, and the family members
of such members, are able to seek justice.

(b) AMENDMENTS.—Section 502 of the Iran Threat
Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012 (22
U.S.C. 8772) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking "in
the United States" and inserting "by or";

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ",
or an asset that would be blocked if the asset

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1   were located in the United States,'' after

2   ''unblocked)''; and

3   (C) in the flush text at the end—

4   (i) by inserting after ''in aid of execu-

5   tion'' the following: '', or to an order di-

6   recting that the asset be brought to the

7   State in which the court is located and

8   subsequently to execution or attachment in

9   aid of execution,''; and

10   (ii) by inserting '', without regard to

11   concerns relating to international comity''

12   after ''resources for such an act'';

13   (2) in subsection (b)—

14   (A) by striking ''that are identified'' and

15   inserting the following: ''that are—

16   ''(1) identified'';

17   (B) by striking the period at the end and

18   inserting ''; and''; and

19   (C) by adding at the end the following:

20   ''(2) identified in and the subject of proceedings

21   in the United States District Court for the Southern

22   District of New York in Peterson et al. v. Islamic

23   Republic of Iran et al., Case No. 13 Civ. 9195

24   (LAP).'';

25   (3) by striking subsection (e);

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1   (4) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as

2   subsections (d) and (e), respectively; and

3   (5) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-

4   lowing:

5   "(c) PERSONAL JURISDICTION.—For purposes of

6 this section, the United States District Court for the

7 Southern District of New York shall have personal juris-

8 diction over any foreign securities intermediary that cred-

9 ited financial assets described in subsection (b) to an ac-

10 count the intermediary holds outside the United States.".

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